

Math Textbook Reviews:

Section 1, Aug 2014

Publisher: Pearson/Prentice Hall

Textbook Title: Pre-Calculus 5e (Blitzer)

Grade band: High school advanced math

Focus Metrics	
A. In any single course, materials are designed so teachers and students spend at least 50% of their time on the Widely Applicable Prerequisites (see Appendix B).	No
B. Topics from future courses are clearly identified as such in the materials and do not detract from focus.	Yes
Does this textbook meet the requirements for focus?	No
Justification/Notes: Alignment: The textbook contained almost all of the standards that are required. There is a Chapter P at the beginning of the textbook that is for review. Standards missing: A-S.4. (While partial sums and infinite sums are introduced the text does not explicitly show that an infinite sum minus the partial sum is the truncation error.) N-CN.5 midpoint part is missing from the standard (Calculate the midpoint of a segment in the complex plane as the average of the numbers at its endpoints.) The vendor response cited the original correlation document in which these standards could not be found in their entirety. No proposal was made for correcting the missing pieces.	

Rigor Metrics	
A. For the widely applicable prerequisites, the three aspects of rigor are given full attention: conceptual understanding, procedural fluency, and application.	Yes
B. High quality problems and questions designed to invite exploration and support conceptual understanding are included for content standards and clusters that explicitly call for it. A variety of conceptual problems enable students to connect mathematical ideas and representations, and transfer understandings to new situations.	Yes
C. Materials support the development of fluency, including opportunities to practice algebraic manipulation and computation, appropriately apply tools, and use technology. Sometimes problems are purely procedural, none are based on non-mathematical tricks or mnemonics.	Yes
Does this textbook meet the requirements for rigor?	Yes
Justification/Notes: Rigor: Each chapter begins with how the information in the chapter applies to real life scenarios. There are multiple places where students use a graphing utility to solve problems as well as algebraically. There is section at the end of each lesson specifically for technology exercises. At the end of each lesson, there are many practice problems to address skill and fluency as well as application exercises. There is also a section called Writing in Mathematics and Critical Thinking Exercises that pushes for conceptual understanding by asking students to justify and explain. Preview Exercises are provided to prepare students for the next section at the end of each lesson. As an	

example, The lesson containing the Binomial Theorem (10.5), at the end of the lesson, has 56 practice problems, 3 application problems, 8 Writing in Mathematics problems, 6 technology exercises, 13 critical thinking exercises, and 3 preview exercises. Because of the equal emphasis on solving algebraically, solving graphically, application problems, critical thinking, and writing to explain and justify, we feel that this text more than met the minimum rigor requirement.

Were both non-negotiables in Section I met? No

Optional Additional Comments from Reviewers:

Grade	Comments