

**Meeting:** 1003, Atlanta, Georgia, MAA CP A1, MAA Session on Getting Students To Discuss and To Write About Mathematics, I

1003-A1-863      **Sandra Rucker\*** (srucker@cau.edu), James P. Brawley Drive at Fair Street, Atlanta, GA 30314.  
*Analysis of a Mathematics Writing Experiment.* Preliminary report.

I have assigned students various writing projects within the mathematics classroom. Presently, I am engaged in a project aimed at determining how targeted reading and writing assignments affect students' understanding of mathematics, attitudes towards mathematics, and students' performance in the mathematics classroom. Students are given pre-tests and post-tests to gauge changes in their understanding of mathematical topics and attitudes towards mathematics. They are assigned various reading and writing tasks and participate in group presentations and discussions. Their writings are assessed using a rubric which measures both grammatical accuracy and understanding of content. They also receive constructive feedback following each assignment, and are asked to assess how the assignment affected their learning. These results are then used to inform the teaching and learning process, as it relates to the structure of future assignments. (Received September 30, 2004)