

Freudenthal ①

YALE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS
BOX 2155 · YALE STATION
NEW HAVEN · CONNECTICUT

Feb. 17 - '61

Dear Professor Lederberg,

I am teaching this year at Yale. Your letter has been sent to this address. I have tested the system in many lectures, I asked the ~~auditors~~ auditors to guess what certain unknown ~~sign~~ ~~mean~~ symbols meant. People on a scientific level had no difficulties. I learned some improvements from individual mistakes. It is surprising that less educated people or even scholars in the humanities have the greatest trouble to understand things.

I do not know a better way to introduce variables. Do not confuse unknowns (indicated by $?x \dots$) with variables. What you represent are, to my opinion, unknowns, which have one value only (though unknown) not variables ranging over a certain set. If, on the other hand, you mean to write $1+a=2 \rightarrow a=1$, where the \rightarrow is omitted, you settle a syntaxis which I have never admitted throughout my exposition, i.e. to omit connectives thus an the most essential part of the communication.

I thank you much for your interest and your bibliographical remarks.

Sincerely yours

Henk Freudenthal