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*The language we use to teach mathematics: a TA workshop*

With little control over course content or its mode of delivery, how can a teaching assistant make an impact on undergraduate student learning? This fall, I ran a 90-minute TA workshop at Western University in which we developed concrete recommendations on how language can be used as a tool to increase student engagement and motivation. In the workshop, we focused on making improvements to the language we use when introducing new subjects, when teaching one-on-one or in a classroom setting, and when providing feedback and support to students.

In this talk, I will give an overview of the workshop and the feedback provided by participants. I will also discuss research by Mesa and Chang which motivated the theme of language and the more technical recommendations for the appropriate use of heterogloss voice to promote and/or steer classroom discussion.