MATHEMATICAL KNOWLEDGE:

Knowledge of mathematical principles and concepts which result in a correct solution to a problem.

STRATEGIC KNOWLEDGE:

Identification of important elements of the problem and the use of models, diagrams, symbols, and /or algorithms to systematically represent and integrate concepts.

EXPLANATION:

Written explanation and rationales that translate into words the steps of the solution process and provide justification for each step. Though important, the length of response, grammar and syntax are not the critical elements of this dimension.

Score Level

0

- shows complete understanding of the problem's mathematical concepts and principles
- uses appropriate mathematical terminology and notations including labeling answer if appropriate; that is, whether or not the unit is called for in the stem of the item
- executes algorithms completely and correctly

- identifies all the important elements of the problem and shows complete understanding of the relationships among elements
- reflects an appropriate and systematic strategy for solving the problem
- gives clear evidence of a complete and systematic solution process
- gives a complete written explanation of the solution process employed; explanation addresses both what was done and why it was done
- may include a diagram with a complete explanation of all its elements

gives a nearly complete written explanation of the

- shows nearly complete understanding of the problem's mathematical concepts and principles
- uses nearly correct mathematical terminology and notations
- executes algorithms completely; computations are generally correct but may contain minor errors
- shows some understanding of the problem's mathematical concepts and principles
- may contain major computational errors

- identifies most of the important elements of the problem and shows general understanding of the relationships among them
- reflects an appropriate strategy for solving the
- solution process is nearly complete
- solution process employed; clearly explains what was done and begins to address why it was done may include a diagram with most of the elements

explained

- identifies some important elements of the problem but shows only limited understanding of the relationships among them
- appears to reflect an appropriate strategy, but the application of the strategy is unclear, or a related strategy is applied logically and consistently
- gives some evidence of a solution process

- gives some written explanation of the solution process employed, either explains what was done or addresses why it was done; explanation is vague or difficult to
- may include a diagram with some of the elements explained

- shows limited to no understanding of the problem's mathematical concepts and principles
- may misuse or fail to use mathematical terms
- may contain major computational errors

- fails to identify important elements or places too much emphasis on unimportant elements
- may reflect an inappropriate or inconsistent strategy for solving the problem
- gives minimal evidence of a solution process; process may be difficult to identify
- may attempt to use irrelevant outside information
- gives minimal written explanation of the solution process; may fail to explain what was done and why it was done
- explanation does not match presented solution process
- may include minimal discussion of elements in diagram; explanation of significant elements is unclear
- no written explanation of the solution process is no answer attempted no apparent strategy provided