

## ZMATH 2014a.00306

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**Students at the front: examples from a Beijing classroom.**

Kaur, Berinderjeet (ed.) et al., Student voice in mathematics classrooms around the world. Rotterdam: Sense Publishers (ISBN 978-94-6209-349-2/hbk; 978-94-6209-348-5/pbk; 978-94-6209-350-8/ebook). The Learner's Perspective Study 4, 53-64 (2013).

Summary: In China's mathematics classes, "students at the front" events can be categorised into two types: (i) writing down the procedures for the solution on the blackboard; and (ii) giving oral descriptions of the approaches, a highly valued practice in the new-century curriculum reform. Based on the video recordings of a sample of 6 lessons in a eighth grade mathematics class in Beijing, the authors carried out an analysis of the activity "students at the front". The findings presented in the chapter illustrated the various forms of activity involved in the students at the front event. We explained the nature of interactions within the event by considering norms for presentations of problems, the extent of oral explanation, and the form of teacher-student exchanges. The results reported in this chapter reflected the latest trend in China's mathematics education. In 2001, the standard of the full-time compulsory education to the mathematics courses (trial version) was promulgated, which indicated the official beginning of the nation's new mathematics course reformation. The new mathematics curriculum policy has made significant changes in the basic values, development mechanism, development process, implementation system, and support system for curriculum in China. Students now have more opportunities to engage in classroom discussions, give comments, and ask questions.

*Classification:* C73 C63 C53

*Keywords:* activities; classroom practice; presentation of problems; oral explanations; student-teacher interaction; learner's perspective study