

Mathematics for hopeless cases

A former teacher from Zabrze has written a mathematics book of an intriguing title, namely "Mathematics for humanists, the dyslexic and... other hopeless cases".

Krzysztof Cywiński is convinced that the book of a hundred pages teaches solving equations and converting formulas, thus two essential skills without which one cannot manage, attending school for a dozen or so years. The French version of the book is currently in the making.

- You cannot expect from a student to do a back flip if they cannot do a przewrót w przód. Knowledge is hierarchiczna, first you need to master the basic skills in order to handle more challenging thesis - says Cywiński. He has tested his book on students who come to his private tutoring classes.

Sabina Chorzelewska, mother of a student, who has gone through the book, said: - With such a book any idiot can learn math. Even me.

Testing the book took five years. Before its final shape was given, almost two hundred versions had been created, for Cywiński changed and corrected it until students stopped asking questions and the book became comprehensive to them, and explanations to tasks no longer were a problem. During working on the book, the author visited the teachers and professors of the Silesian University, whom he asked for help.

- When my first student came to me, it appeared that working out tasks alone is not enough if you cannot explain what it's all about and what the aim is to the child. I began studying the history of mathematics, I was particularly interested in Euclid's *Elements* - explains Cywiński.