

## Transcript – Drill or Practice?

**Drill** refers to repetitive, non-problem-based exercises designed to improve skills or procedures already acquired.

**Practice** refers to different problem-based tasks or experiences spread over numerous class periods, each addressing the same basic ideas.

Examine the activities below. How are these definitions reflected in the activities?

Did you notice that the second set of expressions requires students to apply a strategy to determine a value? They are not problem-based, but we do not have evidence that any additional strategies were developed.

## Transcript – Benefits and Applications

Some benefits of drill are increasing facility with a strategy and providing a focus on a singular method and an exclusion of flexible alternatives. Drill is best applied when a skill or strategy is known and automaticity is desired.

Some benefits of practice are increased opportunity to develop conceptual ideas, more useful connections, alternative and flexible strategies, and a clear message that mathematics is about figuring things out and making sense. Practice is best applied when ample and relevant opportunities are needed and when mathematics in meaningful context will strengthen mathematical connections.