1003-P1-488        **Bonnie Gold\*** (`bgold@monmouth.edu`), Mathematics Department, Monmouth University, West Long Branch, NJ 07740. *What Is Mathematics II: A Possible Answer.* Preliminary report.

At my last talk at a POMSIGMAA contributed paper session two years ago, I tried to define a version of the question, "What is Mathematics?" The version I would like to answer is, "What is common to all those subjects we classify as mathematics, and not common to most things we don't classify as mathematics, by virtue of which we classify those subjects as mathematics." I discussed various answers which have been given, and suggested why none of these is an adequate answer. I also indicated various criteria a good answer should have. In this talk, I will propose one (or possibly two) answers to the question, and discuss the extent to which they meet my criteria. (Received September 16, 2004)