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Bradford J Schleben* (brad.schleben@belmont.edu). *Strengthening the Narrative of an Abstract Algebra Course via Tutored Oral Exams and Other Techniques*. Preliminary report.

We discuss how tutored oral exams and problem-based learning help develop and reinforce conceptual understanding in students. In addition, we will examine techniques that provide support for improving students' ability to communicate mathematical concepts and proofs while reinforcing the value of these skills in assessments. Various methods, examples, and anecdotal evidence of effectiveness will be covered. (Received September 20, 2016)