The articles presented here do not necessarily bear directly on the course content of MATH101. Rather, they are intended to introduce the interested reader to aspects of mathematics which (s)he will meet later in their studies, sometimes only very much later, or only if (s)he undertakes postgraduate studies or research.

Some of the articles contain some mathematical terms a student of MATH101 cannot possibly have met before. In such a case, the reader should initially just read on to obtain a flavour of the article, and then seek an explanation of the unfamiliar terms later. An example of this is provided by Beno Eckmann’s article “Arrows and Exact Sequences”, which is included here because of its discussion of the introduction of the use of arrows for functions, which we introduced in the MATH101 lecture notes, because it has become standard in mathematics. The reader should not worry about “exact sequences” beyond noting that they form a part of modern mathematics.

The articles provide the reader with a chance to broaden his/her outlook of mathematics, and to gain insight into how mathematicians view and think of mathematics. They form part of the culture of mathematics.

They also make stimulating reading. I commend them