MATH 10 - Linear Algebra Tips on Mathematical Writing Handout ... especially proofs. Dr. Jorge Basilio 8-22-2019 CHYCOLLEGE gbasilio@pasadena.edu

Tips for Mathematical Writing

Adapted from *Book of Proof* by Richard Hammack, please consult pages 107–109 from his book for more details.

- 1. Begin each sentence with a word, not a mathematical symbol.
- 2. End each sentence with a period, even when the sentence ends with a mathematical symbol.
- 3. Separate mathematical symbols and expressions with words.
- 4. Avoid misuse of symbols.
- 5. Avoid using unnecessary symbols.
- 6. Use the first person plural ("we" or "us").
- 7. Use the active voice.
- 8. Explain each new symbol!!!
- 9. Watch out for "it."
- 10. Since, because, as for, so. Use these as conjunctions between statements (i.e. variations of *if* . . . *then*).
- 11. Thus, hence, therefore, consequently.
- 12. Clarity is the gold standard of mathematical writing.