

**From:** "Noam Chomsky" [REDACTED]  
**To:** "jeffrey E." <jeevacation@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Re:  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 15, 2015 10:11:59 PM

Mathematicians are lucky. Even more so than logicians, who worry about foundations.

As for the sciences, the luckiest is physics. If a molecule is too big, or some other system too complex, they handed over to the chemists – who do the same with the biologists – who proceed to the psychological sciences – and then on to history and literature. And of course depth of explanation is necessarily sacrificed along the way as complexity mounts.

There are a few exceptions. Parts of linguistics, for example. It would be good to widen that bridgehead, but not easy.

Valeria hasn't been able to leave yet. Maybe in a couple of days.

**From:** jeffrey E. [mailto:jeevacation@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 15, 2015 2:18 PM  
**To:** Noam Chomsky  
**Subject:** Re:

I understand, mathematics are the unique formalism for proofs. . I watch the lack of direction and leadership. , as in cognitive theory, with lots of data and no much better understanding, I m trying to have you give a new generation directions . prize, test. proof. demonstration. etc. as the evidence of real advance. how is it without your valeria. must be much different

On Wed, Jul 15, 2015 at 2:04 PM, Noam Chomsky <[REDACTED]> wrote:  
Some efforts, but nothing satisfying. One problem is a fundamental difference between math and science. When a math problem is posed and solved, it's solved. There's a proof. There are no proofs in the empirical world. Just better theories, that could be (and usually are) at least partially wrong.

**From:** jeffrey E. [mailto:jeevacation@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 15, 2015 9:41 AM  
**To:** Noam Chomsky  
**Subject:**

the chomsky questions.? any headway, ,

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