Kayla Golden

Mrs. Champagne

Math 1111

11/27/17

Symmetry in real life situations

What is symmetry and how do you know when an object is symmetrical? Symmetry happens when an object is identical round about itself. Sometimes one can look at an object and tell if it is symmetrical, other times it can be hard to be seen by the naked eye. There are many examples of how symmetry is used in real-life but one of my personal examples is monogramming.

When I was thinking of a topic to write about for symmetry my job was the first thing that came to mind, monogramming. This is a task that I do daily so I get to use symmetry in my everyday life. Symmetry is much more than just eye-balling an object and identifying if everything is proportioned, it comes with many other factors as well. Some of the factors that I deal with when monogramming an item are setting the monogram up on the computer, center-pointing the object that I am going to embroider, hooping the item, and putting the object into the machine myself.

When I have received an order that needs to be monogrammed, I have to create and design the monogram on the computer first. This is where the first part of symmetry comes into play for me. For example, I received an order today of a blanket that needed to be monogrammed with the name Phillips that was going to go on it. So when I create the design I have to make sure that the name gets input into the computer correctly and then I have to set the name in proportion to my axis on the computer and make sure that the name is symmetrical to both the x and y axis.

After I have put my design into the computer and saved and sent it to the machine, I then get my blanket and start to measure my height and width. This is where the second part of symmetry takes place. Once I have my height and width measurements I half them and find the center point of the blanket, which is the point at which will make my whole monogram symmetrical with the rest of the blanket.

Once I have my center point, my next line of work is to hoop my item or in this case (my blanket). This is the make or break me point of my job, I could do everything right but if I do not make this part symmetrical and perfect then my whole monogram will be off centered and messed up. So this part, I get my hoop and place it on my blanket making sure that both of the edges of my hoop match up and are parallel with the other side. Once they are, I press them together and then it is ready to go into the machine.

When my item is finally ready to go into the machine I insert it into my machine and now I have to center point it one last time, this is the very last time that I have to deal with center pointing and making my object symmetrical. Once I line up the monogram needle with the center point that I already have found then it is ready to start and I proceed to press go.

Looking back now and seeing just how much math I use in my daily life with my daily job, monogramming. It really puts it into perspective of just how much math that I use and not even just at my job but basically everything that I do. No one ever really realizes just how much math gets used in our daily lives. It is really eye opening and this has been an eye opening experience. Math is useful and sometimes the things that we think we might not ever use again, may surprise us and we more than likely will use them again in the future.