

1134-97-314 **Mihaela B Vajiac*** (mbvajaic@chapman.edu), Von Neumann Hall 102, Chapman University,
One University Drive, Orange, CA 92866. *Geometry: Synthesis Tool for Mathematics Contests.*

In my many years of experience and participation in several programs designed for teaching contest problem-solving skills to gifted students, I have come to the conclusion that geometry is acting as a synthetic tool for mathematics contests and olympiads.

Multi-faceted problems, using geometry, algebra, and combinatorics are lynch-pins to a successful completion of such a program. In this talk I will present coherent ways of teaching these types of problems with examples. (Received September 11, 2017)