DOING WELL IN A COLLEGE-LEVEL MATH COURSE

It is the instructor's job to
start class on time and end class on time
make sure that students are treated fairly and with respect in class and not "play favorites"
answer questions that are on-subject and appropriate to the level of the course
re-direct questions that are below or above the level of the course or off-subject to be answered outside of class
help students see that not every idea is equally important
help students figure out which ideas are the most important
to sort out the main points, to see "the big picture"
give feedback so students can tell what they've learned and what they haven't

It is the student's job to
attend every class meeting--from beginning to end
pay attention to what's being discussed during class: focus!!
participate constructively in every discussion, activity, or quiz during class
write down anything the instructor underlines or repeats
write down little explanatory notes to yourself
write down more than you think you need to
attempt every suggested homework problem
if you don't know how to do a problem,
read through your notes again and see what was discussed that relates to the problem;
look in your book for an example similar to the problem or ideas that relate to the problem;
look for help from a friend, your classmates, a tutor, or the instructor.
go over every quiz when it's returned and see why you made the mistake(s) you did

On tests, you can expect...
About 70% of the problems will be very similar to routine homework and/or quiz problems.
About 20% of the problems will require you to interpret, apply, and/or combine ideas.
About 10% of the problems will require you to extend and/or explain the ideas and methods.

If you want/need more advice about college and/or suggestions about how to study,

(1) Consider taking one of two courses:
   Transition to College Success (HUDGE 0111)
   Effective Learning--Strategies for College Success (PSYC 1300)
   http://www.austincc.edu/support/success/effectivelearning.php

(2) Attend the free study skills workshops offered each semester.
    They usually cover ideas like these:
    http://www.bucks.edu/~specpop/topics.htm

(3) Get the booklet "How to Get Good Grades in College",
    available free at the NRG Learning Lab (room 4119).

College is quite different from high school.
It may be helpful for you to think about what you want from your education and whether college is right for you. Take into consideration what skills, effort, and commitment will likely be required.
SELF-CHECK:

__1. I write down everything on the chalkboard.
__2. I add my own explanatory notes during and after class.
__3. I attend every class meeting.
__4. I correct all of my quizzes.
__5. I visit the class web site regularly (at least once a week).
__6. I complete at least 80% of the homework listed on the website.
__7. I check my answers to (odd-numbered) homework problems.