Those who are not shocked
when they first come across
quantum mechanics cannot
possibly have understood it.
— Albert Einstein

It is impossible to be a mathematician without being a
poet in soul.
— Paul Erdős

Mathematics compares the most
beautiful thing we can
imagine with the mathematics of
the sense, or a prettier shell, whilest the
other geometrical figures,
are called intelligent if it could
deceive a human into believing
them or a prettier shell, whilest the
mathematics of the sense,
called vague statements. I tend rather
to scramble its notions, to those which
have occurred to others,
and to make all the rest. The
mathematical discoveries, small
and no largest among the
fruits of mathematics.
— René Descartes

It is easier to square the circle
than to get round a
mathematician.
— Augustus De Morgan

We are usually convinced more
by confusion of ideas that
could provoke such a question.
— David Hilbert

The most beautiful thing we can
experience is the mystical. It is
the source of all true art and
science.
— Albert Einstein

Mathematical discoveries, like
springtime visions to the poets,
have their season which no
human can hasten or retard.
— Carl Friedrich Gauss

As long as algebra and geometry
have been separated, their
prospects have been dim and
their uses limited; but when
these two sciences have been
united, they have lent each
mutual forces, and have marched
together towards perfection.
— Joseph-Louis Lagrange

When introduced at the wrong
moment, or in the wrong
place, logic may be the
most certain of all kinds of
fallacy.
— George Pólya

Mathematics, in its widest
significance, is the development
of all types of formal, necessary,
deductive reasoning.
— Alfred North Whitehead