The use of drawings in education as a measure of students’ perceptions of teaching and learning mathematics have been found to be valid, reliable, and useful. Throughout the years, drawings have been widely used to elicit data from students relating to their views about mathematics, mathematicians, mathematics teaching, perceptions of assessment practices in mathematics classrooms, and the types of work experienced in mathematics lessons.

The focus of this talk is the elaboration of drawing method. Specifically, I present the Draw a Mathematics Classroom instrument and its associated rubrics and outline the key elements, strengths, and limitations of using drawing instruments to explicate individuals’ thinking and perceptions. I share data analysis processes and present data from Turkish lower secondary students’ (aged 12 to 15 years old) depictions of a mathematics classroom. Finally, participants may like to reflect upon ways in which using the drawing approach may be useful in their own teaching and/or research.