Hi everyone,

Most students expressed that things are going well and the new exam format worked for them. However, several statements indicated that the new material this past week was difficult. In the videos, I presented some interesting material that I think is necessary, some that should be helpful, and some that might give the interested students greater perspective. I decided to distinguish these different categories on the problem sets so that students that are struggling to keep up can focus their efforts on the first of the three categories (that which is necessary).

Some people have questions when they watch the videos, but they forget them by the next day or for some other reason, they don't come up. These are very important to me. I propose that we start posting these questions on FB, and then they could be answered by one of your colleagues, but Liz, Linda, and myself will also check FB. This way, if there are some questions that come up that are not easy to clarify, we can take them up in class the next day.

Midterms: Most folks got everything on the first or second try. For Midterm #2, I will expect that on your first try on the exam you correctly identify concepts and support why you chose these concepts

There was one question on the feedback forms: what are equilibria (used on PS#5)? Hmm I just noticed that this is underlined with a squiggly line... is this not a word? I did a web search, and hurray, it is the word I thought it was. It's the plural of equilibrium – a place (on the graph) where the net force on you is zero. That's where the slope is zero, right?