

GRADES AND GRADING

WHY GRADE AT ALL?

We only suggest grading in case a student should ever return to a regular school. Evaluate your student's work with A, B, or C according to the instructions below.

Allow your student to take as long as necessary to complete his work and thoroughly understand it. Since he is not competing with other students or with time, he should continue working on the topic or lesson until his work can be graded with at least a C. If he cannot understand the subject matter, it is probably not right for him.

HOW TO EVALUATE A, B, OR C WORK

The simplest way to figure grades is with written work which involves specific percentage grading, like a math paper. Begin by writing the number of answers right over the highest number possible. Divide the top number by the lower number. For example, if there are 30 problems on the page and the student misses 3, his score is 27/30. Divide 27 by 30. The percentage score is 90%. For quick assessment, you can purchase an Instant Grader from any teacher's supply store. Move the handy slide rule to the number possible that can be achieved, find the number wrong on the left edge, and see the percentage grade displayed in the slot. You can also design a scoring rubric that assigns possible scores for each section of a test, then you simply count up the number of points the student has achieved in each section. Just be sure to design the rubric so that all possible points totals 100.

Grading educational efforts other than math papers, tests, or quizzes is a bit more complex. For project work, please consider the following standards for a general rule. This will help to harmonize efforts to assess students correctly.

- A
 - 1. Displays a cooperative, cheerful, and enthusiastic attitude.
 - 2. Shows initiative and works independently.
 - 3. Shows a thorough understanding of the subject.
 - 4. Completes projects with high-quality form and language skills.

- B
 - 1. Shows a cooperative, pleasant attitude most of the time.
 - 2. Usually shows initiative and works independently at least some of the time.
 - 3. Understands most of the assignments.
 - 4. Completes projects, but exhibits some errors and delays in finishing his work.

- C
 - 1. Demonstrates a pleasant attitude in doing assignments at least part of the time.
 - 2. Sometimes needs to be reminded to work and has difficulty doing work promptly.
 - 3. Does not readily understand all subject content, but perseveres until he gains understanding.
 - 4. Completes projects most of the time, but sometimes does careless or poorly written work.

Notice that qualities of the numbers are compatible. All the 1 's relate to attitude, while the 4's discuss ability to hand in acceptable work within a reasonable time. All students will not fit neatly into one category; some may perform partly in the B section and partly in the A. An A- might be assigned if your student exhibits most of the qualities in the A section, while a B- grade would be given to the student who does most of B but also a little from A. Use your best judgment.

Conventional Grading

A: 100-92 B: 91-83 C: 82-74 D: 73-70 F: 69 and Under

Grading Information adapted from *The Moore Formula Manual*, The Moore Foundation, Camus, WA.