

Exemplars

Exemplars will make up an important part of your overall grade. The purpose is for you to show all of your work and explain your steps. Often times you may not know how to do the entire problem, but you can do parts of it. An exemplar allows you to show what concepts you know and identify which concepts you may still need to improve upon.

What is an exemplar?

An exemplar is a single problem that is based on a specific standard. In order to answer an exemplar you must **show all of your work** as well as **explain each step**. I am more concerned with your process than I am with the correct answer. If you can demonstrate that you have the process down, but make minor errors, you can still be considered proficient.

How are exemplars graded?

An exemplar is given a score from 1 to 5. The scoring is as follows:

- 5- Advanced
- 4- Proficient
- 3- Basic
- 2- Below Basic
- 1- Far Below Basic

Please see the rubric for a more detailed explanation of what makes up each score.

What do I do with exemplars that have been graded?

All exemplars should be saved and placed in a portfolio cover as soon as they have been handed back. The portfolio is due at the end of the benchmark period. However, you should be ready to turn in what you have on one day's notice. You can use the exemplars as study guides for the benchmarks and the CST test in April. All exemplars must be bound in the portfolio cover. No loose pages are allowed. **Each portfolio should contain, in order:** Table of contents, rubric for scoring exemplars, all exemplars in order of completion, and this page signed by a parent or guardian.

What if I receive a score that is less than Proficient?

The goal is for each student to be proficient in each standard. If a student scores Basic or lower, they must re-do the problem on a separate sheet of paper, come by after school to show me their work (I will initial it), staple it to the original and place it in the portfolio that will be turned in at the end of the benchmark period.

Parents: please ask to see your student's portfolio on a regular basis. They should be adding to it on a weekly if not daily basis.

Rubric for grading exemplars

5	Advanced 100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shows conceptual understanding• Shows all steps• Correct answer• Clearly explains all steps• Demonstrates total understanding• Answer is in simplest form
4	Proficient 85%	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Incorrect answer is a result of minor arithmetic errors• Shows all steps• Explanation is present but may not be totally clear• Shows conceptual understanding• Correct answer may not be in simplest form
3	Basic 70%	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basic understanding of concept• Errors in calculations• Some steps are skipped• Not much explanation
2	Below Basic 60%	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limited conceptual understanding• Some mistakes• Few steps shown• Minimal explanation
1	Far Below Basic 50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not correct• No explanation• Little or no conceptual understanding