

The emphasis of Mastery Algebra 1 is mastery of the algebra skills and concepts, not just completion of the work. The grading policy reflects this emphasis. Grades will be calculated based on performance in four assessment categories:

| Category | Percent |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Mastery Quizzes | 30% |
| Chapter Tests | 30% |
| Skill Tests | 20% |
| Final Exam | 20% |
| Total: | 100% |

| Grade | Range |
|-------|--------|
| A | 90-100 |
| B | 80-89 |
| C | 70-79 |
| D | 60-69 |
| F | 0-59 |

When you begin a lesson, you must watch a video explaining the lesson, take notes, complete practice problems, and check your answers, all of which do not earn any credit. The point of these activities is to LEARN the algebra skills and concepts. The way you earn your grade is by demonstrating that learning on four different types of assessments – Mastery Quizzes, Chapter Tests, Skill Tests, and the Final Exam.

Mastery Checks. A day or two after a lesson has been assigned you will be given a short Mastery Quiz worth 10 points, with anywhere between 3 and 10 questions, depending on the lesson. If you earn at least 8 points or higher, you will earn the full 10 points for that Mastery Quiz in the Aeries grade book. If you earn less than 8, the grade book will show the score you earned. If you choose not to take a mastery quiz because you have not completed the lesson, you will earn a 0. If you are behind pace and have not yet taken a particular Mastery Quiz, the grade book will show a red box indicating a missing assignment, and the effect on your grade will be the same as a zero! Make it your goal to stay on pace by completing all lessons the day they are assigned, so that you will not have zeros or missing assignments!

Chapter Tests. A few days after all the lessons and reviews for a chapter have been assigned, you will need to take a test on the complete chapter consisting of one mastery quiz from each lesson. If you are unhappy with your performance on the test, you are allowed one re-take. (Check with your teacher for deadlines on re-takes.) Because the chapter tests are segmented by lesson, you will know exactly which lessons you need to remediate. The best practice is for you to stay on pace, so that you will be prepared for these Chapter Tests the first time around and won't need to do remediation and re-testing, which will slow you down and possibly affect future lessons!

Skill Tests. Skill Tests will have anywhere from one to four questions, one from each skill tested. Skills will not appear on skill tests until the week following the corresponding lesson(s), so if you stay on pace you will be ready. Each skill will appear on the skill test for four consecutive weeks, and only your two best scores will count. Each skill question will be graded on a 5-point rubric, so each question receives a score, rather than the test itself. Once all four tries are completed, the two best scores will be added and entered into the grade book as a score out of 10. You should keep track of your progress by writing your scores for each skill on a skill record sheet.

Final Exam. The final exam will be comprehensive for the entire semester, and will consist of two parts, a Multiple Choice portion, and an Application portion. The final exam will be given during finals week, and whatever score you earned will be entered into the grade book.