

How Sapphire Computes Grades: *Secondary*

How does Sapphire calculate grades for elementary students?

- Overall grades are a combination of the averages for formative assessments and summative assessments, weighted at 30% for formal formative assessments and 70% for summative assessments
- The 30% for formative assessments may be split between homework and other formative assessments that are evaluated for accuracy. *Homework cannot comprise more than half of the formative assessment average (meaning it can only account for up to 15% of the overall grade)*

So then how does Sapphire actually compute the grade?

- The math looks like this:
 - $(FA \% \times .3) + (SA \% \times .7) = \text{Overall grade \%}$
- The math looks like this *if you split formative assessments* so that homework is broken away from the other formative assessments. *Together they may only add up to 30% of the overall grade, and HW can account for no more than half the formative assessment %*
 - $(HW \% \times .15) + (\% \text{ for other FAs } \times .15) + (SA \% \times .7) = \text{Overall grade \%}$

Can you give me an example? (Assume that this was 7th grade mathematics, not 6th ...)

8th Grade Social Studies ...

Current Grade: B (83.0%)

Assignment	Score (points)	Due Date
Category: Formative Assessments (20% of grade)		
Unit 2 Quiz 1	7/10	10/16/2014
Unit 1 Quiz 3	15/15	9/23/2014
Unit 1 Quiz 2	7/9	9/15/2014
Unit 1 Quiz 1	8/10	9/9/2014
Category: Homework (10% of grade)		
Mapping Exercise	8/12	10/2/2014
State Comparison HW	10/15	9/12/2014
Category: Summative Assessments (70%)		
Unit 1 Unit Test	35/40	10/3/2014

- Sapphire does the math internally to get an average for Formative Assessments, Homework, and Summative Assessments based on the points earned and points possible **in each category**:
 - $HW \% (37 \text{ pts earned}/44 \text{ possible}) = 84.1\%$, $FA \% (18/27) = 66.7\%$, $SA \% (35/40) = 87.5\%$
- The system computes the overall grade, understanding that in this teacher's classroom, HW counts 10% of the grade, which means other Formative Assessments count 20% and then Summative Assessments count 70%.
 - $(HW \% \times .1) + (\% \text{ for other FAs } \times .2) + (SA \% \times .7) = \text{Overall grade \%}$
 - $(84.1 \times .1) + (66.7 \times .2) + (87.5 \times .7) = \text{Overall grade}$
 - $(8.4) + (13.3) + (61.3) = 83.0$
 - ***If done based on straight points earned/points possible, the grade would have been 81% ... B-***