

# Grading Rubric

## Homework

Homework will be assigned on a regular basis. It should be completed the night it is assigned unless otherwise stated. If the assignment cannot be completed because of the difficulty, you should be prepared to ask questions the next day prior to school or at the beginning of class. Students are allowed to collaborate on homework although each student is responsible for their own work. In general, problems assigned out of the text will be stamped the next day for credit. Other assignments will have an announced due date when they are assigned. Since collaboration with both other students and the teacher is encouraged, homework is graded upon completeness instead of correctness. The expectation is that each student has the correct answer since they are made available. A completed assignment has all of the problems finished with the appropriate work shown to justify the correct answer.

## Labs

Lab work is a major component of any science class. We will be doing anywhere between twenty and twenty-five labs this year. There are three different ways of reporting lab results in chemistry. The informal lab report has the student filling in a pre-made lab sheet with data, doing calculations with that data, and answering short questions on the information gained in the lab. The semi-formal report has the student prepare the organization of the report. Student are responsible for pre-lab information, designing tables, making graphs, showing appropriate calculations or equations, and analyzing the results. This is the most common type of lab report you will be doing. Finally, the formal lab report differs from the semi-formal report mainly in presentation and depth of analysis and will also include an introduction of concepts and a conclusion of the results. Students will be working in collaborative groups in the lab. Therefore, I would expect their data, calculations and or equations to be the same. Otherwise, written qualitative questions should be expressed in the students own words. Lab reports will be graded upon clarity, organization, appropriate data, and correct analysis.

## Quizzes

Announced quizzes will be given periodically between tests. Quizzes are taken independently and are not collaborative. Quiz topics include homework, reading material from the text, labs and lecture notes. The grade is based on correctness and demonstration of appropriate techniques.

## Tests

Tests are given at the end of each chapter or learning unit. They will be announced well in advance to allow the student to properly prepare. Tests are independent and are closed note and closed book. Generally, the only supplemental material allowed on the test is the periodic table. If a student is using a programmable calculator, no information should be stored on that calculator that would give the student an unfair advantage. Testable information is any item that has been covered in class. This includes lecture material, reading material, laboratory information, and homework material. The general format of most tests is a multiple choice section and a qualitative and quantitative section. The qualitative section is graded on the correctness and clarity of the response. The quantitative section is graded upon arriving at the correct answer and showing the appropriate technique to justify the answer. Partial credit is given on the qualitative and quantitative sections based upon information shown that would lead toward arriving at the correct answer. Tests are not curved to the highest score; they are graded out of 100%.

## Final Exam

At the end of each semester a cumulative final exam will be given. The exam consists of two parts: a 50 question multiple choice section and a qualitative and quantitative section consisting of between eight and ten multi-part questions. The questions are similar to the questions asked in the chapter tests during the semester. Students are allowed to use a hand-written help sheet along with a provided periodic table during the final exam. This consists of a normal size sheet of paper with any information written on it that the student feels is necessary. Grading of the final exam will be in the same manner as the chapter tests throughout the semester. Tests, quizzes, and the final exam are weighted to make up 65% of the students grade.