

Which grading method is best? Which is fairest? What grade does each student deserve?

Summary Grades Tallied by Three Different Methods

Student	Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3	Unit 4	Unit 5	Average Score	Grade	Median Score	Grade	Deleting Lowest	Grade
1	59	69	79	89	99	79.0	C	79.0	C	84.0	B
2	99	89	79	69	59	79.0	C	79.0	C	84.0	B
3	77	80	80	78	80	79.0	C	80.0	B	79.5	C
4	49	49	98	99	100	79.0	C	98.0	A	86.5	B
5	100	99	98	49	49	79.0	C	98.0	A	86.5	B
6	0	98	98	99	100	79.0	C	98.0	A	98.8	A
7	100	99	98	98	0	79.0	C	98.0	A	98.8	A

Grading standards: 90% – 100% = A
 80% – 89% = B
 70% – 79% = C
 60% – 69% = D
 – 59% = F

Average Score - simple arithmetic average of unit scores

Median Score – middle score of the five unit scores

Deleting Lowest – the arithmetic average after deleting the lowest score in the group

Student 1 struggled in the early part of the marking period but continued to work hard, improved in each unit, and did excellently in unit 5.

Student 2 began with excellent performance in unit 1 but then lost motivation, declined steadily during the marking period, and received a failing mark for unit 5.

Student 3 performed steadily throughout the marking period, receiving three *B*'s and two *C*'s, all near the *B – C* cut-score.

Student 4 began the marking period poorly, failing the first two units, but with newfound interest performed excellently in units 3, 4, and 5.

Student 5 began the marking period excellently, but then lost interest and failed the last two units.

Student 6 skipped school (unexcused absence) during the first unit, but performed excellently in every other unit.

Student 7 performed excellently in the first four units, but was caught cheating on the assessment for unit 5, resulting in a score of zero for that unit.