

Exam Scoring Rubric

The following rubric will be used to assign scores to most individual exam problems. The three numerical columns below apply to problems with total point values of 20, 15, and 10, respectively. For problems with other total point values, scores will be scaled proportionately to the nearest whole number. Some problems could be scored using a different rubric or method.

20	15	10	Perfect or nearly perfect solution.
18	14	9	Minor math error; missing or incorrect unit in numerical answer; not enough or too many significant figures in numerical answer; rounding error; miscopied value.
15	11	7	Concept essentially understood, but solution contains one or two procedural or factual errors; concept mostly but not completely understood; incorrect form of key formula or equation; unit prefix error (e.g., ms instead of μ s); major math error.
10	8	5	Concept mostly understood, but solution contains several procedural or factual errors; concept only partially understood.
5	4	3	Solution contains a few steps in the right direction but is essentially incorrect; main underlying premise mostly misunderstood.
2	2	1	One or two relevant facts (such as equations) or diagrams are provided, but the solution is essentially incorrect or missing; main underlying premise is completely missed.

Typically, if more than one type of error that leads to ~75% credit (the “15, 11, 7” category above) is present, then the score will drop to ~50% or ~25% of full credit, as appropriate.