

# Understanding and Interpreting Your Student's First Semester Grades

## What does the grade of 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4 mean?

The primary purpose of grades is to communicate a student's level of mastery of the skills and content in a course. Unit 5 uses standards based grading (SBG) to communicate a student's mastery level. In Unit 5 middle schools, SBG is set up on a scale of 5, each level representing a different level of student mastery (see table below).

**Standards Based Grading Proficiency Scale**

No Evidence (0)	Beginning (1)	Progressing (2)	Proficient (3)	Exceptional (4)
Student has not submitted or produced evidence of understanding/application of skill.	Unable to demonstrate understanding or show application of skill without significant support	Inconsistently or with support is able to demonstrate understanding or show application of skill.	Demonstrates complete understanding /application of skill or concept.	Demonstrates complete understanding/application of skill or concept <u>and</u> deeper learning of concepts or skills beyond the level explicitly taught.

## Why am I seeing N/A in my student's grades?

Unit 5 middle schools currently calculate the scores of individual standards by mode (the most frequently occurring numeric value). If there is an N/A listed as the overall score for a standard, this means that there is no mode in that standard yet. If you look in Example 1 below, you will see that while the student has several assignments assessed within the standard, there is no mode. Therefore, the standard's roll up score in that standard is an N/A. Since students in year long classes have multiple opportunities to show learning in these standards, most N/As will be resolved by the end of the school year. If not, the teacher will assign an overall roll up score to that standard that best reflects the student's level of mastery.

Student	Overall Standard Score	Assignment #1	Assignment #2	Assignment #3	Assignment #4	Assignment #5
Sample, Sam	N/A	2	2	3	3	4