

Understanding Grades

Formative Grades

A **formative assessment** is administered while students are forming their knowledge of a new concept or skill. It is not an assessment of mastery. A formative assessment is used during the process of instruction, and the results of the assessment should be provided as feedback to the student and used by the teacher to guide the planning of future instruction to meet individual students' needs.

Summative Grades

A **summative assessment** is administered to determine the level to which students have mastered new concepts and skills. It is not an assessment of concepts and skills that have been merely introduced or briefly reviewed. A summative assessment is generally used at the end of an instructional unit.

What did my child score on his/her assignment?

It's a **formative** grade.

That means it goes in the 40% category.

Category	Assignment	Score	%	Grade
Formative	Author's Perspective	9/13	69.23	D

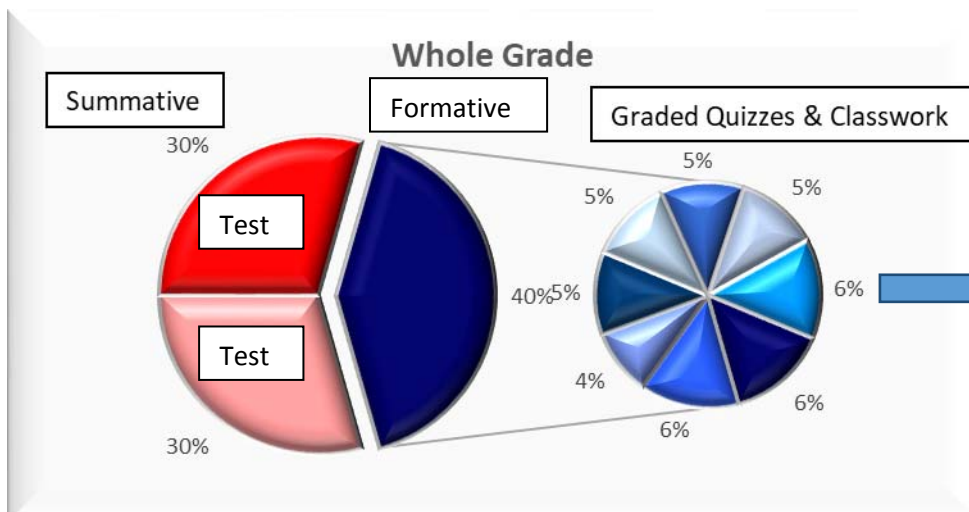
He/she scored a 69% D.

There is something that he/she needs to learn before the **summative** test.

The student only missed 4 points. That could have been 1 or 2 questions.

Let me ask what information the student was missing.

Was it one concept the student needs to work on?



This means that your child earned 9 points out of a total of 13 points. This means he/she added 9 points to his/her formative point bank, out of a total of 13 point opportunities. When reviewing formative grades, it is important to view the grade in terms of how many points were earned, rather than as a percentage and/or letter grade. This formative grade counts as 6% of the student's overall grade in the class.