

Discussion Guidelines and Rubric

Directions: Use the information in this document as a guide for participating in discussion assessments.

Discussions are one way that you can interact with your peers. You will use discussions to share your ideas and give feedback to others.

The following guidelines will help you participate in discussions and learn more about a topic from your classmates.

- **Respect others.** Each student has his or her own view. Respect those views, even if they are different from yours.
- **Give great details.** Feel free to give your opinion, and be sure to respond to the ideas of others, too.
- **Read over your post.** Before you post your thoughts, be sure to read over your post to make sure you have responded clearly.

The rubric on the following page explains how to earn a top, an average, and a poor response. Your teacher will give you points based on how well you participate in the discussion. See if you can get a top score!

Points	Guidelines
9–10	<p>You can earn a top score if you do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respond to the question clearly. • Show that you fully understand the topic by using facts to support your ideas. • Respond thoughtfully to more than one classmate’s post. • Use polite language at all times.
7–8	<p>You can earn an average score if you do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make an effort to answer the question. • Show that you understand the topic by using one or two facts to support your ideas. • Respond to one classmate’s post. • Use polite language at all times.
0–6	<p>You won’t score well if you do one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not post any of your ideas. • Give responses that are off-topic. • Do not show that you understand the topic. • Do not respond to a classmate’s post. • Do not use polite language.

Sample Discussion Board Answers

Sample Discussion Question	Why is measurement important in everyday life? Give examples to explain your answer.
Student A Response	Measurement is really important for accuracy in life. My dad lets me help him in the kitchen sometimes and we have to use measurement. When we use a recipe it lists all the ingredients and how much we have to use. For example, when we made a cake we added 2 cups of sugar and 2 cups of flour. If we didn't use measurement to figure out the right amount of sugar and flour to add, our cake might not have turned out very good! Another example is buying new shoes. At the shoe store they use a tool to measure my foot and if they didn't do this I wouldn't buy the right size. Then my shoes might be too big or too small.
Student B Response	My parents just bought a new rug for the living room. They had to measure to make sure they got a rug that was the right size for the room. Now they have a rug that fits perfectly and looks really good. The last time I went to the doctor they used measurement to get my height and weight. They had measurements on the wall and I stood up against it so they could see how tall I am. Then I got on a scale for them to measure my weight. Measuring helps you know your facts and get things right.
Student A Response to Student B	Wow! When I went to the doctor they also told me my height and weight and I didn't even think about the fact that they were using measurement. It's cool how many real-world examples there are of measurement. I like your example about the rug in the living room, and it made me think that my mom probably had to measure too when she got carpet and furniture for our house. If she didn't measure she would maybe get a table that's too small or a couch that's too big. Measuring really helps when you are setting up your house.