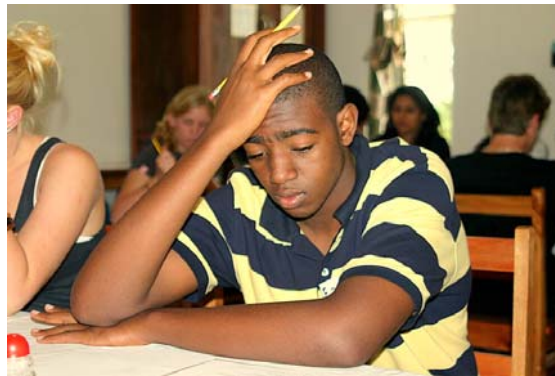




## How is my child's grade determined?



All students received grades on interim reports just before the October break. Exactly where did these grades come from, and what do they mean?



Students in the MYP are assessed using criterion based assessment. This means that for each subject area in the MYP, there is a set of criteria against which each student is evaluated. These vary from subject to subject.

To give one example, in the Arts (Drama, Music and Visual Art), students are assessed against four criteria: Criterion A Knowledge, Criterion B Application, Criterion C Reflection & Evaluation, and Criterion D Personal Engagement.

The goal of criterion based assessment is that students understand clearly what they must do to earn their grades. Also, since students are assessed against a clear standard, there is the opportunity for every student to score the highest grade. Students are not graded compared to other students, but rather on their performance against a clearly stated standard.

The MYP Subject Guides contain descriptors for each level of achievement possible within each of the criteria. Using a variety of information (homework, class work, informal questioning, tests, projects), teachers determine which level best describes the students' achievement, and assign the corresponding score for each criterion.

Teachers then total the criteria scores, and using the IB MYP conversion chart specific to each subject area, convert this number in to a score of 1 through 7 for a grade.

At the bottom of the interim report card is the generic description for each of the grades 1—7.

Students should be able to inform you of the criteria in each subject area, and these criteria are listed in the ISM MYP Handbook ([www.ismoshi.org/MYPHBook.pdf](http://www.ismoshi.org/MYPHBook.pdf)).



In addition, students received an effort grade. This grade is based on the student's performance in their Approaches to Learning (ATL) skills, including homework completion, class preparation and participation.

### What's Puzzling You?

Interested in learning more about where grades come from? Any other burning MYP questions? Ask the MYP Coordinator: send your question to Jeff Holcomb (Moshi Campus - [jeffh@ismoshi.net](mailto:jeffh@ismoshi.net)) or Steve Brown (Arusha Campus - [steveb@ismac.ac.tz](mailto:steveb@ismac.ac.tz)).

#### Coming up in The MYP Minute:

- *The Areas of Interaction and how they work*
- *Class Trips and their role in the MYP*
- *What is MYP Technology?*
- *What is the Personal Project?*
- *What are the requirements for an MYP Certificate?*