ASSESSMENT & GRADING | FREE PRINTABLE | GRADES 6-12

Standards-Based Grading Starter Pack

A restrained way to test skill-based grading without rebuilding the whole course.

ElevateTheNorm.com

By Clay Shumate

THIS PACK INCLUDES

1. Four-level proficiency scale
2. Assessment evidence planner
3. Reassessment agreement
4. Implementation reality check

How to use this pack

Pilot one unit or one standard before converting a whole course. Define quality before scoring, collect more than one kind of evidence, and publish the reassessment rule before anyone needs it.

QUICK START

- Pick one standard and write it in student-friendly language.
- Fill in the scale with what each level looks like in real student work.
- Plan two evidence sources and the reassessment-ready bar.
- Run the reality check before launch, especially district gradebook rules.

Print, adapt, and use it without an email gate. Put your own name on it; keep the small ElevateTheNorm.com line so other teachers can find the current version.

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Four-Level Proficiency Scale

Define quality before scoring. Replace vague labels with observable evidence.

Level	Student evidence	Teacher response
4 - Transfer	Applies the skill accurately in a new or complex context and can explain the choices made.	Offer extension, leadership, or a more complex application.
3 - Secure	Meets the standard independently and consistently on current work.	Confirm and continue; avoid inventing extra hoops.
2 - Developing	Shows partial understanding but still needs prompts, models, or correction.	Name the exact gap and assign focused practice.
1 - Beginning	Evidence is missing, inaccurate, or too limited to judge the standard.	Reteach, reduce the task, and collect new evidence.

MY STANDARD IN STUDENT LANGUAGE

Level	What it looks like in THIS standard
4	
3	
2	
1	

Assessment Evidence Planner

Use more than one kind of evidence when the standard is complex.

Standard or skill in student-friendly language

What successful evidence must show

First evidence source

Second evidence source

What would count as reassessment-ready

How the final level will be determined

Implementation and Reassessment Check

A grading change is not fair merely because the scale is cleaner.

BEFORE LAUNCH

- ☐ Check district grading policy and required gradebook settings.
- ☐ Explain the scale with real student work.
- ☐ Tell families how levels translate into reported grades.
- ☐ Decide how missing evidence differs from low evidence.

REASSESSMENT AGREEMENT (STUDENT AND TEACHER)

Student _____ Standard _____

- ☐ Student identifies the precise gap.
- ☐ Student completes new learning or practice.
- ☐ New evidence measures the same standard.
- ☐ The replacement rule is consistent and published.

The gap I am closing and the practice I completed:

_____

_____

Reassessment date	New level	Student signature	Teacher signature