# How to Estimate—and Make Decisions for Yourself

**If your grade is not in good shape, looking at a different issue in estimating**

If you have never practiced the 5 Good Habits for Evidence in the last 3 comparisons, it is unlikely that you will succeed at getting the 30 points for the Major Comparison’s separate grade for Good Habits for Evidence. Instead, you’d be working for part of those 50 points.

50 is less than 270 points (170 points for Unit 3 objective and 100 for the Final Exam).

So you should focus on those 270 points.

**Student’s question whose grade is in great shape and the student’s copy of what I had in the announcement**

Current total is 650
This is where I get a little confused. You posted this:

> Your Current Total of possible regular points (without adding in the small extra credits) are from the grades below. I have copied these explanations from the Course Schedule at the end of the Syllabus.
> - 50 for the Unit 1 Comparison
> - 10 for its Good Habits for Evidence
> - 50 for the Unit 2 Comparison
> - 20 for its Good Habits for Evidence
> - 10 for Quiz G in class on the date listed in the Course Schedule
> - 10 for Quiz H in class on the date listed in the Course Schedule

> - 10 for Quiz I in class on the date listed in the Course Schedule
>
> 650 = Current Total of possible regular points (not counting the assignments listed at the top of the message not yet added in)
> 585 or higher  = A (90% of the Current Total)
> 520 or higher  = B (80% of the Current Total)
> 455 or higher  = C (70% of the Current Total)
> 390 or higher  = D (60% of the Current Total)
> Less than 390 = F

So do I add on the extra points for all of the listed assignments that I did do? (like 50 for Unit 1, 20 for Good Habits and so on)

**My Response and How I’d Estimate**

 \*Nope, they are already in gradebook so that means Blackboard added them in automatically\*

Well with unit 1 you had 170
 And with unit 2 you had 148 - Let's go with the lower one in the estimate- a conservative estimate.

 650 Your total from above
**+** 148 A **conservative** estimate for unit 3 based on your prior work
 798

 So here is the way you figure it out.

 895 = what you need to make an A
**-** 798 = what you've got.
 97 = what you need as is
 **-** 10 = what you could make if you worked to be **perfect** on the quiz for review (This is necessary if the grade is tight)

87 –But that is a number very hard to get for that final even if you review very carefully. (60 is more typical.)

On the other hand if you made 170 on unit 3 (21 more than the conservative estimate) you could probably make the remainder on the final without doing the Major Comparison. No guarantees, but if you prepare perfectly….