## Algebra 1 Curriculum Sample

## A Grade Ahead will challenge your students and help them achieve their goals!

This school year, our academy's Algebra 1 students may be participating in A Grade Ahead's Traditional program, which is completed totally on pencil and paper, or the Blended Learning program, which integrates both traditional and electronic methods to teach students. To determine your program option, please contact your local academy, or go to www.agradeahead.com.


## Monthly Booklet

Each month, students receive a monthly booklet that is split into four weeks of lessons and practice problems.
(At the end of this document, you will find a partial sample with some practice questions from A Grade Ahead's Algebra 1 curriculum.)


## Weekly Class

Each week, students attend a weekly class, either in person or via an online platform, and learn a lesson from a teacher. Together, the class completes practice problems to understand the weekly topic.


A Grade Ahead's rigorous, year-round enrichment program will challenge your child with a higher academic standard. The Algebra 1 curriculum incorporates built-in math fluency with monthly curriculum topics.

As part of your student's monthly booklet, your student will receive weekly:

- Student Goals that explain what your child should know by the end of the week.
- ABC Word Boxes that define terms to know.
- Sample/Practice Problems to try as part of an in-class lesson.
- Teaching Tips for parents to review if your child forgets something later.
- Examples with lots of details and explanations.


## Homework

In the Traditional Program, students have everything they need to participate in class and complete homework in their monthly booklets: examples, three days of homework, and detailed answer keys.

In the Blended Program, students complete homework at A Grade Ahead Online. This offers many benefits to students and parents, including interactive and colorful questions, automatic grading, rationales for every question, progress reports, and adaptive learning paths.



## Order of Operations

Teaching Tip: Students should already
be familiar with PEMDAS. Emphasize
concepts using different examples. It is ok
if the lesson goes quickly because some
problems in the indices may take longer
than usual.

## Converting Decimals, Fractions, and Percents Review

## Student Goals:

$\sqrt{ }$ I will be able to solve expressions by following the rules of PEMDAS.
$\sqrt{ }$ I will be able to write an expression that follows the rules of PEMDAS.
$\sqrt{ }$ I will be able to reverse PEMDAS to solve simple variable equations.


## A. Decimals to Fractions

There are two kinds of decimals that are rational: Terminating and Repeating. Terminating decimals end at some point while repeating decimals repeat the same sequence of numbers on to infinity. Zeroes at the end of a decimal do not change the value of the decimal; you can add or drop as many zeroes as you like. For example, $1.000=1$.

To convert terminating decimals to fractions, imagine that the decimal is the numerator of a fraction whose denominator is 1 . Multiply the top and bottom by a multiple of 10 that will eliminate the decimal point. Then, simplify.


Rational decimals are decimals that can be written as fractions of integers.

Example: Turn 0.35 into a fraction.
0.35 has 2 decimal places, so remove the decimal and place 35 over 100 .
$\frac{35}{100}$ can be simplified because both 35 and 100 can be divided by 5 , which gives you
$\frac{7}{20}$
Example: Convert 6.115 to a fraction.
6.115 has 3 decimal places, so remove the decimal and place 6115 over 1000.
$\frac{6115}{1000}$ has 6 thousands in it, so this can be written as a mixed fraction $6 \frac{115}{1000}$
115 and 1000 are both divisible by 5 , so the fraction reduces to $6 \frac{23}{200}$

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Note: Remember that the first place of a decimal is the tenths' place, the second is hundredths', and so on. This literally tells you what the denominator of the fraction will be. This system is helpful in converting fractions to decimals, as well.

## B. Fractions to Decimals

To convert fractions to decimals, multiply the numerator and denominator by a number that makes the denominator a multiple of 10 . Then, move the decimal point in the numerator to the left one place for each 0 after the 1 .


Example: Convert $\frac{3}{60}$ into a decimal.
$\frac{3}{60}=\frac{1}{20} \quad$ Reduce the fraction if possible.
$\frac{1 \cdot 5}{20 \cdot 5}=\frac{5}{100}$ If possible, multiply top and bottom to put the denominator 10,100 , etc. $\frac{5}{100}=0.05$ The 100 on the bottom means that the 5 goes in the hundredths' place. If it were a 15 in the numerator, the decimal would be 0.15

Sometimes it is not possible to find a convenient multiple of 10. In this case, one can always use long division.

Example: Convert $\frac{4}{7}$ to a decimal by dividing 4 by 7 and then rounding to 2 decimal places.
$7 \longdiv { 0 . 5 7 1 }$

$$
\frac{-35}{50}
$$

50
$-49$
10
$\frac{-7}{3}$ (and so on)
$\frac{4}{7} \approx 0.57$


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## C. Percents (\%)

Percent means "per one hundred." For example, 25 percent means 25 out of 100. 25 percent is written as $25 \%$.

Usually, a percent is a part of a whole, "whole" being 100\%. If you have driven $30 \%$ of a particular distance, then $70 \%$ or ( $100 \%-30 \%$ ) is left to drive. When you complete the drive, you have driven $100 \%$ of the distance.

## D. Percents and Decimals

To convert a decimal to a percent, multiply the decimal by 100 and place a percent sign (\%) after the number.


Example: $0.75=75 \times 100 \%=75 \%$

To convert a percent to a decimal, do the opposite; remove the percent sign and move the decimal point two places to the left.


Example: 20\% = 0.2

$$
65 \%=0.65
$$

$$
2 \%=0.02
$$

## E. Percents and Fractions

In order to convert fractions to percents, the fraction should first be converted to a decimal. Then convert it from a decimal to a percent.


Example: $\frac{3}{4}=0.75=75 \%$

To convert a percent to a fraction, remove the percent sign and write the percent as a fraction over 100 . Then, simplify.

Example: $20 \%=\frac{20}{100}=\frac{1}{5}$


Example: $65 \%=\frac{65}{100}=\frac{13}{20}$


When solving a problem that has multiple operations, you must do the problem according to the order of operations: PEMDAS (Parentheses, Exponents, Multiplication/Division, Addition/Subtraction). You must complete everything within parentheses before anything outside of parentheses; after that you perform all operations involving exponents; and so on. For these problems, it is most convenient if all numbers are either in decimal form or fraction form, instead of having a mix of both in the same problem.

Example: $27+39 \div 3$
Since we must divide before we add, we start with $39 \div 3=13$. The new problem is 27 +13 , so the answer is 40 . If you had simply gone through the problem from left to right, then you would have done $27+39$ first and gotten a new problem of $66 \div 3$, which equals 22. Clearly, $40 \neq 22$, which demonstrates why the order of operations is important.


Example: $4 \frac{1}{2}+3.7-5.13$
In this problem there are two decimals and one fraction. Because there are more decimals, it is easier to convert all of the numbers to decimals. The new problem looks like $4.5+3.7-5.13$. As far as the order of operations is concerned, addition and subtraction happen at the same time. Therefore we perform the operations from left to right.

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4.5+3.7 = 8.2
8.2-5.13=3.07
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Example: $(6-2 \cdot 4)^{2} \div 2$
Remember, parentheses come first. That means whatever is inside the parentheses must be calculated before anything outside of it. In this case, we have 6-2.4 inside the parentheses. Don't forget that order of operations still applies, and multiplication comes before addition, so we calculate $2 \cdot 4=8$ first. Now we have $6-8=-2$.

Next comes the exponent. $(-2)^{2}=(-2) \cdot(-2)=4$
Our new problem is $4 \div 2=2$.
$(6-2 \cdot 4)^{2} \div 2=2$.
Example: $\sqrt{54.36-18.36} \div 0.25$
Remember, square root comes first, so what is inside must be simplified so that the root can be found.
$54.36-18.36=36$
$\sqrt{36}=6$
$6 \div 0.25=6 \div \frac{1}{4}=6 \cdot 4=24$

Note: This week, the only exponents that students will be expected to use are squares and square roots, and only positive roots will be used. More exponents will be covered in Week 3.

Word problems this week will focus mainly on writing expressions that can be solved using PEMDAS. They will also utilize fractions, decimals, and percentages.

Example: For every 250 bubbles that the bubble machine blows, it uses 2 ounces of bubble solution. If the machine started with 12 ounces, and Fred spilled 7, write an expression that calculates how many bubbles the machine can make without being refilled. Then, evaluate.

Dividing 250 by 2 gives how many bubbles can be blown per ounce. 12-7 gives the number of ounces available after the spill. Multiply them together to get the total possible bubbles. Therefore, our expression is:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& (250 \div 2)(12-7) \\
& (250 \div 2)(12-7)=125 \cdot 5=625 \text { bubbles }
\end{aligned}
$$




## Answers of Student Practice

For Questions 1-12, use the method shown in answer 1-2.
1-2) $\frac{9}{8} ; 112.5 \%$ [The fraction for 1.125 is $\frac{1,125}{1,000}$; divide both by $25=\frac{25}{40}$; Divide both by $5=\frac{9}{8}$; Given 1.125 move the decimal two places to the right to get 112.5 and add a percent sign.]
3-4) 2.333; 233.3\%
5-6) $0.58 ; \frac{29}{50}$
7-8) $\quad 0.55 ; 55 \%$ [First, subtract to get $\frac{11}{20}$ ]
9-10) $0.81 ; \frac{81}{100}$ [First, add to get $81 \%$ ]
11-12) $\frac{7}{8} ; 87.5 \%$ [First, add to get 0.875]
13) $200\left[(1+14)^{2}-25=(15)^{2}-25=225-25=200\right]$
14) $-13\left[(6 \div(2-4)) \cdot 4+\left(5^{2}-30\right) \div 5=(6 \div(-2)) \cdot 4+(25-30) \div 5=(-3) 4+(-5) \div 5=-12-1=-13\right]$
15) $9[(1-0.9) \cdot 87-(0.52-0.82)=0.1 \cdot 87-(-0.3)=8.7+0.3=9]$
16) $19\left[(24 \div 8)^{2} \div(3 \cdot 4-9)+(-4)^{2}=3^{2} \div(12-9)+16=9 \div 3+16=3+16=19\right]$
17) $2\left[0.75-3 \div(15-17)^{2}+\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) \cdot 8=0.75-3 \div(-2)^{2}+2=0.75-\frac{3}{4}+2=2\right]$
18) $1\left[(0.26+0.54) \cdot 20 \div(8-4) \cdot(0.5)^{2}=0.8 \cdot 20 \div 4 \cdot(0.25)=16 \div 4 \cdot \frac{1}{4}=4 \cdot \frac{1}{4}=1\right]$
19) $5 \cdot 2 \cdot(8-1)=70$
20) $5 \cdot 2 \div(8-3)=2$
21) none needed
22) $(45 \div 9+12 \div 4) \cdot(10+5)=120$
23) $6 \div(12+3) \div 4=1 / 10$
24) $6 \cdot(12 \div 3-4)=0$
25) $13 \cdot 15+5 \cdot 23+12=195+115+12=322$ statues
26) $5(2 \cdot 4+3)=5(8+3)=5(11)=55$ cookies
27) $2\left(\frac{3}{10}\right)(80)+1\left(\frac{7}{10}\right)(80)=2(24)+1(56)=48+56=104$ containers of milk
28) $(4 \cdot 7.25)+3.5=29+3.5=\$ 32.50$

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A Grade Ahead makes it easy for you to help your students get caught up—and even stay ahead oftheir peers. Our students are top performers at the heads of their classes who get into lvy League schools and perform well on standardized tests. They reach their goals of becoming doctors, engineers, and other well-paid professionals.

## Why A Grade Ahead?

1. Our curriculum is outstanding, with clear lessons and homework activities that are challenging and interesting. They are not boring and repetitive like some other programs.

2. Our small group classes are like tutoring, only better.
3. It's cost-effective. Unlike private tutoring, A Grade Ahead's classes are affordable and provide a fun environment to learn.

