

**Basic Math Computation**  
*Mbsp – Monitoring Basic Skills Progress*  
**BENCHMARK ADMINISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS GRADES 4-6**

Today we are going to take a short math test. This test has all kinds of math problems.

This is what the test looks like. (*Hold up a test.*)

The test has 25 problems. You may not know how to do all of these problems, but you'll be learning how to do them this year.

You will have \_\_\_\_\_ minutes to complete this test.

Here's how to take this test. Start here (*point to the top left problem*). Move across each row. When you come to a problem that's easy for you, do it right away. When you come to a problem that's hard, skip it and move on to the next problem. When you have looked at the whole test and finished the problems that are easy, go back to the beginning and try the harder ones. Complete each problem as quickly as possible. For whole-number division, write your answer as a quotient and a remainder.

(*Ask, "Are there any questions?" Then distribute the test.*)

As soon as I give you your test, write your first and last name on it.

After you have written your name on the test, turn your paper over and put your pencil down so I'll know you're ready.

I want you to do as many problems as you can. Work carefully and do your best.

Remember to start at the top left. When you come to a problem you know you can do, do it right away. When you come to a problem that's hard, skip it and come back to it later. Go through the entire test doing the easier problems first, then go back and try the harder ones.

When I say, "Begin", turn your paper over and start to work. Work for the whole time. There is room in each square to do your work. Write your answers so I can read them.

(*When everyone is ready say, "Begin."*)

(*At the end of \_\_\_\_\_ minutes, say "Stop, put your pencils down and turn your paper over." Then collect the test.*)

**Time Limit for Computation Tests**

Grade 4 ----- 3 minutes

Grade 5 ----- 5 minutes

Grade 6 ----- 6 minutes

## Basic Math Computation

MBSP – Monitoring Basic Skills Progress

### SCORING CORRECT PROBLEMS FOR GRADES 4-6

- The student scores 1 point for each problem worked completely correctly.
- If any part of the answer is incorrect, no point is given for that problem.
- When scoring, generally give the student the benefit of the doubt.
- Do not penalize a student for writing a leading 0 in front of an answer (ex: 25 – 18 = 07)
- When scoring division problems with remainders, both the integer and the remainder must be correct to receive 1 point.
- Unless a problem specifies a format (“reduce,” “rename as mixed,” “rename as improper,” etc.), any mathematically equivalent answer is correct and should be given a point. See examples below.

Problem	Answer Key	Student Response	Score
Reduce: $\frac{3}{6} =$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{2}{4}$	<b>0 points</b> <i>If the directions say to “reduce,” the fraction must be simplified as far as it can go.</i>
Rename as mixed: $\frac{33}{4} =$	$8\frac{1}{4}$	$7\frac{5}{4}$	<b>0 points</b> <i>For the purposes of this test, the fractional part of a mixed number must be less than 1.</i>
$6\frac{3}{5} + 3\frac{3}{5}$	$10\frac{1}{5}$	$9\frac{6}{5}$	<b>1 point</b> <i>The answer is mathematically equivalent to the key, and the directions did not specify a format.</i>  <u>Note:</u> The answer shows understanding of adding whole numbers to whole numbers and fractions to fractions, and the fractional parts were added correctly, which is the skill being assessed. Converting to a mixed number would be assessed on a different problem.
Rename as improper: $2\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{8}{3}$	$\frac{16}{6}$	<b>1 point</b> <i>The answer is mathematically equivalent to the key, and it is an improper fraction. The directions did not specify that the improper fraction be reduced.</i>
Rename as mixed: $\frac{54}{9}$	6	$6\frac{0}{9}$	<b>1 point</b> <i>The answer is mathematically equivalent to the key, and the fractional part of the mixed number is less than 1.</i>
Rename as mixed: $\frac{54}{9}$	6	$6\frac{0}{0}$	<b>0 point</b> <i><math>\frac{0}{0}</math> is not a valid fraction.</i>
Rename as mixed: $\frac{54}{9}$	6	$5\frac{9}{9}$	<b>0 points</b> <i>For the purposes of this test, the fractional part of a mixed number must be less than 1.</i>
$91 \overline{)92}$	1 R 1	1 R 1 or $1\frac{1}{91}$ or 1.01	<b>1 point</b> <i>Any mathematically equivalent answer is correct. However, the standard administration directions instruct students to use remainders. This allows students to answer the problem more quickly than if they worked out the decimal equivalence and answer more problems in the allotted time.</i>