Grade Slip Explanation

Part I  (How well you are doing so far.)

Sample:
A class has completed the 3 tests (300 pts. possible), 7 labs (64 pts. possible), and 5 quizzes (50 pts. possible) for a total of $300+64+50=414$ possible points. “Irma Student” has the following grade slip:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points Earned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tests</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student, Irma</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Test Scores - Check that I have entered your scores correctly. A missed test will be a zero in the box.
Test Average - Can be used to estimate how well you may do on the final exam.
Lab Points - The portion of the 100 points for lab earned so far. (Approx. 9-10pts. per completed lab)
Quiz Points - Points earned on the quizzes taken so far. (Save your quizzes to verify the total.)
Total - Total points earned on everything so far. The sum of test scores, lab points and quiz points.
Overall Average (in red) - This is your current “grade” expressed as the percent of total possible points.
Having earned 339 points of 414 possible points, Irma’s current average is 82% or a B.

Sample Percent Calculation: \[
\frac{339}{414} \times 100 = 82\%
\]

Note: After the last day to drop without grade assignment (see syllabus for date), this average must be at least 60% to withdraw passing.

Part II  (How well you need to do.)

If Irma’s class will have 4 tests (400 pts.), labs (100 pts.), quizzes (70 pts.), and a final exam (100 pts.); then there are 670 possible points in the whole term. The Community College grading system requires
- 90% for an A, or at least 603 points (90% of 670 pts.)
- 80% for a B, or at least 536 points (80% of 670 pts.)
- 70% for a C, or at least 469 points (70% of 670 pts.).

The numbers for your class may be different and are given on your syllabus.

How many more points does Irma need?

In the example above, Irma has earned 339 points so far. Therefore she will need to earn at least
- 603-339=264 more points for an A; or
- 536-339=197 more points for a B; or
- 469-339=130 more points for a C.

How hard will it be for Irma to earn this number of points? (What percent is this of the remaining points?)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Needed - % of remaining pts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>for an A</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student, Irma</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In this example there are 670 points possible for the whole term. At the time of this sample grade slip, Irma had earned 339 points out of 414 possible points. Therefore 670-414=256 possible points remain in the 1 test, 4 labs, 2 quizzes, and final exam.

To get an A for the term, Irma needs to get at least 264 more points out of 256 possible points or 103%.
This is shown on the grade slip as “##” in the box after A. The “##” is used because it is impossible to get more than 100% of the points.

Sample Percent Calculation: \[
\frac{264}{256} \times 100 = 103\%
\]
To get a B requires at least 197 more points out of 256 possible points or 77% (in box after B on the grade slip). Since Irma has earned 82% of the points so far, there is a good chance that she can earn at least 77% of the remaining points.

To get a C Irma needs 130 more points out of the 256 possible points or 51%.

Note: These percents are of the total remaining points and do not represent the specific score needed on any one test, quiz, or lab.

Why are there two numbers after each letter grade? What does the second number mean?

Because a situation may arise that interferes with your preparation for a test or causes you to miss a test, one score or missed test may be replaced by your score on that portion of the final. This is limited to one test. Don’t expect to redo your whole term on the final exam.

Note: The cumulative final is divided into parts corresponding to the tests. If you did poorly on test 2, your score on part 2 of the final may be used for test 2. To improve on the original test score, you must learn the material that you did not understand.

The second percentage after each letter grade is calculated assuming that the lowest test grade thus far (the 68 for Irma) will not count. The 68 will be replaced by Irma’s score on that part of the final exam. Irma has earned 339 points so far but throwing out that test score leaves Irma with 339-68=270 points earned. Therefore she will need to earn at least 603-271=332 more points for an A; or 536-271=265 more points for a B; or 469-271=198 more points for a C.

The 270 points that Irma has earned in this calculation are out of 2 tests (tests 1 and 3), 7 labs, and 5 quizzes or a total of 314 possible points. Out of the 670 points possible for the whole term 670-314=356 possible points remain in 2 tests (tests 2 and 4), 4 labs, 2 quizzes, and final exam.

To get an A for the term, Irma will need to get at least 332 more points out of 356 possible points or 93%.
\[
\left( \frac{332}{356} \right) \times 100 = 93\%
\]
This is shown in the second box after A. Irma will have to do much better than her current 82%. It may not be likely, but it is possible.

To get a B requires at least 265 more points out of 356 possible points or 74% (in second box after B). Since Irma has earned 82% of the points so far, there is a very good chance that she can earn at least 74% of the rest.

To get a C Irma needs 198 more points out of the 356 possible points or 56%.

Note: These percents are of the total remaining points and do not represent the specific score needed on any one test, quiz, or lab.

Please do your best on every test/lab/quiz. It may be tempting to do “just well enough” for a grade. (Example: Why get a 77% when a 70% is still a C.) However, the points you might have gotten on a test/lab/quiz earlier in the term may be the points you wish you had at the end of the term. (Example: If you end up with a 69%.)