

Example 2. Handed out in class and read aloud after Quiz 4

Performance in Physics: Update Number 2

Performance on Quiz 4 this week was again a dramatic improvement over the previous week. The four classes have made huge improvements for two weeks running. Well done! Most students are now studying more effectively for the verbal questions, and most students have achieved a fair degree of proficiency with the computations.

Here is some more advice for further improvement:

1. Some students need to work on their writing. If this is you, I recommend writing out new responses to quiz questions where you lost a lot of points. Bring them in and we can discuss them.
2. When discussing theories: Theories don't "use" facts. Theories aren't "made up" of facts. Theories aren't "groups of facts." Theories aren't "collections of facts." A theory is a model that explains and accounts for certain facts. A theory is much more than just the facts it explains.
3. Generally speaking, giving examples on verbal questions doesn't help. It is a better use of your time to stick to a straight answer to the question. Skip the examples unless an example is requested in the question.
4. Proofread your written responses to make sure your English makes sense.
5. Your answers are to be in complete sentences.
6. When discussing accuracy and precision, note that these two terms are about measurements. Refer to measurements, not to "somethings," "experiments," etc.
7. There are a few students who have not yet gained proficiency in unit conversions and motion calculations. These calculations will be on every quiz for the rest of the year, so to earn a passing grade in the class it is essential that you come in regularly for tutoring. I recommend coming in twice per week before or after school until you have these skills down.