

Introduction to Maple TA

Record the information about your class below.

- Instructor: _____
- Course: _____
- Semester: _____
- Year: _____
- Section: _____

The Maple TA home page for your class:

<http://mapleta.okstate.edu/classes/>_____

The rest of the URL for the homepage follows a standard format:

4 letter course prefix+4 digit course number+3 digit section number+2 letter semester+2 digit year. So for Section 11 of Math 2144 in summer of 2007 the rest of the URL would be math2144011su07 and the URL would be <http://mapleta.okstate.edu/classes/math2144011su07> .

Next you should complete the tutorial. Go to

<http://www.math.okstate.edu/~alspach/mapleta/MapleTAClassList.html>.

Click on the link in the second column **Maple TA Tutorial**. This will show you how to register and use Maple TA. (This is the first page of that tutorial.)

After you have registered as a student in Maple TA, record your login name below.

- Maple TA Login: _____

You should not write your password in any place which is easily accessible to others.

Maple TA Class Home Page

Below is an example of a Maple TA class home page with some important features marked with large numerals. Read the descriptions below then go to the home page for your class and look for similar items.

The screenshot shows the Maple TA Class Home Page for 'Math 2144 Fall 2006 Section 11' at Oklahoma State University. The page includes a header with the Maple TA logo and 'Class Home Page', and the MapleSoft logo. A message asks users to bookmark the page. The page is divided into 'Your Class' and 'Instructor' sections. The 'Your Class' section contains a table of assignments with columns for Assignment Name, Points, Type, and Availability. The 'Instructor' section lists the instructor's name and email. There are also links for instructor login, proctor login, and student registration. Numbered callouts 1-12 point to specific elements: 1. Class name, 2. Instructor name, 3. Assignment name (teal link), 4. Points, 5. Type, 6. Availability, 7. Assignment name, 8. Availability, 9. Practice type, 10. Search for class link, 11. Register as a student link, 12. View my results link.

maple TA Class Home Page MapleSoft

Please bookmark this page, it will be your starting point for all activity in this class.

Your Class **Instructor**

1. [Math 2144 Fall 2006 Section 11](#)
Oklahoma State University

2. [L. Euler \(leuler@math.okstate.edu\)](#)

Select the link for an assignment to begin:

Assignment Name	Points	Type	Availability
Getting Started with MapleTA: Entering Answers	13	Homework/Quiz	Unlimited
3. Homework 1 (Introduction to Maple TA)	4. 13	5. Homework/Quiz	6. Unlimited
7. 5e Chapter 1	10	Homework/Quiz	8. Before 5/25/06 11:00 PM
Homework 2 (Chapter 1 and Sect. 2.1)	20	Homework/Quiz	Before 12/25/06 11:00 PM
5e Chapter 1 practice	10	9. Practice	Unlimited
5e Section 2.1	10	Homework/Quiz	1/6/06 8:00 AM - 5/1/06 11:00 PM
5e Section 2.1 Practice	5	Practice	Unlimited
5e Section 2.2	10	Homework/Quiz	1/11/06 8:00 AM - 5/7/06 11:00 PM
Homework 3 (Sections 2.2 and 2.3)	20	Homework/Quiz	1/11/06 8:00 AM - 12/7/06 11:00 PM

10. Not the correct class? [Search for your class here.](#)
Having browser problems? [See the list of supported browsers.](#)

[Instructor login](#)
[Proctor login](#)

11. [Register as a student in this class](#)

12. [View my results in this class](#)

1. Class. You should look here to see that you have the page for the correct class.
2. Name of your instructor.
3. The assignments are listed in the first column. The (teal) blue indicates that this assignment, Homework 1, is an active link.
4. This is the number of points for the assignment.
5. The type of this assignment is Homework/Quiz which means that a login is required and that the score on the assignment will be recorded.
6. Availability of this assignment is unlimited. This means that there is no time set for which it will cease to be an active link.

7. The assignment named 5e Chapter 1 is gray so this assignment is not an active link.
8. This shows that the reason the assignment is not active is that this assignment had to be completed before May 25, 2006.
9. The assignment 5e Chapter 1 Practice has type Practice. This means that no login is required and that the score will not be recorded.
10. If you find that you have gone to the home page of the wrong class, you can click on this link to be taken to a search form that should help you find the correct home page.
11. The first time you visit your class home page you will need to click on this link to setup your login and password.
12. You can use this link to see your recorded scores on assignments and see your graded assignments and correct answers for questions that you missed.

What is Maple TA?

Maple TA is a system for presenting mathematics problems and grading answers. It is *not* a system for doing mathematics like Maple, Mathematica, or Mathcad.

Browser Settings

When you are using Maple TA turn off pop-up blocking for the Maple TA server and make sure that javascript and java are enabled.


Registering with the Maple TA Software

You will need to setup a login name and password to use Maple TA and have your scores recorded for your instructor.

Click on **Register as a student in this class**. (11.) You should see a screen like the one below.

In order to work assignments for credit, you need to register with the system. To do this, please fill out the information requested in the form below.

Required fields are marked with *. When you have completed the form, click OK at the top of the page.



* Name: 1-25 characters, letters only, but hyphens and apostrophes may be used (e.g. Smith-Klein, O'Brian)

* First MI * Last

* Login name: 3 to 9 characters, letters and numbers only

* Password: 5 to 12 characters, letters and numbers only

* Retype password:

* Student ID #: If you were not assigned a student ID, use your phone number.

Email address: Forgetful? If you include your email address, the system can use it to remind you of your login info.

Complete the form. Be sure to take note of the limitations on what characters are allowed.

Do not use your Social Security number as your ID. Use your CWID.

Click on OK when you are done. If something is wrong, you will see an error message. Otherwise you should see a confirmation screen.

Click Yes if the information is correct. Click No to return to the form.

After you finish, you will be returned to the class home page.

Introduction to Maple TA Homework

The homework problems that you will be given in Maple TA are modeled on problems from your

text. You should read the material from sections that the assignment covers and study the worked examples before starting the Maple TA assignment.

This assignment is designed to acquaint you with different types of questions in Maple TA assignments, features of the pages and some of issues that arise because your answers are being graded automatically.

To begin the assignment click on the name of the assignment from the list on the class home page. You should see a screen something like the one pictured below.

maple TA Maple T.A.

Student > Log in for Assignment

Maplesoft

The screenshot shows a login window for Maple TA. At the top left is the 'maple TA' logo. To its right, the text reads 'Log in for Math 2144, Homework 1 (Introduction to Maple TA)'. Below this, it says 'Your class:' followed by a horizontal line and the text 'Math 2144'. In the center, there is a login box with two input fields: 'Login:' and 'Password:'. To the right of these fields are two buttons: 'Cancel' and 'Enter'. At the bottom left, there are two links: 'Forgot your password? Click here.' and 'Don't have a login yet? Click here to register.'

Enter your login and password. Then click **Enter**. You should see a page similar to the one below.

maple TA™ Print Assignment



Cancel

This assignment gives you two options:

1. print it first, work through it off-line, and then copy your answers into the online assignment later, or
2. work online right now.

If you choose to print the assignment, you will still need to submit your answers using the system. When you are ready to submit your work, you will:

1. select this assignment from the Class Homepage and log in,
2. enter your answers and select "Grade"

Make your selection now:

[Print assignment for off-line work](#) | [Work assignment on-line right now](#)

Each time you begin a homework assignment you will be presented with the choice of either printing the assignment or working at the computer on the assignment. *Normally you should print the assignment and solve the problems just as if they came from the text.* You should carefully write the solutions so that you practice using the terms and notation in preparation for in class tests and so that you can find and correct any errors that you may have made. Also if you need help you will have something to show your instructor or a tutor. After you have the solved the problems on paper, you will need to login to enter your answers.

In this assignment most of the problems are not really about the mathematics but about interacting with Maple TA. Click on **Work assignment on-line right now**.

The next screen you see should look like the one below but without the large numerals 1,, 2., etc..

Student > Assignment

maple TA Graded Session - Credit awarded

MapleSoft

1. [◀ Back](#) 2. [▶ Next](#) 3. [▲ Jump To:](#) 4. [✓ Grade](#) 5. [? Help](#) 6. [☒ Quit & Save](#)

Math 2144, Homework 1 (Introduction to Maple TA)

Question 1 of 13
Remaining time: Unlimited
7. [How did I do?](#)

Question 1: (1 point)

Because your answers will be graded by a computer program, you must use some care in entering your answers and follow some rules about the way mathematical expressions are entered. The computer program will not give you credit for answers that it cannot understand even if there are only small differences between what you have entered and a correct answer. On the other hand MapleTA is very tolerant of answers which are mathematically equivalent to a correct answer.

The buttons **Back** and **Next** (marked 1. and 2.) are navigation buttons for moving backward or forward one page. (**Back** is gray because there is no page in the assignment before this one.) The **Jump To** label 3. is next to a pull-down menu. Click on the small downward arrowhead to the right of the blank box and you will see a list of all of the questions in the assignment. Choosing one will cause the browser to move to the page containing that particular question.

The numeral 4. is next to a button labeled **Grade**. You should click that button *only* when you are finished entering the answers to all of the questions. Once you click that button and confirm that you want your assignment graded, you will no longer be able to make changes in your answers. Your answers will be graded and the score will be made available to your instructor.

The numeral 5 is next to the Help button. This provides very general help. 6 is by a button labeled **Quit and Save**. You use this periodically to make sure that your work has been saved by the system. Definitely do this if you are going away from the computer for a while because your Maple TA session will time out.

Below this row of buttons on the far right is an important link (7.) labeled How did I do? This will be available on most assignments. Go to the bottom of the page.

Which of the following will MapleTA accept as equivalent to $\frac{4}{5}x^5 - 3x^2 + \pi$? (Multiplication does not need to be explicitly entered.)

8. [Report Bug](#)

- $4X^5/5-3X^2+Pi$
- $(4/5)*(x^5)+(-3)*(x^2)+Pi$
- $Pi+4*x^5/5-3*x^2$
- $4 x^5 -3 x^2 +pi$
- $Pi+-3 x^2+(4/5)x^5$
- $4*x^5/5-x^2 *3 +Pi$
- $4/5 x^5 -3 x^2 +Pi$

9. [Partial Grading Explained](#)

Select a few of the answers at random and then click the link [How did I do?](#)

The window which opens will tell you whether or not your answer is correct.

Using this feature will give you an opportunity to correct errors before submitting the assignment for grading.

The link next to the numeral **9.** explains how questions which have multiple responses are graded.

The link next to the numeral **8.** is for reporting difficulties with the operation of the software such as a graph not displaying properly or a broken link. When the link is clicked, a window opens that contains a form that you can complete to report what went wrong. This report goes the Maple TA administrator and a copy goes to your instructor.

Jump to Question 4. (Use **3.**) You should see the following at the bottom of the page.

This question accepts numbers or formulas.

[Help](#) | [Change Entry Style](#) | [Preview](#)

Type $3x^3 - x^2/5$ into the answer box. Click on **Preview**. A window should open and show you the formula nicely displayed. Using **Preview** will help you catch entry errors.

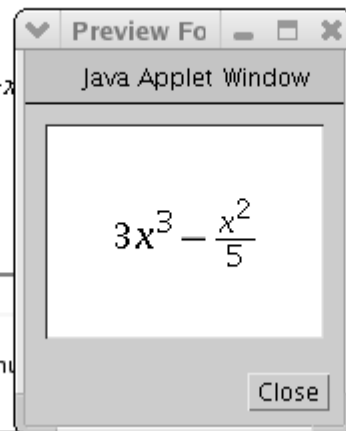
Question 4: (1 point)

Enter an expression equivalent to $-\frac{5}{4}x$

[Report Bug](#)

This question accepts numbers or formulas.

[Help](#) | [Change Entry Style](#) | [Preview](#)



ation (^) is applied before division or multiplication.

Close the **Preview** window. Jump to Question 7.

This question accepts formulas in Maple syntax.

Plot | [Help](#) | [Preview](#)

[Hint 1](#) | [Hint 2](#)

This question has a hint, **Hint 1**. Click on the hint and a window containing the hint will open. Close the hint.

Jump to Question 10. Notice that under the answer box is the word **Number**. The answer to this question is numerical. *Unless otherwise stated you should always give the exact answer.* This means that you should not use decimals, but fractions, roots, etc. Often such problems will accept arithmetic expressions such as $2^3 \cdot 7/5$.

Question 10: (1 point)

If a particle moves 56 km in 5 minutes, what is its velocity in mm/min?

This problem does not require that the units be entered.

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[Report Bug](#)

[Number](#)

Jump to Question 9 and look at the instructions. *Enter an answer which is correct within .001.*

Question 9: (1 point)

What is the largest solution of $9x^2 - 72x + 107 = 0$, i.e., $9x^2 - 72x + 107 = 0$?

Enter an answer which is correct within .001.

Experiment with entering your answer. Try entering a decimal approximation as well as the exact solution using `sqrt()` or `n^(1/2)` to enter the square root of a number `n`. Notice that in this question approximations are accepted and you are given explicit information about the required accuracy.

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[Report Bug](#)

[Number](#)

For this question you can use your calculator to find a decimal approximation of the correct answer. Read the statement of the question. The expression $9x^2 - 108x + 319 = 0$ appears in Maple syntax first then it is displayed after the abbreviation *i.e. which means that is*. You will see this in most of the homework questions. The second version is usually easier to read. The first version may help you enter your answer or clarify what the second version means. (The first version is also there to help

students with visual disabilities.)

Jump to Question 13. Below the answer box is the sentence: This question accepts formulas in Maple syntax. Maple syntax is similar to what is used with calculators. The most important thing to remember is that all multiplications must be entered with *. You will find out more about Maple syntax when you actually answer the question in this introduction.

This question accepts formulas in Maple syntax.

Plot | [Help](#) | [Preview](#)

[Hint 1](#)

Question 12 is similar to Question 13, but the expression is longer. The directions suggest using an auxiliary program such as Notepad to help with answer entry. You could also use Notepad to write all of your answers when you are not online and then paste your answers into Maple TA later.

Grading Your Assignment

Even though you may not have entered answers for many of the questions, click on the **Grade** button. You should see a few questions listed with comments.

Warning: There appear to be errors in your answers to the questions listed below.

- Press the Back button or click on one of the questions in the list to go back and correct your work.
- If you press Grade again, you will get your grade immediately, but the questions listed below will all be graded as wrong.

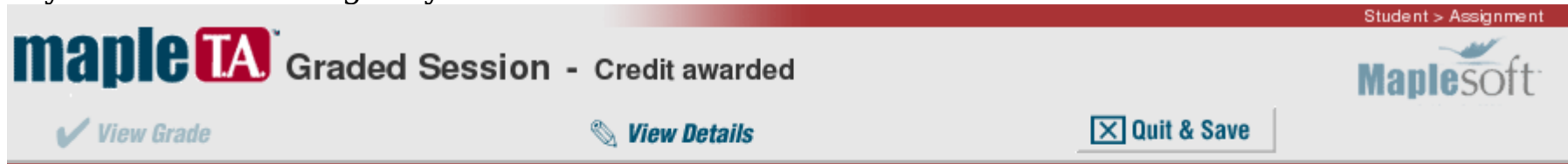
[Question 10: \(1 point\)](#) The formula has no symbols in it.

[Question 11: \(1 point\)](#) Maple syntax Error - Consult your documentation: on line 275, syntax error, missing operator or `;`:

If you see comments like these, you should click on one of the questions. That will send you back to the page containing the question. The comment after Question 11 above is important. The **Preview** facility will help you catch some errors, but it does not require Maple syntax. This means that a

missing * may not cause any problem when the expression is **Previewed**. These warnings only mean that something about the answer does not make sense to Maple TA and so it will be graded as incorrect.

Once you click **Grade** again you will see a screen like the one below.



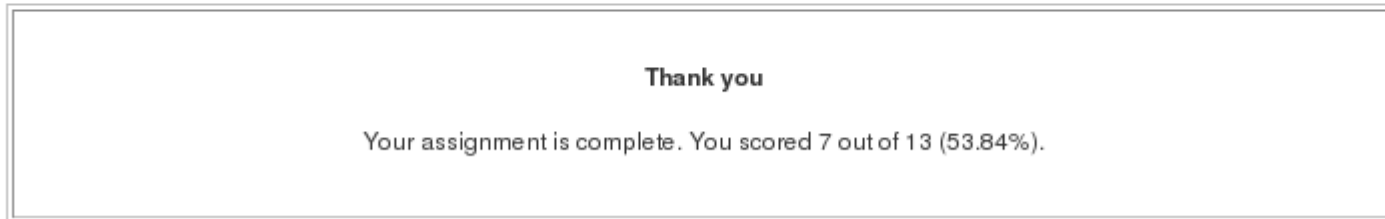
Student > Assignment

maple TA Graded Session - Credit awarded

Maplesoft

View Grade View Details Quit & Save

Feedback: Grade Report



Thank you

Your assignment is complete. You scored 7 out of 13 (53.84%).

This shows you the graded that was recorded for the assignment. There are some new buttons visible at the top. If you click on **View Details**, you will see all of the questions, how you scored on each, and the correct answers for questions which were answered incorrectly. Sometimes there are additional comments as well. After reviewing your graded work, click **Quit and Save**. Then return to the class home page.

Click on **View my results in this class** and login again. You will see a screen something like the one below, but with only one assignment listed.

Password

Inbox

Name: *Janet Person*

Login: *janet*

ID: *123456789*

Class: *Math 2144*

Email: alspach@www.math.okstate.edu

Summary

You started your most recent assignment on 7/18/06 at 5:08 PM. You've taken a total of 1 proctored tests, 6 homework assignments. There is no currently active assignment.



My Graded Assignments

Click on an assignment listed below to see the grades and comments on individual questions.

Assignment Name	Grade	Type	Date	Time on task
5e Chapter 1	0	Homework/Quiz	10/24/05, 10:46 AM	34784
5e Chapter 1	0	Homework/Quiz	8/19/05, 12:33 PM	34784
5e Section 3.2	3	Homework/Quiz	9/23/05, 9:44 AM	6544
5e Section 4.3	0	Homework/Quiz	10/28/05, 2:10 PM	20984
5e Section 5.4 Practice	1	Practice	9/12/05, 4:41 PM	15423
Development	0	Hidden	8/11/05, 2:57 PM	11375
Homework 1 (Introduction to Maple TA)	7	Homework/Quiz	7/18/06, 5:08 PM	5518

From this screen you can change your password. (Your instructor will probably not send you messages this way, but if he did, you could view the messages by clicking **Inbox**.) You can also click on any of your graded assignments to see each of the questions and how they were graded. *View my results in this class* is only available when you do not have an assignment in progress.

Click on the **X** button to exit. Now that you know your way around Maple TA, you should do your first homework assignment.

Symbol Mode: If you have a great deal of difficulty using Text Mode, that is, calculator style entry, for large expressions, there is an alternative called Symbol Mode. There are some hazards with using this and it is not always available. The next few paragraphs explain how to use symbol mode.

Return to Introduction to Maple TA assignment and Jump to Question 4. Type $3x^3 - x^2/5$ (or some other polynomial) into the answer box if it is not already there. Notice that below the answer box and next to **Preview** is **Change Entry Style**. Click on this and a window will open. You were working in Text Mode. Click the choice Symbol Mode, then click the OK button. Nothing will have changed.

Change Math Editor Mode:

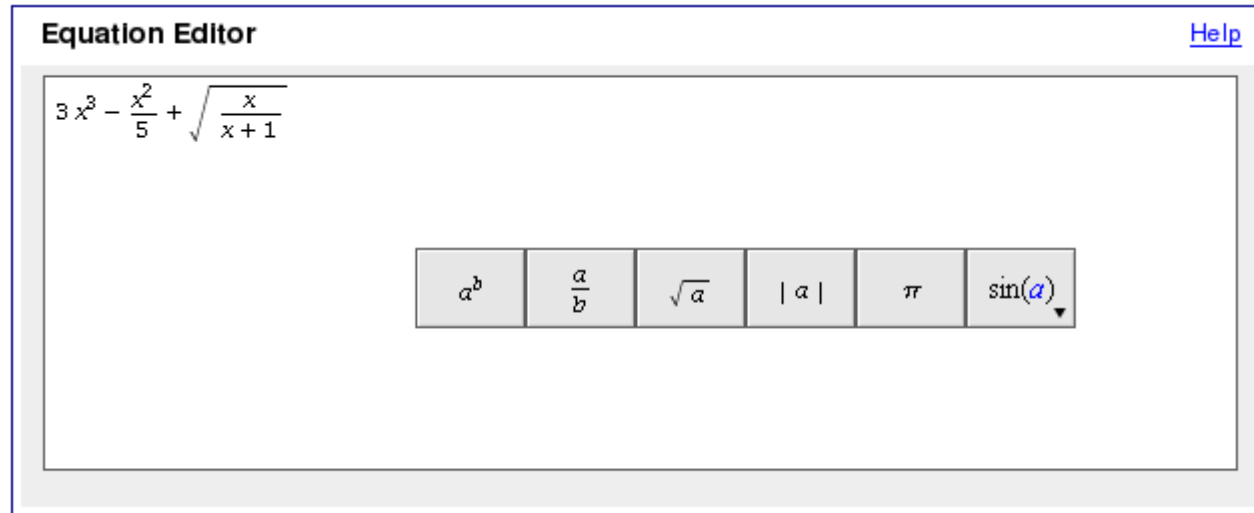
- Symbol Mode $\frac{x^2}{y}$
- Text Mode $(x^2)/y$

Note: Your change will take effect with the next question you view.

Now click **Next** at the top of the page to move to Question 5. Then click **Back** to return to Question 4. Another applet will load and you should see a box like this

The screenshot shows a window titled "Equation Editor" with a "Help" link in the top right corner. The main area contains the mathematical expression $3x^3 - \frac{x^2}{5}$. Below the expression is a toolbar with several buttons: a^b , $\frac{a}{b}$, \sqrt{a} , $|a|$, π , and $\sin(a)$.

To see the toolbar right click in the Equation Editor window. In this mode expressions can be entered by using menus and templates. Click on the righthand edge of the expression so that your cursor is blinking the same height as the fraction. Type + then right click with your pointer to the right of the +. Click the square root template (third button), then right click under square root symbol. Click the fraction template (second button). Your cursor should be in the upper box. Enter x then click on the lower box (or tab) and enter $x+1$. You should now have the following.



Symbol mode does not handle certain errors well and can lead to *System Error* messages. See the FAQ. A *System Error* does not mean that Maple TA has crashed. It only means that the system could not handle what was entered. If this happens, use the the *Back* triangle on the System Error page to return to the question and fix the difficulty. Usually it is an ill-formed expression. If you don't see the error, delete your answer and re-enter it. Quitting and saving when a System Error is present can lead to problems reopening the assignment.

Once you have chosen Symbol Mode, each time you go to a question which allows Symbol Mode the editor box will appear. To switch to Text Mode, click **Change Entry Style. Select Text Mode.** Then go to another question and return. The mode is back to Text.