Math 320, Mathematics for Elementary School Teachers, will use online gateway exams in addition to traditional assessments this semester. We have successfully used this system for several years. Online exams allow for you to get feedback immediately (well – usually within 60 seconds) after you submit your assignment, rather than waiting a week for a grader to return your paper. Online exams also allow you to work additional attempts until you can demonstrate mastery of the material.

There will be seven gateway quizzes covering elementary and junior high school mathematics that must be taken as part of this course. Each quiz may be taken multiple times and each attempt allows for one try at fixing answers. Because you are allowed to take the quiz multiple times, there is no reason you shouldn't obtain all the possible points, thus helping your overall grade.

To use the online exam system, you can point your web browser to the online gateway quiz page http://www.math.ksu.edu/math320/quiz and follow the links to the online exams. You will need to sign-in with your eID and password (just as you do for K-State Online and other KSU computer resources). Don’t bookmark the problem set page directly; if you access the page without signing in, the problem set won’t be initialized properly. Every student will get a different (but similar) set of problems. You may work on the problems at the computer or you may print them out using your browser’s Print feature and work on them elsewhere. If you leave and return, you will have the same problems when you log in again. After you enter your answers onto the web page, you can submit your answers for grading (use the button at the bottom of the page). If you have to leave before you get all your answers entered, you can save your work (another button at the bottom of the page). Note that your work is automatically saved when you submit your answers for grading. When you log back into the assignment, the web page will automatically restore the most recent set of saved answers. The first time your answers to a particular problem set are submitted, they are marked correct or incorrect and you will have a chance to fix any wrong answers before you resubmit your work. After your answers have been submitted a second time, your work will be graded and you will be given the correct answers and links to see how to work the problems. Answers are scored either right or wrong – there is no partial credit awarded. You may then go back and sign into the assignment again to get a second problem set (or third or fourth or …). You may attempt the quizzes as many times as you like. You are asked to complete the quizzes individually and without the use of a calculator. The honor code applies to gateway quizzes.

With the two-stage grading you do have a chance to fix typos and other simple mistakes, and you can take the quizzes as many times as you want until you achieve a perfect score (as long as you do so before the deadline). Please don’t just try the “video game approach” of attempting quizzes over and over again hoping to have it come out right; this technique is usually time-consuming and ineffective. If you don’t get a problem right, look at the correct answer and, if available, the worked problem, and try to learn
how to do the problem. If you still have trouble with a particular type of problem after three or four attempts, you should see your professor or a tutor and get some help.

If you think you’ve found a bug, or if there is just something about the system you find annoying (or even something nice about the system you want to praise), feel free to contact the online homework coordinator:

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