

Working with Questions in digits: MathXL Assignments

Some of your digits assignments use the MathXL question player, shown below.

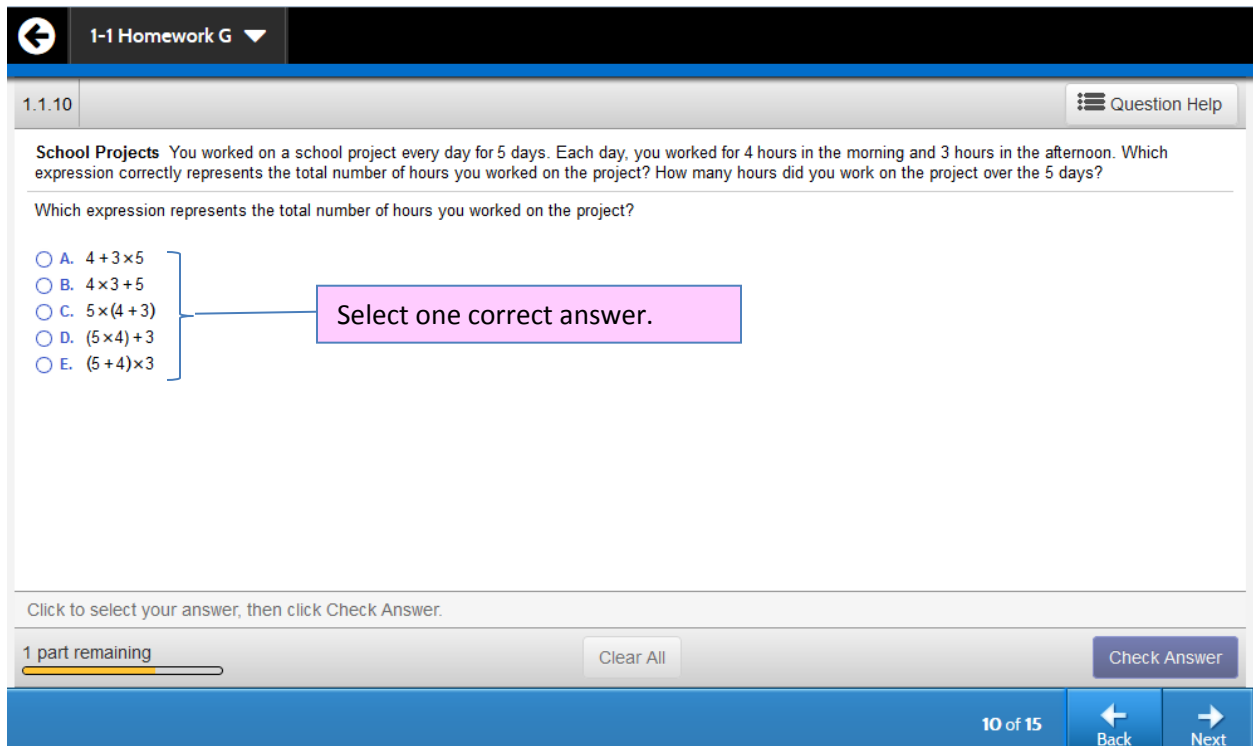
The screenshot shows the MathXL question player interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a "Go back" button and a dropdown menu showing "1-3 Mixed Review". Below this, the question ID "I.11-5.5" is displayed on the left, and a "Question Help" icon is on the right. The main question area contains the text "Find $\frac{2}{3} \div \frac{11}{15}$ " and a callout box labeled "Question" points to this text. Below the question, the equation $\frac{2}{3} \div \frac{11}{15} = \frac{2}{3} \times \square$ is shown, with a callout box labeled "Answer entry" pointing to the input box. To the right of the equation, the instruction "(Type a whole number or a fraction.)" is shown, with a callout box labeled "Special instructions for answering the question" pointing to it. In the top right corner, there is a "Question Help" icon with a callout box labeled "Tools to help you learn (not available during tests)". Below the question area, there is a "Check Answer" button with a callout box labeled "Check Answer button (not available during tests)". At the bottom of the question area, there is a "Clear All" button and a "Check Answer" button. Below the question area, there is a progress bar showing "1 part remaining" and a callout box labeled "Number of parts in the question" pointing to it. Below the progress bar, there is a "General instructions" callout box pointing to the text "Enter your answer in the answer box, then click Check Answer." At the bottom of the screen, there is a navigation bar with "5 of 5" and "Back" and "Next" buttons. A callout box labeled "Use 'Back' and 'Next' buttons to move through the assignment" points to these buttons.

When viewing questions in the MathXL question player, you will see different areas of the screen for viewing the question, entering your answer, checking your answer, and accessing tools to help you learn.

There are a variety of question types used in the program. The most common question types are:

- 1) **Multiple choice** (select one answer among several options provided)
- 2) **Fill-in-the-blank** (select one answer from a drop down menu)
- 3) **Free response** (enter your own answer using the math palette and the keyboard)

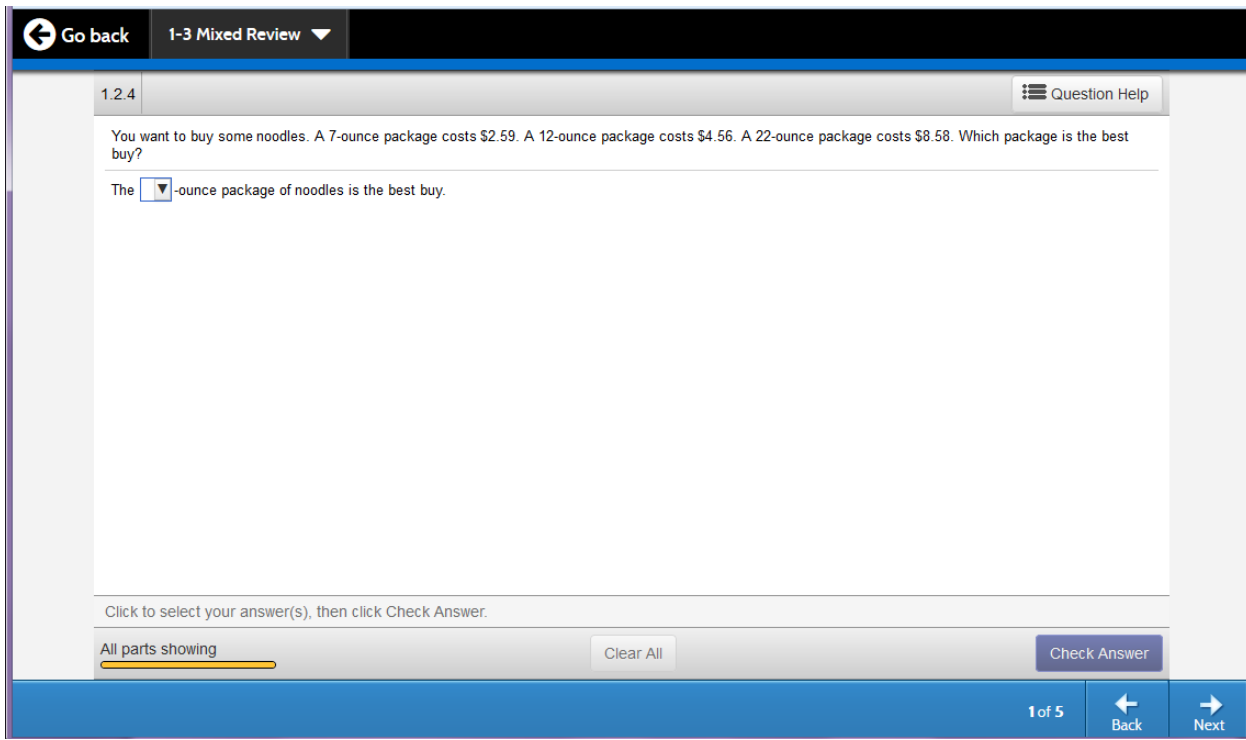
Answering Multiple Choice Questions



The screenshot shows a homework question interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a back arrow and the text "1-1 Homework G". Below this, the question ID "1.1.10" is displayed on the left, and a "Question Help" icon is on the right. The question text reads: "School Projects You worked on a school project every day for 5 days. Each day, you worked for 4 hours in the morning and 3 hours in the afternoon. Which expression correctly represents the total number of hours you worked on the project? How many hours did you work on the project over the 5 days?" Below the question, it asks "Which expression represents the total number of hours you worked on the project?" and lists five multiple choice options: A. $4 + 3 \times 5$, B. $4 \times 3 + 5$, C. $5 \times (4 + 3)$, D. $(5 \times 4) + 3$, and E. $(5 + 4) \times 3$. A pink callout box with the text "Select one correct answer." points to the options. At the bottom of the question area, there is a prompt: "Click to select your answer, then click Check Answer." Below this, there is a progress indicator showing "1 part remaining" with a progress bar, a "Clear All" button, and a "Check Answer" button. At the very bottom, there is a blue navigation bar with "10 of 15" and "Back" and "Next" buttons.

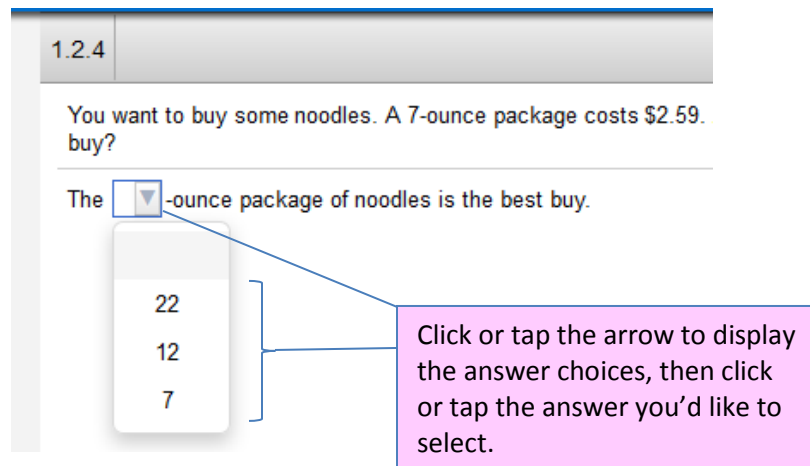
For multiple choice questions, select your answer from the options provided.

Answering Fill-in-the-Blank Questions

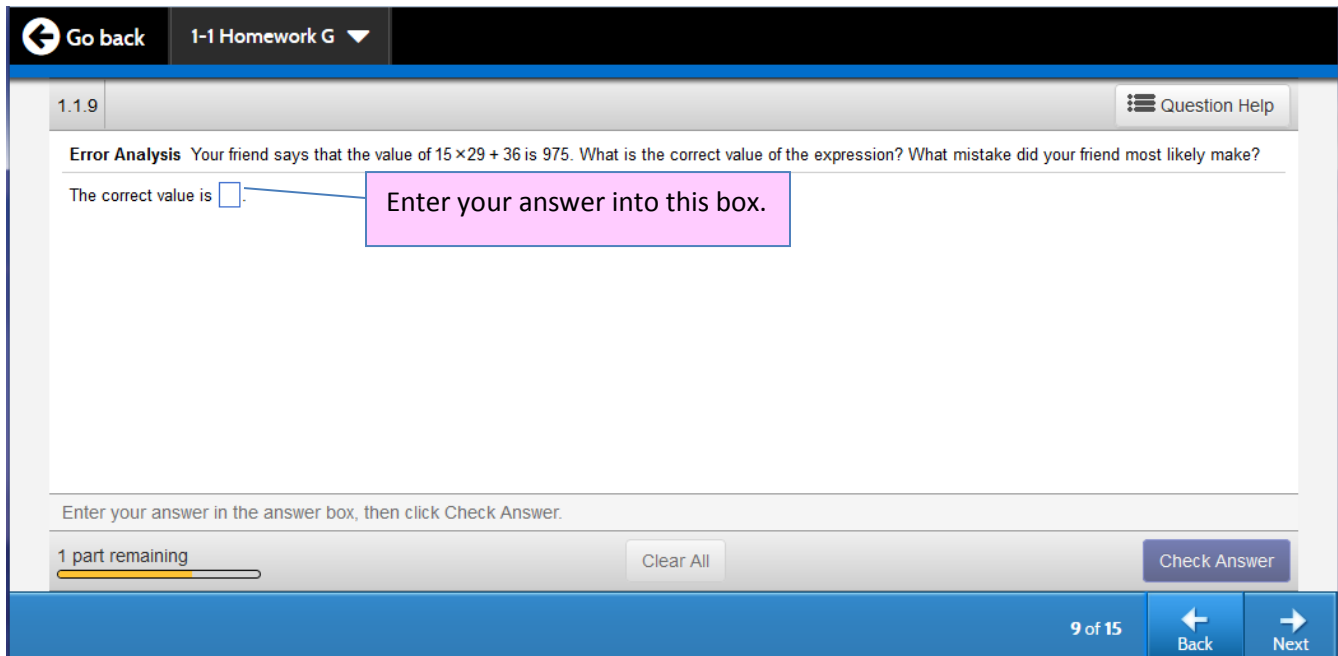


Fill-in-the-blank questions have an answer box with an arrow pointing down.

- 1) Click or tap on the arrow to display the answer choices.
- 2) Click or tap your answer selection to make it appear in the answer box.

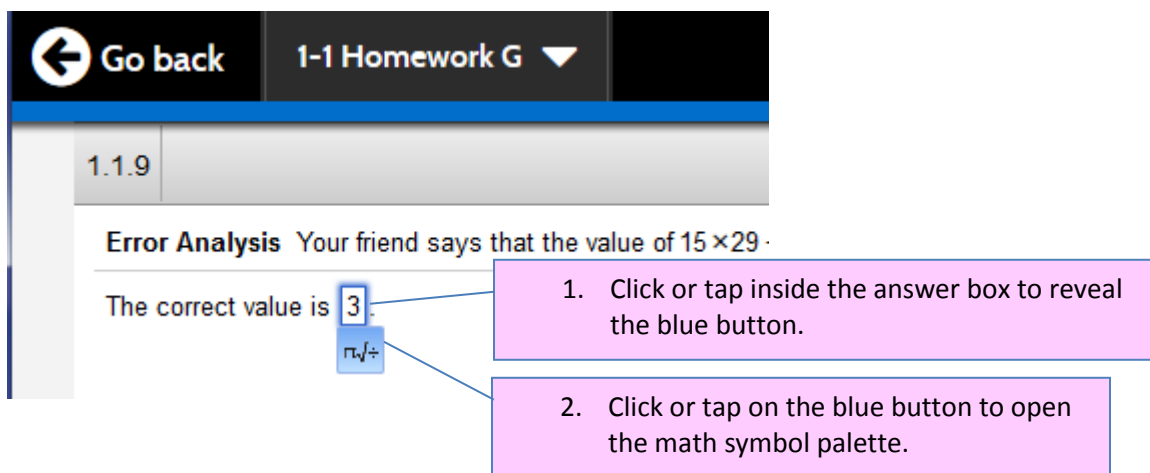


Answering Free-Response Questions



In order to answer a free-response question, follow these steps:

- 1) Click or tap inside the answer box.
- 2) Start typing the answer using your keyboard to enter numbers and/or variables (x or y , for example). If you need to enter a math symbol, click or tap on the blue button that appears under the answer box:



3. Once you click or tap on the blue button, the symbol palette will appear.
4. Click or tap “More” to see more symbols and operators.

The screenshot shows a mobile application interface for a math assignment. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a "Go back" button and the text "1-1 Homework G". Below this, the question number "1.1.9" is displayed. The main content area contains an "Error Analysis" question: "Your friend says that the value of $15 \times 29 + 36$ is 975. What is the correct value?" The answer box contains the number "3".

Two callout boxes provide instructions:

- 3. Tap or click a symbol on the symbol palette to enter it in the answer box.
- 4. Tap or click **More** to see more symbols and operators.

The "Symbols" palette is shown with buttons for undo, redo, undo, plus, multiply, square, and a "More" button. The "Symbols & Operators" palette is shown with a wide range of mathematical symbols and operators, including fractions, roots, and Greek letters, and a "Fewer" button.

Entering Math Symbols from the Keyboard

Here are the symbols and shortcuts that will be accepted as correct from your keyboard.

Common operation symbols

To use this symbol...	Enter this shortcut...	For example
+ (plus)	Plus sign on keyboard	$2 + 3$
- (minus)	Dash on keyboard	$2 - 3$
= (equal)	Equal sign on keyboard	$2^2 = 4$
· (multiplication dot)	* (asterisk) (For example: $2 * 3$)	$2 \cdot 3$
× (times sign)	\times (For example: $2 \backslash \text{times } 3$)	2×3
÷ (divided by)	\divide $2 \div 3$	$2 \div 3$
< (less than)	Left angle sign on keyboard (For example: $2 < 3$)	$2 < 3$
≤ (less than or equal to)	< = (left angle sign and an equal sign) (For example: $2 \leq 3$)	$2 \leq 3$
> (greater than)	Right angle sign on keyboard (For example: $3 > 2$)	$3 > 2$
≥ (greater than or equal to)	> = (right angle sign and an equal sign) (For example: $3 \geq 2$)	$3 \geq 2$
≠ (not equal)	<> (left and right angle signs) (For example: $3 <> 2$)	$3 \neq 2$

Using Templates from the Symbol Palette

If your answer requires special formats (for example, fractions or square roots), use the symbol palette to help you insert your answer.

For example, if you want to enter $2\frac{1}{3}$ into your answer, you would click or tap this template on the symbol palette:



Blue boxes are then inserted into the answer box:



Click or tap inside the blue boxes. You can also use the tab key to move in and out of the blue boxes. Enter the correct number in each box:



Other templates available on the symbol palette include:



Square roots



Exponents



Absolute Value

Each template works the same way:

- 1) Click or tap the template on the math palette to move it into the answer box.
- 2) Click, tap, or tab into the blue box.
- 3) Enter the correct number(s) into each blue box.

Important Tips for Entering Answers

1. When entering math symbols, it is best to use the symbol palette provided, otherwise your answer may not be marked “correct.”

Multiplication symbol: When you need to enter a multiplication symbol, do not use the letter “x” from the keyboard, a “bullet,” or small dot. Even though these entries may look correct, they will not be recognized as correct.

Use the multiplication symbol on the symbol palette or type an * (asterisk) from your keyboard. (See acceptable keyboard entries on page 5 above.)

Negative sign: When you need to enter a negative sign, do not use the _ (underscore). You may use the minus sign or hyphen from your keyboard.

Parentheses: Don’t forget to enter parentheses in your answer where needed. The opening parentheses will display in red until you have entered the closing parentheses:



You can also use this template for entering x and y coordinates with parentheses:



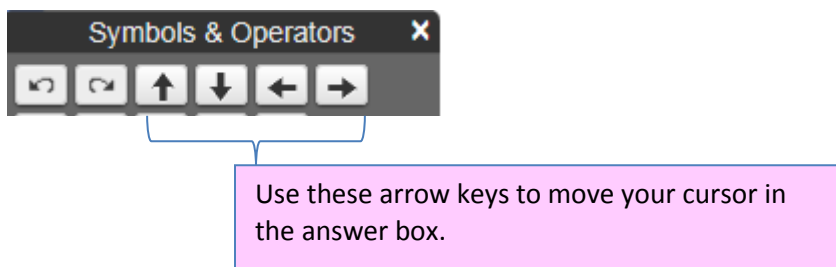
2. **Spaces:** When entering numbers, it’s important not to enter spaces between the digits. For example, when entering the number twelve (12), do not enter a space between the one and the two (1 2). The extra space will make your answer incorrect.

If you enter a space between a number and a symbol, however, the spaces will be ignored by the program:

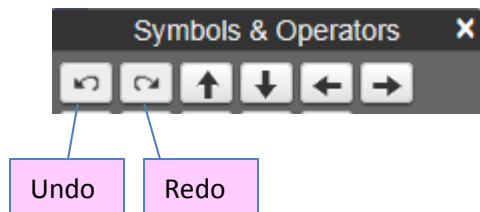
2 + 3 (with spaces) will be scored the same as 2+3 (without spaces)

2 < 3 (with spaces) will be scored the same as 2<3 (without spaces)

3. Do not copy and paste answers or symbols from other programs or locations on your computer. The symbol palette and the keyboard provide everything you need.
4. Do not use letters (such as a lower case L or an upper case i) for the number one.
5. You can use the tab key or the arrow keys on the palette or on the keyboard to move your cursor in the answer box.



6. Use the "un-do" and "re-do" arrows to remove your entry and then put it back.



7. Use the "Clear All" button at the bottom of the player window to delete everything you have entered in the answer box.

