Mini Group Project Week 1
Due: Week 2, in Activity Session

You will be doing three Excel-based group projects outside of class, starting after the first exam. For each of the next three weeks you will complete a short group project outside of class, to prepare you to work productively with your peers on the larger projects.

Week 1 Goals: Support and gain support from your peers as you access particular topics in ALEKS. Compare reflections on your past experiences working in groups.

Step 1. Determine who will compile the final group project, which is made up of contributions from each individual group member. Discuss the ALEKS assignment with your partners, to make sure everyone understands what to do.

Individual Component
Step 2. Gain access to ALEKS.com using the course code provided by your large lecture professor. Take the Initial Assessment.

Step 3. After you have completed the Initial Assessment, login to ALEKS, and find the topic entitled, “Finding original price given the sales price and percent of discount.” Here’s where to look:

Login to ALEKS.com, and mouse-over the pie slice labeled Real Numbers. Topics appear in the pop-up box. Look in the section entitled “Percents and Proportions.” If the link is not there, you may have mastered it in the Initial Assessment. Click on the tab at the top of your screen titled “Review.” Again, look under the sub-header, “Percents and Proportions.”

Click on the topic “Finding original prices given sales price and percent of discount.” You should see a math problem from that topic. Take a screen shot that includes the tab at the top where your name is listed. Paste this into your individual report.

Step 4. Research into learning suggests that students benefit when they work in small groups. Reflect on your experiences, and on what needs to happen for you to get the most out of working with your peers. On the page with your screen shot, type a short paragraph answering the following questions.
1. Do you have experience working in groups for school projects? If so, how was your experience?
2. Do you have experience working in groups outside of school? If so, how was your experience?
3. What are the benefits of working in a group?

Step 5. Your individual report consists of one page, with your screen shot and a paragraph with answers to the questions above. Use the title, "Math 115 – Week 1 Individual Report – <your name here>.”
Math 115 Mini Group Project Week 1 Instructions

**Group Component**

**Step 6.** To gain insight into how ALEKS works, look at the screen shots from ALEKS, side by side. Discuss the similarities and differences between the problems that ALEKS gave each group member. Summarize these in a paragraph.

**Step 7.** Your Group Report consists of the paragraph summarizing your discussion. Use the title "Math 115 – Week 1 – Group Report," and list the names of all group members in the header.

**What to turn in**

Each group will turn in 4 pages. There will be one page for each individual report and one page for the group report.

**To get the point of the assignment, you must work together**

- If only one member of the group does the individual portion and the other two members don’t do anything, that one individual will receive full credit.
- If two members of the group do their individual portions and compile the information into a group report, and the other group member does nothing, the two group members who submitted work both receive full credit.
- If all three members do their individual portions and a group portion all three will receive full credit.
- If a person turns their individual portion in separate from the group, they will only receive partial credit.
I have worked on a few group projects for school. One project only had 2 other people and it went pretty well. There were two other group projects that had a lot of people. Those didn’t go as well. Not everyone participated and it was hard to find a time that everyone could meet. I feel the benefits of group projects are to teach you how to work with others. Also, bouncing ideas off of others is helpful.
Sample Group Report

Math 115 – Week 1 Group Report

Group Members:
Ladera Barbee
Florence Newberger
Bob the Builder

We each printed a problem from the ALEKS topic, "Finding original price given the sales price and percent of discount." The similarities between our ALEKS problems were... The differences between our ALEKS problems were...