Top 5 Tips for Using ALEKS Reports

Submitted by Mary Merchant, Professor of Mathematics

Cedar Valley College

One of my favorite things about ALEKS is the wealth of information available in the REPORTS. It can be a little overwhelming, so here are my top 5 tips for using the reports to get started.

1. When looking at the ALEKS PIE Report, don't forget about the columns for "Progress" and "Remaining."

Topics with high "Ready to Learn" and "Remaining" percentages, but low "Progress" percentages would be great for lecture, such as the ones below:

	Progress ⓘ	Remaining ⓘ	Ready to Learn ⓘ	Attempted, Not Yet Learned ⓘ
• Testing an equation for symmetry about the axes and origin	15%	85%	85%	0%
• Testing an equation for symmetry about the axes and origin	15%	85%	85%	0%

Note that a low "Ready to Learn" percentage might mean that a majority of students have already learned the topic:

	Progress ⓘ	Remaining ⓘ	Ready to Learn ⓘ	Attempted, Not Yet Learned ⓘ
• Translating the graph of a parabola: One step	82%	18%	18%	0%

2. There are several choices in the drop down menu for the PROGRESS REPORT:

Learning Progress Since Latest Knowledge Check
Most Recent Knowledge Check
Best Performance in Learning Mode Over Time
Progress in Knowledge Check Over Time
Detailed Progress History

The DETAILED PROGRESS HISTORY gives a brief look at all work the student has done in the course and allows the instructor to quickly look at progress, time, and work ethic

all at once. Too few Progress Knowledge Checks or too many Login Time Knowledge Checks are signs the instructor may need to intervene.

3. The LEARNING PROGRESS SINCE LATEST KNOWLEDGE CHECK information in the PROGRESS REPORT is especially helpful if your course is split into Objectives/Modules. Instructors can see up-to-date progress in the current Objective/Module, order students by their progress, and e-mail them in groups all from one place!

Student Name ID Login	Total Time	Last Login	Knowledge Check Start	Knowledge Check Finish	Class Progress ⓘ Percent Topics	Current Objective ⌄	Topics Learned	Time in ALEKS	Topics Learned Per Hour
2919896	32h 39m	06/20/2017 9:15 AM ●	06/13/2017	06/14/2017 4h 38m	185 +15 / 245 topics	51 / 95 topics	15	13h 47m	1.1

4. The information gleaned from the PROGRESS REPORT leads into the TIME AND TOPIC Report.

The student with the DETAILED PROGRESS HISTORY below has too few Progress Knowledge Checks.

Student Name ID Login	Total Time	Knowledge Check	Reason	Class Progress ⓘ Percent Topics	Topics Learned	Time in ALEKS	Topics Learned Per Hour
2931754 Last Login: 06/20/2017 1:03 AM	10h 50m	Start: 06/09/2017 Finish: 06/14/2017 Time: 2h 13m	Progress Knowledge Check	116 +14 / 337 topics	14	2h 24m	5.8
		Start: 05/31/2017 Finish: 05/31/2017 Time: 39m 15s	Initial Knowledge Check	92 +20 / 337 topics	20	5h 31m	3.6

Although it is fairly obvious from the time information the student needs to spend more time working, visiting the TIME AND TOPIC Report gives information about the student's daily work habits.

Student Id ▲ (Login|Name)	Total Time in this Class (hrs) ⓘ	Last Login	Total Time (for date range) ⓘ	Time Log (Number of topics learned / Number of topics attempted)								
				Mon 06/12	Tue 06/13	Wed 06/14	Thu 06/15	Fri 06/16	Sat 06/17	Sun 06/18	Mon 06/19	Tue 06/20
2931754	10h 50m	06/19/2017	3h 42m (14/15)	-	-	1h 45m (0/0)	22m (2/2)	-	-	-	1h 22m (8/9)	12m (4/4)

The student would probably benefit from a conversation with the instructor regarding working on course materials every day of the week.
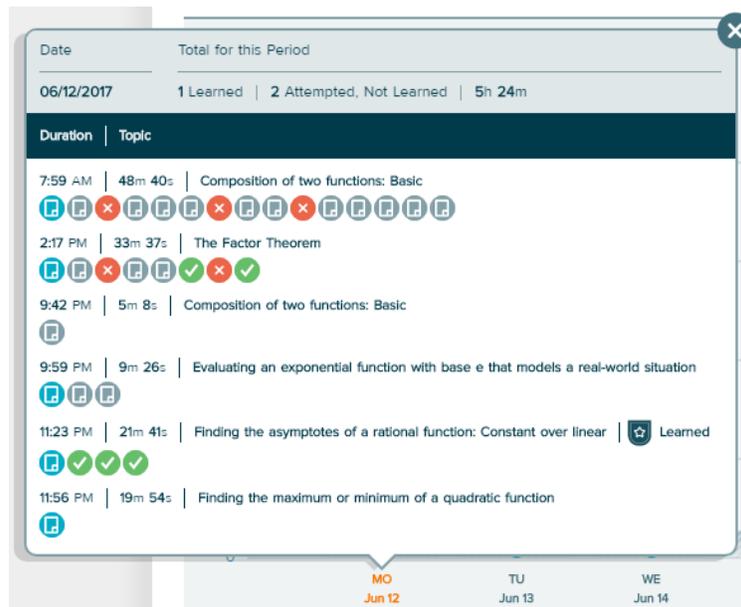
5. Login Time Knowledge Checks are cause for concern because that means the student has worked for 10 hours and was not able to master 20 topics in that amount of time. While visiting the class TIME AND TOPIC Report will give some information, the student's individual TIME AND TOPIC Report will be even more enlightening.

Hovering over the bar for any day will give the amount of time spent that day, as well as the number of topics attempted and learned.

Further, clicking on the bar will give even more specific information.

While the student spent over 5 hours logged into ALEKS on this day, less than 2.5 hours were spent working on course materials. This student would probably benefit from a conversation with the instructor about working productively in ALEKS.