

Grade 7 Reading Performance Level Descriptors

Advanced: Students demonstrate superior performance on challenging subject matter. These skills are broadly demonstrated in reading processes, response to text, and acquisition of information through research. In addition to demonstrating a broad and in-depth understanding and application of all skills at the Proficient performance level, students scoring at the Advanced level typically: use a wide range of strategies to interpret and evaluate text; regularly demonstrate a thorough and comprehensive understanding of literary forms; and consistently apply many different strategies for assessing, organizing, analyzing, synthesizing, and paraphrasing information.

Proficient: Students demonstrate mastery over appropriate grade-level subject matter, and students are ready for the next grade level. Students scoring at the Proficient level typically read and comprehend grade-level reading material using the following skills:

- Utilize a wide variety of strategies to determine literal and non-literal word meanings.
- Identify and explain idioms and comparisons to infer literal and figurative meanings of words and phrases.
- Determine author's purpose and make inferences supported by character thoughts or narrator descriptions.
- Recognize and understand transition words in text.
- Demonstrate literal understanding of a variety of texts.
- Summarize the main idea and how it is supported with specific details.
- Demonstrate comprehension by inferring, summarizing, generalizing, predicting, analyzing, and evaluating ideas from a variety of texts.
- Distinguish between stated fact, reasoned judgment, and opinions in text.
- Analyze elements of fiction and nonfiction.
- Analyze characteristics of genres and subgenres.
- Interpret figurative language, sound devices, and elements of literature.
- Select the best source for a given purpose.
- Use appropriate strategies to organize, summarize, paraphrase, and interpret information.

Limited Knowledge: Students demonstrate partial mastery of the essential knowledge and skills appropriate to their grade level. Students scoring at the Limited Knowledge level are inconsistent in demonstrating the Proficient level competencies and typically demonstrate reading skills within more explicit and concrete contexts.

Unsatisfactory: Students have not performed at least at the Limited Knowledge level. Students scoring at the Unsatisfactory level should be given comprehensive reading instruction.