

ELA Grade 8

Standard	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced
Standards	Students who perform at this level have not demonstrated mastery in academic performance, thinking abilities, and application of understandings that reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade/course level content standards and are not prepared for the next level of study.	Students who perform at this level demonstrate partial mastery in academic performance, thinking abilities, and application of understandings that reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade/course level content standards and are minimally prepared for the next level of study.	Students who perform at this level demonstrate mastery in academic performance, thinking abilities, and application of understandings that reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade/course level content standards and are well prepared for the next level of study.	Students who perform at this level demonstrate superior mastery in academic performance, thinking abilities, and application of understandings that reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade/course level content standards and are significantly prepared for the next level of study.
Language	A student at this level has not demonstrated basic understanding of using standard grammar, usage, and mechanics. The student does not use a variety of strategies and resources to determine the definition, pronunciation, and usage of words and phrases. The student does not understand and use a variety of sentence structures.	A student at this level demonstrates partial grade level mastery by inconsistently using standard grammar, usage, and mechanics. The student inconsistently employs a variety of strategies and resources to determine the definition, pronunciation, and usage of words and phrases. The student inconsistently understands and uses correctly a variety of sentence structures.	A student at this level demonstrates grade level mastery by typically using standard grammar, usage, and mechanics. The student typically employs a variety of strategies and resources to determine the definition, pronunciation, and usage of words and phrases. The student typically understands and uses correctly a variety of sentence structures.	The student at this level demonstrates a superior grade level mastery by consistently using standard grammar, usage, and mechanics. The student consistently employs a variety of strategies and resources to determine the definition, pronunciation, and usage of words and phrases. The student consistently understands and uses correctly a variety of sentence structures.
Communication	A student at this level has not demonstrated basic understanding of using critical listening skills essential for comprehension, evaluation, problem solving, and task completion. The student does not distinguish among summaries, paraphrases, and critiques. The student does not	A student at this level demonstrates partial grade level mastery by inconsistently using critical listening skills essential for comprehension, evaluation, problem solving, and task completion. The student inconsistently distinguishes among summaries, paraphrases,	A student at this level demonstrates grade level mastery by typically using critical listening skills essential for comprehension, evaluation, problem solving, and task completion. The student typically begins to differentiate between summarizing and paraphrasing.	A student at this level demonstrates superior grade level mastery by consistently using critical listening skills essential for comprehension, evaluation, problem solving, and task completion. The student consistently distinguishes among summaries, paraphrases, and

English Language Arts Achievement Levels

9/17/09

	identify the thesis, main points, and organizational structure of a speech.	and critiques. The student inconsistently identifies the thesis, main points, and organizational structure of a speech.	The student typically distinguishes among summaries, paraphrases, and critiques. The student typically identifies and analyzes the thesis, main points, and organizational structure of a speech.	critiques. The student consistently identifies and analyzes the thesis, main points, and organizational structure of a speech.
Writing	A student at this level has not demonstrated basic understanding of writing in a variety of modes for a variety of purposes and audiences. The student does not use a variety of prewriting strategies. The student does not organize ideas into an essay with an introduction, developing paragraphs, appropriate transitions, and conclusion. The student does not refine strategies for editing and revising written work.	A student at this level demonstrates partial grade level mastery by inconsistently writing in a variety of modes for a variety of purposes and audiences. The student inconsistently employs a variety of prewriting strategies. The student inconsistently organizes ideas into an essay with an introduction, developing paragraphs, appropriate transitions, and conclusion. The student inconsistently refines strategies for editing and revising written work.	A student at this level demonstrates grade level mastery by typically writing in a variety of modes for a variety of purposes and audiences. The student typically employs a variety of prewriting strategies. The student typically organizes ideas into an essay with an introduction, developing paragraphs, appropriate transitions, and conclusion. The student typically refines strategies for editing and revising written work.	A student at this level demonstrates superior grade level mastery by consistently writing in a variety of modes for a variety of purposes and audiences. The student consistently employs a variety of prewriting strategies. The student consistently organizes ideas into an essay with an introduction, developing paragraphs, appropriate transitions, and conclusion. The student consistently refines strategies for editing and revising written work.
Research	A student at this level has not demonstrated basic understanding of defining and narrowing a problem or research topic. The student does not make distinctions about the validity of sources. The student does not gather and use relevant information from a variety of primary and secondary sources. The student cannot write a research paper using a standard format with technology and graphics.	A student at this level demonstrates partial grade level mastery by inconsistently defining and narrowing a problem or research topic. The student inconsistently makes distinctions about the validity of sources. The student inconsistently gathers and uses relevant information from a variety of primary and secondary sources. The student writes a research paper inconsistently using a standard format with technology and graphics.	A student at this level demonstrates grade level mastery by typically defining and narrowing a research topic. The student typically makes distinctions about the validity of sources. The student typically gathers and uses relevant information from a variety of primary and secondary sources. The student writes a research paper typically using a standard format with technology and graphics.	A student at this level demonstrates superior grade level mastery by consistently defining and narrowing a research topic. The student consistently makes distinctions about the validity of sources. The student consistently gathers and uses relevant information from a variety of primary and secondary sources. The student writes a research paper consistently using a standard format with technology and graphics.

English Language Arts Achievement Levels

9/17/09

<p>Logic</p>	<p>A student at this level has not demonstrated basic understanding of using logic to make inferences and draw conclusions in a variety of oral and written contexts. The student does not demonstrate an understanding of deductive and inductive reasoning. The student does not analyze communication for persuasive devices and does not explore the concept of premises and logical fallacies.</p>	<p>A student at this level demonstrates partial grade level mastery by inconsistently using logic to make inferences and draw conclusions in a variety of oral and written contexts; by inconsistently demonstrating an understanding of deductive and inductive reasoning; by inconsistently analyzing communication for persuasive devices; inconsistently exploring the concept of premises; and inconsistently exploring logical fallacies.</p>	<p>A student at this level demonstrates grade level mastery by typically using logic to make inferences and draw conclusions in a variety of oral and written contexts. The student typically analyzes text for logical relationships, including fact and opinion and cause-effect. The student typically demonstrates an understanding of deductive and inductive reasoning. The student typically analyzes communication for persuasive devices. The student typically explores the concept of premises. The student typically explores logical fallacies.</p>	<p>A student at this level demonstrates superior grade level mastery by consistently using logic to make inferences and draw conclusions in a variety of oral and written contexts. The student consistently analyzes text for logical relationships, including fact and opinion and cause-effect. The student consistently demonstrates an understanding of deductive and inductive reasoning. The student consistently analyzes communication for persuasive devices. The student consistently explores the concepts of premises and logical fallacies.</p>
<p>Informational Text</p>	<p>A student at this level has not demonstrated basic understanding of comprehending, summarizing, and analyzing the main ideas, supporting details, organizational structures, and text features of informational texts.</p>	<p>A student at this level demonstrates partial grade level mastery by inconsistently comprehending, summarizing, and analyzing the main ideas, supporting details, organizational structures, and text features of informational texts.</p>	<p>A student at this level demonstrates grade level mastery by typically comprehending, summarizing, and analyzing the main ideas, supporting details, organizational structure, and text features of informational texts.</p>	<p>A student at this level demonstrates superior grade level mastery by consistently comprehending, summarizing, and analyzing the main ideas, supporting details, organizational structures, and text features of informational texts.</p>
<p>Media</p>	<p>A student at this level has not demonstrated basic understanding of analyzing media for their ability to inform, persuade, and entertain. The student does not examine the relationship between the visual and the verbal in media and does not recognize how visual and sound techniques affect messages in various media.</p>	<p>A student at this level demonstrates partial grade level mastery by inconsistently analyzing media for their ability to inform, persuade, and entertain. The student inconsistently examines the relationship between the visual and the verbal in media. The student inconsistently recognizes</p>	<p>A student at this level demonstrates grade level mastery by typically analyzing media for their ability to inform, persuade, and entertain. The student typically examines the relationship between the visual and the verbal in media. The student typically recognizes how visual and sound techniques</p>	<p>A student at this level demonstrates superior grade level mastery by consistently analyzing media for their ability to inform, persuade, and entertain. The student consistently recognizes how visual and sound techniques affect messages in various media. The student consistently applies and adapts the principles of</p>

English Language Arts Achievement Levels
9/17/09

	The student does not apply and adapt the principles of written composition to create coherent media productions.	how visual and sound techniques affect messages in various media. The student inconsistently applies and adapts the principles of written composition to create coherent media productions.	affect messages in various media. The student typically applies and adapts the principles of written composition to create coherent media productions.	written composition to create coherent media productions.
Literature	A student at this level has not demonstrated basic understanding of the reading process of comprehending a variety of works from various forms of literature. The student does not analyze works of literature with regard to their historical periods. The student does not understand the characteristics, conventions, and literary terms of a variety of literary genres.	A student at this level demonstrates partial grade level mastery by inconsistently reading and comprehending a variety of works from various forms of literature. The student inconsistently analyzes works of literature with regard to their historical periods. The student inconsistently understands the characteristics, conventions, and literary terms of a variety of literary genres.	A student at this level demonstrates grade level mastery by typically reading and comprehending a variety of works from various forms of literature. The student typically analyzes works of literature with regard to their historical periods. The student typically understands the characteristics, conventions, and literary terms of a variety of literary genres.	A student at this level demonstrates superior grade level mastery by consistently reading and comprehending a variety of works from various forms of literature. The student consistently analyzes works of literature with regard to their historical periods. The student consistently understands the characteristics, conventions, and literary terms of a variety of literary genres.