

SBA Grade 5 Proficiency Level Descriptors

Reading

Advanced Level

The student

- identifies multiple synonyms of a word
- makes inferences and draws conclusions in a variety of texts and across texts
- summarizes text accurately in correct sequence
- makes connections between the main ideas and concepts in one passage to related topics and provides supporting details
- interprets directions to complete a task
- compares and contrasts plot, setting, and characters in a variety of works by a variety of authors

Proficient Level

The student

- identifies relationships among words by categorizing
- uses text features to obtain information from text
- makes simple inferences and draws conclusions based on text
- makes accurate restatements of text
- identifies details in text to support main idea
- makes judgments on the relevance of steps in a list of directions
- identifies or explains the characteristics of fiction and nonfiction
- identifies literary elements and devices with increased text complexity
- demonstrates understanding of story elements
- compares plots, settings, and characters within a text
- supports opinions with evidence from text
- identifies author's stated or implied message or theme
- makes relevant connections to other texts

Below Proficient Level

The student

- uses context clues and structural elements to determine meaning of unfamiliar phrases
- identifies statements in text to support a conclusion
- identifies accurate restatements and summarizes information from text
- states main idea of narrative and informational text
- identifies the details involved in the steps in a list of directions and their sequence
- describes all of the story elements in a variety of stories
- distinguishes between fact and opinion in a text

Far Below Proficient Level

There is a significant need for additional instructional opportunities to achieve the proficient level.

Writing

Advanced Level

In the area of writing, the fifth grade student performing at the advanced level

- consistently writes compositions of more than one paragraph that state and maintain a focused idea and include specific details that support the main idea
- consistently writes concluding statements that reinforce the main idea
- writes for a variety of purposes and audiences by writing an understandable story that includes setting, characters, and basic plot
- demonstrates mastery in using a variety of nonfiction forms using appropriate information and structure

In the area of proofreading, the fifth grade student performing at the advanced level

- consistently applies the rules of spelling, capitalization, and punctuation

In the area of revising writing for clarity, the fifth grade student performing at the advanced level

- consistently rearranges and/or adds details to improve focus, to support main ideas, and to make sequence clear

Proficient Level

In the area of writing, the fifth grade student performing at the proficient level

- writes compositions of more than one paragraph that state and maintain a focused idea and include specific details that support the main idea
- usually writes concluding statements that reinforce the main idea
- writes for a variety of purposes and audiences by writing a story that includes setting, characters, and basic plot
- usually writes in a variety of nonfiction forms using appropriate information and structure

In the area of proofreading, the fifth grade student performing at the proficient level

- applies most of the rules of spelling, capitalization, and punctuation

In the area of revising writing for clarity, the fifth grade student performing at the proficient level

- usually rearranges and/or adds specific details to improve focus, to support a main idea, and to make the sequence clear

Below Proficient Level

In the area of writing, the fifth grade student performing at the below proficient level

- has difficulty writing compositions of more than one paragraph with a focused idea and specific details
- demonstrates limited ability in writing a concluding statement
- demonstrates limited ability in writing for a variety of purposes and audiences by writing a story with underdeveloped characters, setting, and basic plot
- demonstrates limited ability to write in a variety of nonfiction forms using appropriate information and structure

In the area of proofreading, the fifth grade student performing at the below proficient level

- applies some of the rules of spelling, punctuation, and capitalization

In the area of revising writing for clarity, the fifth grade student performing at the below proficient level

- attempts to rearrange and/or add details to improve focus, to support a main idea, or to make a sequence clear

Far Below Proficient Level

There is a significant need for additional instructional opportunities to achieve the proficient level.

Mathematics

Advanced Level

The student displays a highly developed understanding of

- high-level concepts involving numbers, operational relationships, and complex number theory
- precise measurement techniques
- complicated problems involving money combinations and equivalent measures
- sophisticated estimation strategies
- computation required to solve difficult problems
- multifaceted patterns
- challenging geometric relationships
- perimeter and area of complex shapes
- the representation, uses, and analysis of data in multiple formats
- the description of probability in experiments

Proficient Level

The student demonstrates conceptual understanding of

- numbers, mathematical operations, and number theory involving whole numbers, fractions, mixed numbers, and percents
- measurable attributes and measurement techniques involving equivalent measures, telling time, money, and measuring with a ruler
- describing patterns and functions through extending, generalizing, identifying, and applying pattern
- estimation strategies and computation involving the four basic operations
- equation solving
- perimeter and area
- geometric relationships of plane and solid figures
- similarity, congruence, symmetry, and transformations
- classification, organization, and analysis of data
- probability
- problems involving money combinations

Below Proficient Level

The student shows minimal understanding of

- concepts involving numbers, mathematical operations, number theory, basic equivalent measures, and money
- basic estimation skills
- measurement techniques involving length and time with some precision
- solving simple problems involving arithmetic computation
- extending and identifying uncomplicated patterns
- simple geometric relationships
- rudimentary problems involving area, perimeter, similarity, symmetry, congruency, and transformations
- the display and uses of straightforward sets of data

Far Below Proficient Level

There is a significant need for additional instructional opportunities to achieve the proficient level.