

SBA Grade 6 Proficiency Level Descriptors

Reading

Advanced Level

The student

- identifies complex analogies
- restates key details and main ideas from complex texts in correct sequence
- makes connections between main idea and central concept in various types of text
- identifies and selects evidence to support the main ideas in various types of texts
- interprets complex directions to understand and solve problems

Proficient Level

The student

- identifies multiple synonyms of a word
- identifies simple analogies
- makes inferences and draws conclusions based on text
- summarizes text accurately
- makes connections across and between texts
- interprets directions to complete a task
- identifies or explains the characteristics of fiction and nonfiction
- identifies literary elements and devices
- compares and contrasts plot, setting, and characters in a variety of works by a variety of authors with increased text complexity
- expresses and supports opinions about material read with evidence from text
- identifies author's stated or implied message or theme

Below Proficient Level

The student

- identifies relationships among words by categorizing
- uses text features to obtain information from text
- makes simple inferences related to text and draws conclusions based on information presented in the text
- makes accurate restatements of text and identifies details in text to support main idea
- makes simple judgments on the relevance of steps in a list of directions
- demonstrates understanding of story elements
- compares different plots, settings, and characters within one text or story
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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 sixth grade student performing at the advanced level

- consistently writes a story or composition of at least two paragraphs with a topic sentence and maintains a focused idea with support
- consistently writes concluding statements that reinforce the main idea
- writes for a variety of purposes and audiences by consistently writing an understandable story using well-developed characters, setting, plot, and literary devices
- shows mastery of a variety of nonfiction forms

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

- consistently and effectively uses sentence fluency to improve flow and meaning
- consistently applies rules of spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and usage

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

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

Proficient Level

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

- usually writes a story or composition of at least two paragraphs with a topic sentence and maintains a focused idea with supporting details, and has a concluding statement
- writes for a variety of purposes and audiences by usually writing an understandable story using some story elements and literary devices
- usually writes using a variety of nonfiction forms using appropriate information and structure

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

- usually varies sentence beginnings, length, and patterns to improve flow and meaning
- applies most rules of spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and usage

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

- usually rearranges and/or adds details to improve focus, to support main ideas, to clarify topic sentences, and to make sequence clear

Below Proficient Level

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

- has difficulty writing a story or composition of at least two paragraphs with topic sentence that maintains a focused idea with supporting details
- demonstrates limited ability in writing concluding statements
- attempts to write for a variety of purposes and audiences by writing a story that fails to use story elements and literary devices
- has difficulty writing a variety of nonfiction forms using appropriate information and structure

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

- fails to vary the beginnings, lengths, and patterns of sentences to improve flow and enhance meaning
- applies some rules of spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and usage

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

- attempts to rearrange 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 elapsed time 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 and uses of data in multiple formats

Proficient Level

The student demonstrates conceptual understanding of

- numbers, mathematical operations, and number theory involving fractions, mixed numbers, decimals, percents, and integers
- measurable attributes and measurement techniques involving measuring with a ruler, equivalent measures, and elapsed time
- estimation strategies and computation involving the four basic operations
- equation solving
- describing patterns and functions by extending, generalizing, identifying, and applying patterns
- geometric relationships of plane and solid figures
- circles
- perimeter and area
- similarity, congruence, and symmetry
- graphing line segments
- identification of length and midpoint
- classification, organization, and analysis of data
- using possible combinations

Below Proficient Level

The student shows minimal understanding of

- concepts involving numbers, mathematical operations, number theory, basic equivalent measures, and elapsed time
- basic estimation skills
- measuring techniques with some precision
- solving simple problems involving arithmetic computation
- extending and identifying uncomplicated patterns
- simple geometric relationships
- rudimentary problems involving area, perimeter, similarity, symmetry, and congruency
- 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.