

SBA Grade 10 Proficiency Level Descriptors

Reading

Advanced Level

The student

- determines meanings of unfamiliar words in context in dialectical English, complex words from other languages adopted into English, and idiomatic expressions;
- identifies complex analogies;
- synthesizes thematic concepts from multiple texts to make inferences;
- analyzes complex literary elements such as allusion, syntax, irony, hyperbole, and multiple levels of meaning.

Proficient Level

The student

- determines meaning of unfamiliar words in context by using multiple strategies;
- makes inferences, draws conclusions, and analyzes and evaluates thematic connections across increasingly complex texts;
- assesses the validity of an author's ideas and adequacy of support;
- evaluates the power, logic, reasonableness, and audience appeal of arguments;
- understands and applies multi-step directions to solve complex problems;
- analyzes the use of literary devices across genres;
- evaluates intended effects of the author's use of conventions and techniques of genres;
- analyzes, evaluates, and makes logical predictions about the importance of plot, setting, character, point of view, theme, and tone in increasingly complex texts;
- analyzes and evaluates the author's intent for using literary elements/devices;
- analyzes author's message, theme, or purpose;
- identifies bias/propaganda.

Below Proficient Level

The student

- determines meaning of words in context using roots and affixes;
- summarizes main ideas or events in correct sequence;
- locates information in narrative and informative text to answer questions related to main ideas and key details;
- compares and contrasts main ideas or concepts between related texts;
- compares and contrasts literary elements and devices to analyze text;
- identifies author's purpose;
- makes thematic connections between texts.

Far Below Proficient Level

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

SBA Grade 10 Proficiency Level Descriptors

Writing

Advanced Level

The student

- uses precise language to incorporate a thesis statement that clearly identifies the focus of the composition into an engaging introduction;
- writes fully developed paragraphs that include insightful evidence and places paragraph breaks logically;
- organizes ideas using effective structure and meaningful transitions;
- crafts a relevant conclusion;
- skillfully utilizes a variety of nonfiction forms to inform, describe, or persuade;
- effectively varies beginnings, lengths, and sentence patterns to improve flow, meaning, and style;
- revises writing to improve clarity, logical progression, and support; to delete unnecessary details; and to make style, diction, and voice consistent;
- adeptly applies rules of spelling, punctuation, capitalization, and usage.

Proficient Level

The student

- uses precise language to incorporate a thesis statement that clearly identifies the focus of the composition into an effective introduction;
- consistently writes well-developed paragraphs that include specific evidence;
- places paragraph breaks logically;
- organizes ideas using appropriate structure and transitions;
- develops an effective conclusion;
- uses a variety of nonfiction forms to inform, describe or persuade;
- varies beginnings, lengths, and sentence patterns to improve flow, meaning, and style;
- revises writing to improve clarity, logical progression, and support; to delete unnecessary details; and to make style, diction, and voice consistent;
- usually applies the rules of spelling, punctuation, capitalization, and usage.

Below Proficient Level

The student

- ineffectively incorporates a thesis statement into an introduction;
- writes under-developed paragraphs that show vague focus and support;
- inconsistently places paragraph breaks;
- attempts to organize ideas and uses few or no transitions;
- sometimes writes a conclusion;
- attempts to use a variety of nonfiction forms to inform, describe, or persuade;
- demonstrates limited ability in varying beginnings, lengths, and sentence patterns to improve flow, meaning, and style;
- shows minimal ability to revise writing;
- infrequently applies rules of spelling, punctuation, capitalization, and usage.

Far Below Proficient Level

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

SBA Grade 10 Proficiency Level Descriptors

Mathematics

Advanced Level

The student demonstrates highly developed understanding and application of

- operations on and properties of real numbers, in particular exponential and radical expressions;
- complex number theory on sophisticated variable expressions;
- converting more involved square and cubic units;
- multifaceted functions, patterns, equations and inequalities using multiple representations;
- algebraic and geometric thinking involving intricate formulas, and difficult systems of equations and inequalities;
- challenging geometric relationships;
- volume and surface area of non-routine compound solids;
- advanced data analysis, probabilities, and counting techniques.

Proficient Level

The student demonstrates conceptual understanding of

- operations on, subsets of, and properties of real numbers, including exponential and radical expressions;
- applications of number theory and computations on numerical and variable expressions;
- converting straightforward square and cubic units;
- generalizing functions, patterns, equations and inequalities;
- algebraic and geometric thinking involving formulas, and systems of equations or inequalities, including transformations;
- geometric relationships and properties of plane figures;
- volume or surface area;
- displaying, analyzing, and justifying conclusions related to data sets;
- probability and its uses.

Below Proficient Level

The student demonstrates minimal understanding of

- operations;
- properties of real numbers;
- basic computations on numerical and variable expressions;
- describing uncomplicated functions and equations from a table or graph;
- extending straightforward patterns;
- algebraic or geometric thinking involving formulas and simple systems of equations;
- geometric properties of plane figures;
- basic geometric relationships;
- rudimentary problems involving volume or surface area;
- organizing or displaying data sets;
- counting techniques;
- probability.

Far Below Proficient Level

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