

Grade 7 Performance Level Descriptors

Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System- English Language Arts (NSCAS-ELA)

<u>Developing</u>	<u>Established</u>	<u>Distinguished</u>
<p>Developing learners do not yet demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level, as specified in the assessed Nebraska College- and Career-Ready Standards. These results provide evidence that the student may need additional support for academic success at the next grade level.</p> <p>The student at this level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applies knowledge of common Greek, Latin, and Anglo-Saxon roots, prefixes, and suffixes to understand simple words, including words across content areas.• Selects and applies knowledge of explicit context clues (e.g., word, phrase, and sentence clues) and text features to determine meaning of unknown words.• Acquires new, basic academic and content-specific grade-level vocabulary, relates to prior knowledge, and applies in new situations.	<p>Established learners demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level, as specified in the assessed Nebraska College- and Career-Ready Standards. These results provide evidence that the student will likely be ready for academic success at the next grade level.</p> <p>The student at this level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applies knowledge of Greek, Latin, and Anglo-Saxon roots, prefixes, and suffixes to understand complex words, including words across content areas.• Selects and applies knowledge of context clues (e.g., word, phrase, sentence, and paragraph clues) and text features to determine meaning of unknown words.• Acquires new academic and content-specific grade-level vocabulary, relates to prior knowledge, and applies in new situations.	<p>Distinguished learners demonstrate advanced proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level, as specified in the assessed Nebraska College- and Career-Ready Standards. These results provide evidence that the student will likely be ready for academic success at the next grade level.</p> <p>The student at this level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applies knowledge of uncommon Greek, Latin, and Anglo-Saxon roots, prefixes, and suffixes to understand complex and sophisticated words, including words across content areas.• Selects and applies knowledge of subtle context clues (e.g., word, phrase, sentence, and paragraph clues) and text features to determine meaning of unknown words.• Acquires new, sophisticated academic and content-specific grade-level vocabulary, relates to prior knowledge, and skillfully applies in new situations.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyzes and uses basic semantic relationships (e.g., multiple meanings, synonyms, antonyms, figurative language) to determine the meaning of words and aid in comprehension. • Analyzes the meaning of the text considering author's purpose(s) and perspective. • Analyzes and explains the fundamental relationships between elements of literary text (e.g., character development, setting, plot, conflict, point of view, theme). • Analyzes the author's use of simple literary devices (e.g., simile, metaphor, personification, idioms, hyperbole, alliteration, onomatopoeia). • Summarizes a literary text using details to support interpretation of the theme. • Summarizes an informational text using details to formulate the main idea. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyzes and uses semantic relationships (e.g., multiple meanings, synonyms, antonyms, figurative language, connotations, subtle distinctions) to determine the meaning of words and aid in comprehension. • Analyzes the meaning, reliability, and validity of the text, considering author's purpose(s) and perspective. • Analyzes and explains the relationships between elements of literary text (e.g., character development, setting, plot, conflict, point of view, theme). • Analyzes the author's use of literary devices (e.g., simile, metaphor, personification, idioms, oxymoron, hyperbole, alliteration, onomatopoeia, analogy, tone, mood). • Summarizes, analyzes, and synthesizes a literary text using key details to support interpretation of the theme. • Summarizes, analyzes, and synthesizes an informational text using supporting details to formulate the main idea. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyzes and uses sophisticated semantic relationships (e.g., multiple meanings, synonyms, antonyms, figurative language, connotations, subtle distinctions) to determine the meaning of words and aid in comprehension. • Thoroughly analyzes the meaning, reliability, and validity of the text, considering author's purpose(s) and perspective. • Analyzes and explains the intricate relationships between elements of literary text (e.g., character development, setting, plot, conflict, point of view, theme). • Analyzes the author's use of sophisticated literary devices (e.g., simile, metaphor, personification, idioms, oxymoron, hyperbole, alliteration, onomatopoeia, analogy, tone, mood). • Thoroughly summarizes, analyzes, and synthesizes a literary text using the most relevant key details to support interpretation of the theme. • Thoroughly summarizes, analyzes, and synthesizes an informational text using the most relevant supporting details to formulate the main idea.
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applies knowledge of text features to locate information and explain how the information contributes to a basic understanding of text. • Cites textual evidence to analyze and make inferences based on the fundamental characteristics of literary and informational texts (e.g., genres). • Explains the fundamental social, historical, cultural and biographical influences in a variety of texts, citing textual evidence from literary and informational texts to develop a regional, national, and international multicultural perspective. • Answers simple literal, inferential, and critical questions and supports answers with evidence from the text or additional sources provided. • Applies knowledge of explicit organizational patterns to comprehend informational text (e.g., sequence/chronological, description, spatial, cause and effect, compare/contrast, fact/opinion, proposition/support). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applies knowledge of text features to locate information and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of text. • Cites specific and relevant textual evidence to analyze and make inferences based on the characteristics of a variety of literary and informational texts (e.g., genres). • Explains the social, historical, cultural, and biographical influences in a variety of texts, citing relevant textual evidence from literary and informational text to develop a regional, national, and international multicultural perspective. • Answers literal, inferential, and critical questions and supports answers with specific and relevant evidence from the text or additional sources provided. • Applies knowledge of organizational patterns to comprehend informational text (e.g., sequence/chronological, description, spatial, cause and effect, compare/contrast, fact/opinion, proposition/support). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applies knowledge of text features to locate information and explain how the information contributes to a nuanced understanding of text. • Cites the most specific and relevant textual evidence to analyze and make inferences based on the complex characteristics of a variety of literary and informational texts (e.g., genres). • Explains the complex social, historical, cultural, and biographical influences in a variety of texts, citing the most relevant textual evidence from literary and informational text to develop a regional, national, and international multicultural perspective. • Answers complex literal, inferential, and critical questions and supports answers with the most specific and relevant evidence from the text or additional sources provided. • Applies knowledge of implicit organizational patterns to comprehend informational text (e.g., sequence/chronological, description, spatial, cause and effect, compare/contrast, fact/opinion, proposition/support).
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generates a draft that conveys ideas through analysis and which includes a topic, thesis, body, conclusion, and/or transitions linked to the purpose of the composition. • Gathers and uses information from authoritative sources in an attempt to support claims or theses. • Composes grammatically correct simple and compound sentences and/or basic paragraphs. • Proofreads and edits writing for some conventions or standard English (e.g., spelling, capitalization, grammar, punctuation, syntax, semantics). • Displays academic honesty and integrity by avoiding plagiarism. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generates a draft that conveys ideas through analysis and use of organizational patterns that are suited to the purpose and intended audience and includes a strong thesis, body, conclusion, and appropriate transitions linked to the purpose of the composition. • Gathers and uses relevant information and evidence from authoritative sources to support claims or theses. • Composes paragraphs with grammatically correct simple, compound, and complex sentences of varying length and complexity. • Proofreads and edits writing for format and conventions of standard English (e.g., spelling, capitalization, grammar, punctuation, syntax, semantics). • Displays academic honesty and integrity by avoiding plagiarism and/or overreliance on any one source and by following a standard format for citation (e.g., quotes, paraphrases). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generates a sophisticated draft that conveys complex ideas through analysis and use of organizational patterns that are suited to the purpose and intended audience and includes a strong thesis, body, conclusion, and appropriate transitions linked to the purpose of the composition. • Gathers and uses the most relevant information and evidence from authoritative sources to thoroughly support claims or theses. • Composes sophisticated paragraphs with grammatically correct simple, compound, and complex sentences of varying length and complexity. • Proofreads and edits writing thoroughly for format and conventions of standard English (e.g., spelling, capitalization, grammar, punctuation, syntax, semantics). • Displays academic honesty and integrity by avoiding plagiarism and/or overreliance on any one source and by consistently and skillfully following a standard format for citation (e.g., quotes, paraphrases).
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicates information and ideas in analytic, descriptive, informative, narrative, poetic, persuasive, and reflective modes to audiences. • Provides evidence from literary or informational text in an attempt to support analysis, reflection, or research. • Occasionally uses precise word choice and domain-specific vocabulary to write in a variety of modes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicates information and ideas effectively in analytic, argumentative, descriptive, informative, narrative, poetic, persuasive, and reflective modes to multiple audiences. • Provides relevant evidence from literary or informational text to support analysis, reflection, or research. • Uses precise word choice and domain-specific vocabulary to write in a variety of modes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skillfully communicates information and ideas effectively in analytic, argumentative, descriptive, informative, narrative, poetic, persuasive, and reflective modes to multiple audiences. • Provides the most relevant evidence from literary or informational text to thoroughly support analyses, reflections, or research. • Skillfully uses precise word choice and domain-specific vocabulary to write in a variety of modes.
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