AK STAR

ALASKA SYSTEM OF ACADEMIC READINESS

Reporting Category Performance for English Language Arts and Mathematics Assessments

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION & EARLY DEVELOPMENT

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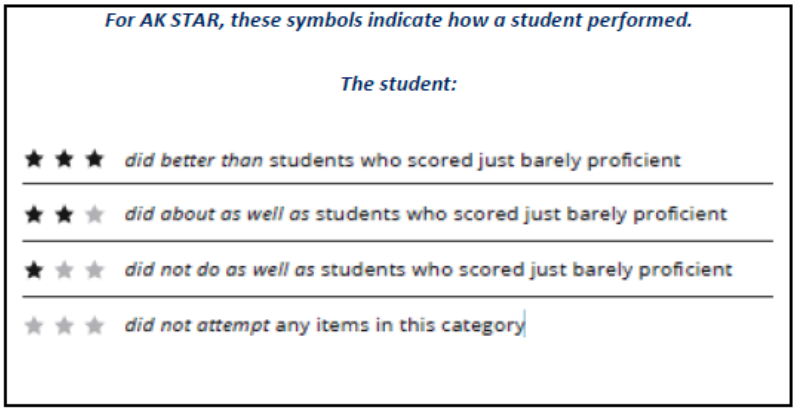
AK STAR Reporting Categories on Individual Student Reports (PDF & Dynamic)

The Educator Guide to Assessment Results provides educators information on how to use student results. Individual Student Reports (ISR) provide student performance in each reporting category is reported as a comparison to students who performed at the proficient level. This provides relative information about the student's performance in each reporting category.



Each reporting category represents a critical component of the full set of expectations for what students should know and be able to do. Student performance at the reporting category level is therefore evaluated in terms of what is expected of a proficient student relative to that aspect of their learning.

This document provides educators descriptions of what a student should know and be able to do at each of the star levels in relation to Alaska's Achievement Level Descriptors (ALDs). The ALDs are available in grade band documents on the AK STAR Assessment Design webpage and the Achievement Level Explorer tool.

Grade 3 Mathematics

Reporting Category - Content

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include demonstrating understanding of fractions in both discrete some-many and continuous part-whole contexts. Students at this level are likely to solve two-step word problems using any of the four operations and understand the relationship between multiplication and division. The mathematically proficient student in grade 3 makes connections between multiplication and area measurement, solving problems involving finding the area of a rectangle. They categorize two-dimensional shapes based on properties such as sides and angles.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include fluently adding and subtracting whole numbers and understanding multiplication as repeated addition. Students at this level are likely to solve one-step word problems using all four operations. The student who is approaching proficiency in grade 3 is likely able to identify fractions associated with partitioned shapes and compare fractions with the same denominator.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include adding and subtracting whole numbers up to 100 as well as understanding concepts of place value. Students at this level are likely to solve one-step word problems using addition and subtraction. They can likely partition symmetrical shapes to describe foundational fractions and measure area of rectangular figures by counting unit squares.

Reporting Category – Argumentation and Modeling

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include constructing arguments using concrete referents and reasoning with data, justifying conclusions, and evaluating the reasoning of others through asking clarifying questions and deciding whether the argument makes sense. Students at this level can likely apply grade-level mathematics to solve problems in everyday life by modeling the situation using tools such as manipulatives, diagrams, or pictures and interpret the results of their mathematical reasoning in the context of the situation to decide whether the results make sense.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include identifying valid arguments based on concrete referents, selecting statements that justify given conjectures, and evaluating the reasoning of others. Students at this level can likely use grade-level mathematics to solve problems in everyday life by selecting an

appropriate model, calculating with the model, and interpreting the results in the context of the situation.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include selecting valid arguments based on concrete referents and selecting a question that may help clarify the reasoning of another. Students at this level can likely use grade-level mathematics to solve real-world problems by applying a given model and reporting the results.

Grade 3 English Language Arts

Reporting Category – Reading

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

With literary texts, these students can typically make a basic inference, determine the central message or lesson, and explain how the illustrations contribute to the mood, character development, or setting. With informational texts, they can sequence, paraphrase, or summarize main ideas, identify an author's purpose, and compare and contrast important points in two texts on the same topic. With both kinds of texts, they can use paragraph-level context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

With literary texts, these students can typically make predictions, determine a message or lesson that is stated explicitly, and identify a simple connection between the illustrations and words. With informational texts, they can identify a main idea that is stated explicitly, identify an author's opinion about an event or idea, and compare and contrast details in two texts on the same topic. With both kinds of texts, they can use sentence-level context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

With literary texts, these students can typically identify a detail that is stated explicitly, identify a broad topic, and describe the illustrations. With informational texts, they can identify a broad topic that is addressed in one or two texts and an author's perspective when it is explicitly stated. With both kinds of texts, they can use explicit sentence-level context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.

Reporting Category – Writing and Language

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

When writing opinion pieces, these students can typically create a logical organizational structure, include reasons that support the opinion, and write a conclusion that reinforces the opinion. They can also develop and strengthen explanatory and opinion writing by planning, revising, and editing based on peer and adult feedback. In addition, they can identify and produce simple, compound, and complex sentences and choose words and phrases for effect.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

When writing opinion pieces, these students can typically introduce a topic or text, state general reasons that support the opinion, and write a concluding statement that restates the opinion. They can also make edits to improve explanatory and opinion writing based on peer and adult feedback. In addition, they can write compound sentences and identify words and phrases that are used for effect.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

When writing opinion pieces with scaffolding (e.g., sentence starters, graphic organizers, teacher prompting), these students can typically introduce a topic or text, state an opinion, list a few reasons related to the opinion, and identify a concluding statement related to the opinion. With scaffolding, they can also revise or edit a draft of opinion or explanatory writing. In addition, they can write simple sentences and recognize the effect of given words.

Grade 4 Mathematics

Reporting Category – Content

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include creating expressions with unknown values to solve multistep word problems using any of the four operations and generating and analyzing number and shape patterns. Students at this level are likely to add, subtract, round, and compare numbers up to 1,000,000, create equivalent fractions, and order and compare fractions and decimals. The mathematically proficient student in grade 4 solves real-world or mathematical problems involving area or perimeter of rectangles. They categorize figures bases on traits related to angle size, presence of parallel or perpendicular lines, or number of lines of symmetry.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include solving multistep word problems and extending number patterns given a simple rule. Students at this level are likely to add and subtract numbers up to 1,000,000 using only one regrouping step, identify equivalent fractions, and order fractions with the same numerator or denominator. The student who is approaching proficiency in grade 4 is likely able to identify right, acute, or obtuse angles in figures and calculate perimeter and areas of rectangles.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include solving simple two-step word problems and finding a missing term in an addition pattern. Students at this level are likely to add, subtract, and round numbers up to 1,000,000 when no regrouping is needed and compare fractions with the same denominators. They can likely identify lines of symmetry on a simple figure and calculator perimeter of rectangles when figures are clearly labeled.

Reporting Category – Argumentation and Modeling

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include constructing arguments using concrete referents and reasoning with data, justifying conclusions, and evaluating the reasoning of others through asking clarifying questions and deciding whether the argument makes sense. Students at this level can likely apply grade-level mathematics to solve problems in everyday life by modeling the situation using tools such as manipulatives, diagrams, or pictures and interpret the results of their mathematical reasoning in the context of the situation to decide whether the results make sense.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include identifying valid arguments based on concrete referents, selecting statements that justify given conjectures, and evaluating the reasoning of others. Students at this level can likely use grade-level mathematics to solve problems in everyday life by selecting an

appropriate model, calculating with the model, and interpreting the results in the context of the situation.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include selecting valid arguments based on concrete referents and selecting a question that may help clarify the reasoning of another. Students at this level can likely use grade-level mathematics to solve real-world problems by applying a given model and reporting the results.

Grade 4 English Language Arts

Reporting Category – Reading

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

With literary texts, these students can typically describe a character or setting in depth and compare and contrast the points of view, themes, plots, and patterns of events in different texts. With informational texts, they can paraphrase or summarize key ideas, describe the differences in focus and information between a firsthand and secondhand account of the same event or topic, and integrate information from two texts on the same topic or related topics. With both kinds of texts, they can determine the meaning of unfamiliar words and phrases by using knowledge of phonetics, word structure, language structure, and context clues.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

With literary texts, these students can typically describe a character or setting, distinguish between first- and third-person point of view, and identify a few key similarities or differences in two texts' themes, plots, or patterns of events. With informational texts, they can organize or sequence a few ideas and compare or contrast two texts on the same topic, including firsthand and secondhand accounts. With both kinds of texts, they can determine the meaning of multiple-meaning words or phrases using word structure, context, and text-embedded definitions.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

With literary texts, these students can typically identify a character or setting, the point of view in a first-person story, and a simple similarity or difference between two texts' themes, topics, or patterns of events. With informational texts, they can restate ideas, determine whether the text is a firsthand or secondhand account of an event or topic, and identify basic information from two texts on the same topic. With both kinds of texts, they can determine the meaning of common words by using simple context clues and text-embedded definitions.

Reporting Category – Writing and Language

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

When writing informative/explanatory pieces, these students can typically introduce a topic clearly and group related information in paragraphs and sections, develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information/explanations and examples, and write a concluding statement or section that paraphrases the focus of the text or explanation presented. In addition, they can choose punctuation for effect. When conducting research, they can gather relevant information from print and digital sources.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

When writing informative/explanatory pieces, these students can typically introduce a topic, develop it with related facts, definitions, details, information, or examples, and write a concluding statement that restates the main idea. In addition, they can choose ending punctuation for effect. When conducting research, they can identify key information about a topic from print and/or digital sources.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

When writing informative/explanatory pieces with scaffolding (e.g., sentence starters, graphic organizers, teacher prompting), these students can introduce a topic; identify a fact, definition, detail, quotation, information, or example that may be related to the topic; and write a simple concluding statement. In addition, they can identify punctuation in a short text. When conducting research with scaffolding, they can categorize key information in notes from print and/or digital sources.

Grade 5 Mathematics

Reporting Category – Content

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include identifying equivalent expressions that involve grouping symbols and generating two numeric patterns and naming corresponding terms as ordered pairs. Students at this level are likely to divide decimals to hundredths and solve word problems that require adding or subtracting mixed numbers or fractions with unlike denominators. The mathematically proficient student in grade 5 calculates the volume of solid figures composed of two non-overlapping rectangular prisms. They use hierarchy relationships to identify properties of and classify quadrilaterals.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include evaluating numerical expressions involving grouping symbols that involve two to three easy computations and generating two number patterns with different starting numbers and the same rule. Students at this level are likely to multiply decimals to hundredths and add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators when one denominator is a multiple of the other. The student who is approaching proficiency in grade 5 is likely able to calculate the volume of rectangular prisms with whole-number side lengths and classify plane figures based on angles and sides.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include evaluating simple numerical expressions involving two steps and extending two numerical patterns to the next term. Students at this level are likely to add and subtract decimals to hundredths and fractions with like denominators. They can likely calculate the volume of a solid figure composed of a single layer of unit cubes and classify figures based on the number of sides.

Reporting Category – Argumentation and Modeling

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include constructing arguments using concrete referents and reasoning with data, justifying conclusions, and evaluating the reasoning of others through asking clarifying questions and deciding whether the argument makes sense. Students at this level can likely apply grade-level mathematics to solve problems in everyday life by modeling the situation using tools such as manipulatives, diagrams, or pictures and interpret the results of their mathematical reasoning in the context of the situation to decide whether the results make sense.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include identifying valid arguments based on concrete referents, selecting statements that justify given conjectures, and evaluating the reasoning of others. Students at

this level can likely use grade-level mathematics to solve problems in everyday life by selecting an appropriate model, calculating with the model, and interpreting the results in the context of the situation.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include selecting valid arguments based on concrete referents and selecting a question that may help clarify the reasoning of another. Students at this level can likely use grade-level mathematics to solve real-world problems by applying a given model and reporting the results.

Grade 5 English Language Arts

Reporting Category – Reading

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

With literary texts, these students can typically explain an author's message in a text, using details to support the explanation; describe how a narrator's or speaker's perspective influences the description of events; and explain, using some textual support, how visual elements contribute to the meaning, tone, or personal appeal of a text. With informational texts, they can locate information to explain what the text says explicitly and to support inferences and can explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text. With both kinds of texts, they can interpret figurative language, including similes and metaphors, in context.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

With literary texts, these students can typically identify an explicitly stated message, identify how the perspective of a narrator or speaker influences an event in the text, and describe how a visual element contributes to the overall understanding of a text. With informational texts, they can identify simple inferences or paraphrase explicitly stated details to help explain what the text says and can identify whether a point is supported by evidence. With both kinds of texts, they can use context clues to understand the meaning of simple figurative language.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

With literary texts, these students can typically identify an explicitly stated idea; identify a comment, opinion, or point of view (e.g., first person, second person); and identify a simple relationship between a visual element and textual content. With informational texts, they can paraphrase an explicitly stated detail and identify a point made. With both kinds of texts, they can identify an example of figurative language.

Reporting Category – Writing and Language

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

When writing opinion pieces, these students can typically introduce the topic or text clearly, state an opinion, create an organizational structure in which ideas are logically grouped to support the purpose, provide reasons supported by facts and details, and provide a concluding statement or section that reinforces or restates the opinion presented. They can also develop and strengthen both explanatory and opinion writing by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach. In addition, they can spell grade-appropriate words correctly.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

When writing opinion pieces, these students can typically introduce the topic or text, state an opinion about it, show an attempt at organizing the information, include two or three reasons and/or details to

support the opinion, and provide a concluding sentence or statement. In both explanatory and opinion writing, they can also revise several errors related to the use of conventions or the combination of simple sentences. In addition, they can spell below-grade-level words correctly.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

When writing opinion pieces, these students can typically identify a topic and an opinion about it, list a reason or detail to support the opinion, and identify a concluding sentence. In both explanatory and opinion writing, they can also identify one or two instances that need to be revised. In addition, they can identify the correct spelling of a below-grade-level word.

Grade 6 Mathematics

Reporting Category – Content

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include solving real-world problems with one-step equations and graphing the solution to an inequality on a number line. Students at this level are likely to use ratios and rates to solve real-world unit rate problems and convert measurement units. The mathematically proficient student in grade 6 can identify the location of points in the coordinate plane with positive and negative rational number coordinates. They can solve real-world problems that involve calculating the volume of right rectangular prisms with side lengths that are fractions or mixed numbers.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include solving one-step equations by multiplying or dividing whole numbers and identifying the graph of an inequality on a number line. Students at this level are likely to use equivalent ratios to represent a percent of a quantity as a rate per 100. The student who is approaching proficiency in grade 6 is likely able to identify the location of points in the coordinate plane with integer coordinates and calculate volume of a right rectangular prism with one fractional side length.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include solving one-step equations by adding and subtracting and recognizing that inequalities have infinitely many solutions. Students at this level are likely to identify equivalent ratios when the numbers in one ratios are multiples of the numbers in the other ratio. They can likely identify coordinate pairs in the first quadrant and calculate the volume of right rectangular prism with whole-number side lengths.

Reporting Category – Argumentation and Modeling

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include constructing arguments using concrete and abstract explanations, justifying conclusions, evaluating the reasoning of others through asking clarifying questions and identifying and explaining both logical and flawed reasoning. Students at this level can likely recognize general mathematical truths as well as special cases or counter-examples. They can likely apply grade-level mathematics to solve problems in everyday life by making assumptions and approximations to simplify a situation, modeling the situation using tools such as diagrams, tables, graphs and formulas and interpreting the results in the context of the situation to decide whether the results make sense, improving the model as needed.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include identifying valid arguments using concrete and abstract explanations, selecting statements that justify given conjectures, evaluating the reasoning of others, and identifying logical and flawed reasoning. Students at this level can likely recognize some general mathematical truths and identify counter-examples. They can likely apply grade-level mathematics to solve problems in everyday life by identifying assumptions and approximations that simplify a situation, selecting and applying a diagram, table, graph or formula and interpreting the results in the context of the situation.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include selecting valid arguments using concrete explanations and evaluating the reasoning of others by identifying flawed reasoning. Students at this level can identify counter-examples. They can likely use grade-level mathematics to solve real-world problems by applying given assumptions and using a given a diagram, table, graph or formula and report the results.

Grade 6 English Language Arts

Reporting Category – Reading

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

With literary texts, these students can typically explain how a theme or central idea of a text is conveyed through particular details and can compare and contrast texts in different forms or genres (e.g., stories and poems; historical novels and fantasy stories) in terms of their approaches to similar themes and topics. With informational texts, they can analyze how a key individual, event, or idea is introduced, illustrated, or elaborated in the text; explain how an author's purpose is conveyed through specific details in the text; and compare and contrast one author's presentation of events with that of another. With both kinds of texts, they can use the relationship between particular words (e.g., cause/effect, part/whole, item/category) to better understand each of the words.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

With literary texts, these students can typically identify a central idea and supporting detail and also identify a similarity and difference in the ways two texts approach similar themes and/or topics. With informational texts, they can describe how an individual or event is introduced in the text, identify a detail that supports the author's purpose, and select a similarity and a difference between two texts' presentations of events. With both kinds of texts, they can identify how the relationship between two words can help to find the meaning of a word.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

With literary texts, these students can typically identify a central idea explicitly stated in a text and a similarity or a difference between two texts on similar topics. With informational texts, they can identify an individual or event, an explicitly stated purpose, and a similarity or difference between two texts' presentations of events. With both kinds of texts, they can identify a relationship between two words (e.g., item/category).

Reporting Category – Writing and Language

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

When writing informative/explanatory pieces, these students can typically introduce a topic; organize ideas using strategies such as definition, classification, comparison/contrast, or cause/effect; develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples; and provide a concluding statement or section that follows from the information or explanation presented. In addition, they can correct vague pronouns (i.e., ones with unclear or ambiguous antecedents). When conducting research, they can paraphrase the data and conclusions of others accurately while avoiding plagiarism.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

When writing informative/explanatory pieces, these students can typically introduce a topic and a few ideas or pieces of supporting information; discuss the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples; and provide a concluding statement or section. In addition, they can identify a vague pronoun. When conducting research, they can paraphrase the data and conclusions of others with some accuracy.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

When writing informative/explanatory pieces, these students can typically identify and introduce a topic; use one or two facts, definitions, details, quotations, or other examples related to the topic; and identify a concluding statement. In addition, they can identify pronouns and their antecedents in a sentence. When conducting research, they can restate two to three sentences of data from a source.

Grade 7 Mathematics

Reporting Category – Content

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include identifying proportional relationships and representing them with equations and graphs. Students at this level are likely to create and solve two-step equations or inequalities to solve real-world or mathematical problems. The mathematically proficient student in grade 7 can solves two-step real-world problems involving area, volume, and surface area of two- and three-dimensional objects and calculate the circumference of a circle given area or vice versa. They calculate probability of compound events and calculate probability from two-way tables.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include identifying an equation to represent a given proportional relationship and computing unit rates from tables or graphs. Students at this level are likely to identify two-step equations and inequalities to solve real-world problem and graph the solution to an inequality on a number line. The student who is approaching proficiency in grade 7 is likely able to calculate volumes of rectangular prisms and the circumference or area of a circle given the radius. They can complete a tree diagram to show possible outcomes of an event.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include using tables to identify or represent proportional relationships. Students at this level are likely to identify an equation of the form $p = q + rx$ to represent a real-world problem and identify the meaning of the variable. They can likely compute areas of triangles and quadrilateral and identify nets of prisms, tetrahedrons, and pyramids and calculate the probability of an event from a tree diagram with two levels.

Reporting Category – Argumentation and Modeling

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include constructing arguments using concrete and abstract explanations, justifying conclusions, evaluating the reasoning of others through asking clarifying questions and identifying and explaining both logical and flawed reasoning. Students at this level can likely recognize general mathematical truths as well as special cases or counter-examples. They can likely apply grade-level mathematics to solve problems in everyday life by making assumptions and approximations to simplify a situation, modeling the situation using tools such as diagrams, tables, graphs and formulas and interpreting the results in the context of the situation to decide whether the results make sense, improving the model as needed.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include identifying valid arguments using concrete and abstract explanations, selecting statements that justify given conjectures, evaluating the reasoning of others, and identifying logical and flawed reasoning. Students at this level can likely recognize some general mathematical truths and identify counter-examples. They can likely apply grade-level mathematics to solve problems in everyday life by identifying assumptions and approximations that simplify a situation, selecting and applying a diagram, table, graph or formula and interpreting the results in the context of the situation.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include selecting valid arguments using concrete explanations and evaluating the reasoning of others by identifying flawed reasoning. Students at this level can identify counter-examples. They can likely use grade-level mathematics to solve real-world problems by applying given assumptions and using a given a diagram, table, graph, or formula and report the results.

Grade 7 English Language Arts

Reporting Category – Reading

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

With literary texts, these students can typically evaluate which evidence most appropriately supports key ideas; analyze interactions among characters, setting, and plot; and analyze how the author develops the perspectives of different characters or narrators. With informational texts, they can summarize all of the text's central ideas or events and place them in a sequence; analyze the structure an author uses to organize a text, including how major sentences, paragraphs, and chapters or sections of the text contribute to the whole and to the development of ideas; and trace arguments and specific claims in a text, evaluating whether the reasoning is sound, relevant, and sufficient. With both kinds of texts, they can verify which potential meaning of a word or phrase is correct, inferring meaning from context.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

With literary texts, these students can typically identify a piece of evidence in the text that is related to the key ideas; describe elements of a story or drama, such as characters, setting, or plot; and identify an area of a text where an author communicates similarities or differences in the perspectives of characters or narrators. With informational texts, they can summarize the text's main ideas and place three or more ideas in a sequence; identify the structure (e.g., cause/effect and problem/solution) an author uses to organize text; and explain the reasoning behind an argument in the text. With both kinds of texts, they can use a dictionary to identify which potential meanings of a word could be correct.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

With literary texts, these students can typically identify a detail that is related to an idea in the text; identify an explicit element of a story or drama, such as main characters, setting, or plot; and identify the perspective of a character or narrator. With informational texts, they can place two or more ideas from the text in a sequence, identify chronological and comparison/contrast text structures in short informational texts, and identify a simple argument in a text. With both kinds of texts, they can identify potential meanings of a word.

Reporting Category – Writing and Language

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

When writing opinion pieces, these students can typically acknowledge alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically; support claims with logical reasoning and accurate, relevant evidence from credible sources; and provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented. They can also develop and strengthen both explanatory and opinion writing by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed. In addition, they can place phrases and clauses within a sentence, recognizing and correcting misplaced and dangling modifiers.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

When writing opinion pieces, these students can typically introduce a claim, reason, and/or a piece of evidence that shows understanding of the topic or text; identify accurate, credible sources; and provide a concluding statement or section that may relate to the argument presented. They can also revise, edit, or rewrite a section of explanatory or opinion writing to improve its effectiveness in addressing the purpose. In addition, they can identify misplaced or dangling modifiers.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

When writing opinion pieces, these students can typically introduce a claim, a reason, or a piece of evidence; demonstrate a limited understanding of the topic; and provide a concluding statement. They can also identify the purpose of a piece of writing and one way the writer either succeeds or can improve in addressing that purpose. In addition, they can identify phrases and clauses within a sentence.

Grade 8 Mathematics

Reporting Category – Content

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include determining the linear equation that represents a relationship given as a table, a graph, or a verbal description or given two points that the line passes through and interpreting the ration of change and initial value in context. Students at this level are likely to solve a system of two linear equations, including in the context of solving a word problem. The mathematically proficient student in grade 8 can determine a sequence of transformations that can map a given shape into a congruent or similar one. They interpret scatter plots for bivariate measurement data to investigate patterns of association between two quantities.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include determining a linear equation that represents a relationship given in a table or graph and distinguishing between linear and nonlinear equations. Students at this level are likely to use a given graph to identify the solution to a system of linear equation and interpret the solution in context. The student who is approaching proficiency in grade 8 is likely able to identify a sequence of transformations that can map a given shape into a congruent one. They can identify positive and negative correlations of data in a given table or scatter plot.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include identifying the linear equation that represents a relationship given by a table or a graph and distinguishing between linear and nonlinear graphs. Students at this level are likely to identify the solution to a system of two linear equations given the graphs of both lines. They can likely identify a single transformation that can map a given shape into a congruent or similar one.

Reporting Category – Argumentation and Modeling

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include constructing arguments using concrete and abstract explanations, justifying conclusions, evaluating the reasoning of others through asking clarifying questions and identifying and explaining both logical and flawed reasoning. Students at this level can likely recognize general mathematical truths as well as special cases or counter-examples. They can likely apply grade-level mathematics to solve problems in everyday life by making assumptions and approximations to simplify a situation, modeling the situation using tools such as diagrams, tables, graphs, and formulas and interpreting the results in the context of the situation to decide whether the results make sense, improving the model as needed.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include identifying valid arguments using concrete and abstract explanations, selecting statements that justify given conjectures, evaluating the reasoning of others, and identifying logical and flawed reasoning. Students at this level can likely recognize some general mathematical truths and identify counter-examples. They can likely apply grade-level mathematics to solve problems in everyday life by identifying assumptions and approximations that simplify a situation, selecting and applying a diagram, table, graph, or formula and interpreting the results in the context of the situation.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include selecting valid arguments using concrete explanations and evaluating the reasoning of others by identifying flawed reasoning. Students at this level can identify counter-examples. They can likely use grade-level mathematics to solve real-world problems by applying given assumptions and using a given a diagram, table, graph, or formula and report the results.

Grade 8 English Language Arts

Reporting Category – Reading

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

With literary texts, these students can typically analyze the development of a theme or central idea over the course of a text and how lines of dialogue or incidents in a text propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision. With informational texts, they can analyze how a text makes connections and distinctions among individuals, ideas, or events; integrate visual information with other information in print and/or digital texts; and analyze two texts that provide conflicting information on the same topic, identifying the point at which they disagree on matters of fact or interpretation. With both kinds of texts, they can interpret figures of speech (e.g., verbal irony, puns, mixed metaphor) in context.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

With literary texts, these students can typically identify a few main ideas or events that have been developed over the course of the text and identify an area of a text where two or more elements affect the action, reveal an aspect of a character, or provoke a decision. With informational texts, they can identify a similarity or difference among individuals, ideas, or events in a text; compare or contrast visual information and information in print and/or digital texts; and identify differences in how two texts on the same topic approach matters of fact or interpretation. With both kinds of texts, they can use word relationships to find the meaning of simple figures of speech.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

With literary texts, these students can typically identify a few ideas or events and an element of a story or drama, such as main characters, setting, or plot. With informational texts, they can identify a relationship among individuals, ideas, or events in a text; identify at least one characteristic of information presented in a visual medium and of information presented in print and/or digital texts; and identify one simple example of information that appears in two texts on the same topic. With both kinds of texts, they can identify an example of a figure of speech.

Reporting Category – Writing and Language

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

When writing informative/explanatory pieces, these students can typically introduce a topic clearly, previewing what is to follow; organize ideas, concepts, and information into broader categories; including formatting, graphics, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension; and develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, details, quotations, examples, and/or other pieces of supporting information. In addition, they can use active and passive voice for effect. When conducting research, they can assess the credibility and accuracy of multiple print and/or digital sources.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

When writing informative/explanatory pieces, these students can typically introduce a topic with some clarity; organize a few ideas, concepts, or pieces of information related to the topic in an attempt to preview what is to follow; and discuss the topic with a few related facts, details, quotations, or examples. In addition, they can use active and passive voice. When conducting research, they can recognize when a print or digital source clearly lacks credibility.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

When writing informative/explanatory pieces, these students can typically identify a topic and introduce a few ideas, concepts, and/or pieces of information that may be related to the topic, and discuss the topic using a fact, detail, or example that may be loosely related to the topic. In addition, they can use verbs in active voice. When conducting research, they can find information from two print and/or digital sources.

Grade 9 Mathematics

Reporting Category – Content

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include solving linear equations and inequalities and solving quadratic equations by factoring or using the quadratic formula. Students at this level are likely to write a linear or exponential equation based on a given context. The mathematically proficient student in grade 9 identify the domain and range of a function and interpret statements that use function notation in terms of a context. They identifies or creates an equation for the line of best fit for a given scatter plot and use a line of best fit for a model to interpolate or extrapolate data.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include solving linear equations and inequalities with integer coefficients and solving quadratic equations given in factored form. Students at this level are likely to identify an equation that matches a simple verbal description of a linear function in a real-world context. The student who is approaching proficiency in grade 9 is likely able to evaluate a function for a given input using function notation and determine whether a relation is a function. They can identify a line of best fit for a scatterplot without finding the equation of the line.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include solving two-step linear equations with integer coefficients and solving quadratic equations of the form $x^2 = c$, where c is a perfect square. Students at this level are likely to identify an equation that matches a simple verbal description of a linear function in a mathematical context. They can likely identify correct use of function notation and identify input and output of a function.

Reporting Category – Argumentation and Modeling

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include constructing arguments using concrete and abstract explanations, justifying conclusions, evaluating the reasoning of others through asking clarifying questions and identifying and explaining both logical and flawed reasoning. Students at this level can likely recognize general mathematical truths as well as special cases or counter-examples. They can likely apply grade-level mathematics to solve problems in everyday life by making assumptions and approximations to simplify a situation, modeling the situation using tools such as diagrams, tables, graphs and formulas and interpreting the results in the context of the situation to decide whether the results make sense, improving the model as needed.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include identifying valid arguments using concrete and abstract explanations, selecting statements that justify given conjectures, evaluating the reasoning of others, and identifying logical and flawed reasoning. Students at this level can likely recognize some general mathematical truths and identify counter-examples. They can likely apply grade-level mathematics to solve problems in everyday life by identifying assumptions and approximations that simplify a situation, selecting and applying a diagram, table, graph, or formula and interpreting the results in the context of the situation.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

Examples of achievement at this level include selecting valid arguments using concrete explanations and evaluating the reasoning of others by identifying flawed reasoning. Students at this level can identify counter-examples. They can likely use grade-level mathematics to solve real-world problems by applying given assumptions and using a given a diagram, table, graph, or formula and report the results.

Grade 9 English Language Arts

Reporting Category – Reading

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

With literary texts, these students can typically analyze the development of a theme, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details, and analyze how an author creates such effects as mystery, tension, or surprise through choices about structure, literary devices (e.g., allusion or symbolism), the order of events (e.g., parallel plots), and the manipulation of time (e.g., pacing, flashbacks). With informational texts, they can analyze the author's presentation of ideas or events and how the author uses rhetoric to advance a perspective or purpose. With both kinds of texts, they can determine the meaning of a word or phrase using derivational roots and affixes, context, dialectical English, and idiomatic expressions.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

With literary texts, these students can typically describe how a specific detail contributes to the development of a central idea over a portion of the text and explain how some of an author's choices about structure, literary devices, order of events, and the manipulation of time create such effects as mystery, tension, or surprise. With informational texts, they can describe the author's arguments and a few ideas or events in a text, and they can identify the rhetoric used by the author. With both kinds of texts, they can determine the meaning of a word or phrase using context clues.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

With literary texts, these students can typically provide an example of a relationship between a detail and an idea in a portion of the text and identify an effect created in a text and how it relates to the plot. With informational texts, they can identify an author's argument or a few ideas or events in a text, and they can recognize an author's perspective or purpose in a portion of the text. With both kinds of texts, they can determine the meaning of an unfamiliar or multiple-meaning word or phrase by using context clues and text-embedded definitions.

Reporting Category – Writing and Language

Students achieving 3 stars meet the standards for achievement and demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.

When writing opinion pieces, these students can typically develop and organize a variety of claims, counterclaims, reasons, and evidence, supplying fair evidence for claims and counterclaims while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both. They can also produce clear and coherent explanatory and opinion writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. In addition, they can maintain parallel structure throughout a paragraph and use semicolons and/or conjunctive adverbs to link clauses.

Students achieving 2 stars partially meet the performance standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of the grade level content.

When writing opinion pieces, these students can typically introduce and distinguish claims, counterclaims, reasons, and evidence. They can also produce understandable explanatory and opinion writing in which the rudimentary development, organization, and style are acceptable for task, purpose, and audience. In addition, they can use parallel structure in sentences and conjunctive adverbs to connect ideas within a clause.

Students achieving 1 star may partially meet the performance standards but need support to master grade level content.

When writing opinion pieces, these students can typically identify relationships among claims, reasons, and evidence. They can also produce explanatory and opinion writing in which the development, organization, and style limit its effectiveness for task, purpose, and audience. In addition, they can identify parallel structure in sentences and use conjunctions to link two closely related sentences.