

English Language Arts IV

Proficient and Borderline Proficient Performance Level Descriptors

A student who is **Proficient** in English/ Language Arts IV **consistently** exhibits ability to perform the following skills with informational and literary texts:

1. Accurately analyzes test questions
2. Applies test-taking strategies when deconstructing prompts (identifying key verbs, distractors, etc.)
3. Utilizes context clues to determine meaning of unfamiliar words
4. Utilizes context clues to interpret the meaning of each selection
5. Demonstrates knowledge of academic vocabulary
6. Identifies literary devices and determines their application in figurative language
7. Delineates between satire, allusion, understatement, and irony
8. Utilizes close reading analysis in order to draw conclusions
9. Infers from the reading passages tone, characterization, era, setting, intent, motive, and connotation
10. Utilizes prior knowledge (mythological, biblical, historical, cultural allusions, etc.) to assist in drawing conclusions
11. Determines the significance of the author's theme and intent
12. Distinguishes between implied and direct statements
13. Determines and evaluates point of view
14. Understands archaic language, its purpose and application (idioms, diction, etc.)
15. Accurately interprets and infers meaning from direct citations
16. Identifies specific literary genres
17. Recognizes sentence structure and its effect on meaning

A student who is **Borderline Proficient** in English/Language Arts IV (a 'C-' student) **generally** exhibits the ability to perform the following skills with informational and literary texts:

1. Reads and follow test directions
2. Deconstructs a test prompt
3. Utilizes context clues to determine meaning of unfamiliar words within short reading selections
4. Utilizes context clues to interpret the meaning of each reading selection
5. Identifies basic figurative language, such as metaphor, simile, personification, and imagery
6. Identifies basic rhetorical strategies, such as repetition and allusion
7. Utilizes basic reading comprehension strategies
8. Recalls story elements: sequence of events, setting, characterization, conflict, climax, and main idea
9. Infers from the reading passages characterization, era, setting, intent, and motive
10. Recognizes the relevance of reading selection and makes a personal connection
11. Determines author's intent and main idea
12. Draws conclusions based on whole passages and excerpts
13. Summarizes a passage to determine the main idea using supporting details from the text
14. Distinguishes between the literal and figurative meaning of the reading selection
15. Comprehends modern/contemporary language as opposed to archaic language
16. Interprets direct citations