

A student who is **Proficient** in ELA IV: Writing demonstrates a working command of the correct conventions of Standard English, as well as attempt to apply the following language, writing, and test-taking skills to demonstrate college-and-career readiness. In the following two areas, Proficient students are able to:

### Language

- read and follow directions well
- thoroughly address all parts of a prompt
- consistently demonstrate the application of subject/verb agreement
- consistently employ grammar and usage to clarify meaning
- demonstrate knowledge of conventional mechanics to include capitalization, punctuation, and spelling
- understand and use idioms effectively
- understand the nuances of academic language
- understand the nuances of content language
- recognize effective rhetorical choices including a variety of sentence structures
- demonstrate effective use of revision and/or editing
- demonstrate effective use of parallelism

### Writing

- thoroughly address all parts of a prompt, demonstrating critical thinking
- address a specified audience with a clear purpose
- clearly communicate ideas through written expression
- effectively use literary devices to develop the central idea
- proficiently demonstrate use of the writing process: logical flow of ideas, clear transitions, and cohesive structure
- demonstrate a working command of the elements of a persuasive essay
- generate a central idea by using specific and relevant evidence from the text that supports the focus (may contain minor factual errors)
- write multiple paragraphs that include effective transitions
- explain how the evidence supports the central focus (avoid plot summary)
- construct explanations that are clear and concise yet maybe incomplete
- consistently support or clarify meaning with effective use of mechanics, displaying minimal errors which do not interfere with meaning

## English Language Arts IV: Writing Borderline Proficient Performance Level Descriptors

A student who is **Borderline Proficient** in ELA IV: Writing will generally recognize correct conventions of Standard English as well as attempt to apply the following language, writing, and test-taking skills to demonstrate college-and-career readiness. In the following two areas, Borderline Proficient students are able to:

### Language

- read and follow directions
- deconstruct a prompt
- recognize subject/verb agreement
- recognize conventions of capitalization
- recognize basic punctuation rules
- recognize idioms
- demonstrate awareness of content language
- demonstrate awareness of academic language
- recognize a complete sentence
- recognize the need for revision and/or editing
- recognize the basic rules for parallelism

### Writing

- read and follow directions
- deconstruct the prompt
- respond to the prompt with limited critical thinking
- demonstrate familiarity with parts of speech and how they are used
- incorporate appropriate language for audience and purpose
- attempt to use literary devices
- demonstrate a working knowledge of the writing process: pre-writing, introduction, body, conclusion
- demonstrate basic construction of a persuasive essay
- generate a central idea by using supporting details
- write multiple paragraphs that include transitions
- cite supporting details from novels, short stories, film, and poetry with minor factual errors