

Grade 4 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 basic word structure elements, known words, and common word patterns to determine meaning (e.g., plurals, possessives, parts of speech, affixes, base and root words).• Applies explicit context clues (e.g., word, phrase, and sentence clues) and text features to help infer meaning of unknown words.• Identifies basic semantic relationships (e.g., synonyms, antonyms, homographs, homophones, multiple-meaning words) to determine the meaning of words and aid in comprehension.	<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 word structure elements, known words, and word patterns to determine meaning (e.g., plurals, possessives, parts of speech, affixes, base and root words).• Applies context clues (e.g., word, phrase, sentence, and paragraph clues) and text features to infer meaning of unknown words.• Identifies semantic relationships (e.g., synonyms, antonyms, homographs, homophones, multiple-meaning words) to determine the meaning of words and aid in comprehension.	<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 complex word structure elements, known words, and uncommon word patterns to determine meaning (e.g., plurals, possessives, parts of speech, affixes, base and root words).• Applies subtle context clues (e.g., word, phrase, sentence, and paragraph clues) and text features to infer meaning of unknown-words.• Identifies complex semantic relationships (e.g., synonyms, antonyms, homographs, homophones, multiple-meaning words) to determine the meaning of words and aid in comprehension.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examines text to determine author's primary purpose(s). • Identifies and describes fundamental elements of literary text (e.g., characters, setting, plot, point of view, theme). • Identifies and explains why authors use simple literary devices (e.g., simile, metaphor, alliteration, onomatopoeia, imagery, rhythm, personification, hyperbole, idioms). • Summarizes a literary text using details to identify the theme. • Determines main ideas and details from informational text. • Uses text features to locate information and explains how the information contributes to a basic understanding of text. • Compares and contrasts the fundamental characteristics that distinguish a variety of literary and informational texts (e.g., genres). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examines text to determine author's purpose(s) and describe how author's perspective (e.g., beliefs, assumptions, biases) influences text. • Identifies and describes elements of literary text (e.g., characters, setting, plot, point of view, theme). • Identifies and explains why authors use literary devices (e.g., simile, metaphor, alliteration, onomatopoeia, imagery, rhythm, personification, hyperbole, idioms). • Summarizes a literary text using key details to identify the theme. • Determines main ideas and supporting details from informational text. • Uses text features to locate information and explains how the information contributes to an understanding of text. • Compares and contrasts the characteristics that distinguish a variety of literary and informational texts (e.g., genres). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thoroughly examines text to determine author's purpose(s) and thoroughly describe how author's perspective (e.g., beliefs, assumptions, biases) influences text. • Identifies and describes complex elements of literary text (e.g., characters, setting, plot, point of view, theme). • Identifies and explains why authors use sophisticated literary devices (e.g., simile, metaphor, alliteration, onomatopoeia, imagery, rhythm, personification, hyperbole, idioms). • Thoroughly summarizes a literary text using the most relevant key details to identify the theme. • Determines main ideas and the most relevant supporting details from informational text. • Uses text features to locate information and explains how the information contributes to a thorough understanding of text. • Compares and contrasts the complex characteristics that distinguish a variety of literary and informational texts (e.g., genres).
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compares and contrasts fundamental themes, topics, and/or patterns of events in literary and informational texts to develop a multicultural perspective. • Answers simple literal, inferential, and critical questions and supports answers with evidence from the text or additional sources provided. • Identifies and applies knowledge of explicit organizational patterns to comprehend informational text (e.g., sequence, description, cause and effect, compare/contrast, fact/opinion). • Generates a draft that which includes a topic, introduction, body, conclusion, and/or transitions. • Gathers and uses information from authoritative sources in an attempt to support claims or theses. • Composes grammatically correct sentences and/or basic paragraphs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compares and contrasts similar themes, topics, and/or patterns of events in literary and informational texts to develop a multicultural perspective. • Answers literal, inferential, and critical questions and supports answers with specific and relevant evidence from the text or additional sources provided. • Identifies and applies knowledge of organizational patterns to comprehend informational text (e.g., sequence, description, cause and effect, compare/contrast, fact/opinion). • Generates a draft that develops a clear topic, suited to the purpose and intended audience, and organizational pattern, including a clear introduction, body, conclusion, and appropriate transitions. • Gathers and uses relevant information and evidence from authoritative sources to support claims or theses. • Composes paragraphs with grammatically correct sentences of varying length, complexity, and type. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compares and contrasts complex themes, topics, and/or patterns of events in literary and informational texts to develop a 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. • Identifies and applies knowledge of implicit organizational patterns to comprehend informational text (e.g., sequence, description, cause and effect, compare/contrast, fact/opinion). • Generates a sophisticated draft that develops a clear topic, suited to the purpose and intended audience, and organizational pattern, including a clear introduction, body, conclusion, and appropriate transitions. • Gathers and uses the most relevant information and evidence from authoritative sources to thoroughly support claims or theses. • Composes sophisticated paragraphs with grammatically correct sentences of varying length, complexity, and type.
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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Displays academic honesty and integrity by avoiding plagiarism (information that is copied from the text).• 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">• Displays academic honesty and integrity by avoiding plagiarism (information that is copied from the text) and/or overreliance on any one source and by following a standard format for citation (e.g., quotes, paraphrases).• 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">• Displays academic honesty and integrity by avoiding plagiarism (information that is copied from the text) and/or overreliance on any one source and by consistently and skillfully following a standard format for citation (e.g., quotes, paraphrases).• 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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