

Grade 8 Performance Level Descriptors

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

Developing	Established	Distinguished
<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>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>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"> • Determines the meaning of words using common roots and the words that result when basic affixes are added. • Determines the meaning of simple words using context clues (e.g., word, phrase, sentence clues) and text features (e.g., titles, illustrations, headings, captions). • Identifies simple semantic relationships (i.e., synonyms and antonyms). • Identifies if an author’s purpose is to entertain, inform, or persuade when 	<p>The student at this level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determines the meaning of words using roots and the words that result when affixes are added. • Determines the meaning of words using context clues (e.g., word, phrase, sentence, paragraph clues) and text features (e.g., titles, illustrations, headings, captions, tables, timelines, maps). • Identifies semantic relationships (i.e., synonyms, antonyms, homophones, and homographs). • Determines if an author’s purpose is 	<p>The student at this level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determines the meaning of words using uncommon and content-specific roots and affixes and the words that result. • Determines the meaning of uncommon words using context clues (e.g., word, phrase, sentence, paragraph clues) and text features (e.g., titles, illustrations, headings, captions, tables, timelines, maps). • Identifies semantic relationships using uncommon or content-specific words (i.e., synonyms, antonyms, homophones, and homographs).

<p>it is stated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies basic elements of literary text (e.g., character[s], setting, story sequence). Recognizes simple literary devices used in literary text (e.g., onomatopoeia, personification, alliteration, simile). Identifies a theme from a simple literary text. Determines a main idea from one informational text. Locates information using basic text features (e.g., titles, illustrations, headings, tables of contents). Identifies simple literary and informational texts (e.g., stories, poems, textbooks, schedules). 	<p>to entertain, inform, or persuade.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies and describes elements of literary text (e.g., character[s], setting, conflict, story sequence, point of view). Recognizes how literary devices are used purposefully in literary text (e.g., onomatopoeia, personification, alliteration, simile, metaphor, idiom). Identifies the theme of a literary text using key details. Determines the main idea that is common in two informational texts. Locates information using text features (e.g., titles, headings, illustrations, tables of contents, indices, glossaries, charts, graphs, maps, timelines). Identifies a variety of literary and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determines if an author's purpose is to entertain, inform, or persuade when it is implied or in a more complex text. Identifies and describes complex elements of literary text (e.g., character[s], setting, conflict, story sequence, point of view, theme). Recognizes how literary devices are used purposefully in complex literary text (e.g., onomatopoeia, personification, alliteration, simile, metaphor, idiom). Identifies the theme of a complex literary text using key details. Determines the main idea that is common in two informational texts using key details. Locates information using complex text features (e.g., titles, headings, illustrations, tables of contents, indices, glossaries, charts, graphs, maps, timelines, diagrams, websites).
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answers simple literal questions using evidence from the text. • Identifies organizational patterns in simple informational text (e.g., sequence/chronological, cause/effect, compare/contrast). • Supports a claim using relevant evidence. • Edits writing for basic conventions of standard English in a simple sentence (e.g., initial and familiar proper noun capitalization, punctuation limited to period and question mark). • Identifies evidence related to an idea found in the literary or informational text. • Identifies precise word choice for some modes. 	<p>informational texts using textual characteristics (e.g., stories, poems, dramas, textbooks, periodicals, reference books/tools, schedules).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answers literal and inferential questions using explicit evidence from the text. • Identifies organizational patterns in informational text (e.g., sequence/chronological, fact/opinion, cause/effect, compare/contrast, problem/solution). • Supports a claim or thesis using relevant evidence. • Edits writing for conventions of standard English (e.g., initial and proper noun capitalization, punctuation limited to period and question mark). • Identifies evidence that supports an idea found in the literary or informational text. • Identifies precise word choice for a variety of each mode. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifies a wide variety of literary and informational texts using textual characteristics (e.g., stories, poems, dramas, textbooks, periodicals, reference books/tools, schedules, websites). • Answers complex literal and inferential questions using explicit, relevant evidence from the text. • Identifies organizational patterns in complex informational text (e.g., sequence/chronological, fact/opinion, cause/effect, compare/contrast, problem/solution). • Supports a claim or thesis using relevant evidence effectively. • Edits writing for conventions of standard English in a complex text (e.g., initial and content-specific proper noun capitalization, punctuation limited to period and question mark). • Identifies relevant evidence that supports an idea found in the complex literary or informational text. • Applies precise, appropriate word choice for a variety of modes.
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