2014 ELA Grade 4 Performance Level Descriptors

Level	Basic	Proficient	Advanced
Policy PLD	Marginal academic performance, work approaching, but not yet reaching, satisfactory performance, indicating partial understanding and limited display of the knowledge and skills included in the Wyoming Content and Performance Standards.	Satisfactory academic performance indicating a solid understanding and display of the knowledge and skills included in the Wyoming Content and Performance Standards.	Superior academic performance indicating an in-depth understanding and exemplary display of the knowledge and skills included in the Wyoming Content and Performance Standards.
Text Complexity Statements	The basic student demonstrates partial ability to independently read and comprehend a variety of literary and informational text of low-to-moderate complexity. The student reads closely in order to use minimal textual evidence to demonstrate critical thinking.	The proficient student demonstrates adequate ability to independently read and comprehend a variety of literary and informational text of moderate-to-high complexity. The student reads closely and analytically in order to use textual evidence to demonstrate critical thinking.	The advanced student demonstrates thorough ability to independently read and comprehend a variety of literary and informational text of high complexity. The student reads closely and analytically and uses textual evidence effectively to demonstrate complex critical thinking.
		Reading Literature (PAWS)	
		Key Ideas and Details	
Key Details	The basic student refers to details and examples when asking and answering questions about the text. RL 4.1	The proficient student refers to details and examples when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text. RL 4.1	The advanced student demonstrates understanding of the text by using supporting details and examples to ask and answer involved questions about the text. RL 4.1
Central Ideas	The basic student draws upon simple details from the text to summarize, determine a simple/basic theme, and describe characters and story elements. RL 4.2 and RL 4.3	The proficient student draws upon details from the text to summarize, determine a lesson or central message, and explain how story elements and the actions and motivations of characters contribute to the sequence of events. RL 4.2 and RL 4.3	The advanced student draws upon specific details from the text to summarize, determine a more complex/implied theme, and describe characters and story elements. RL 4.2 and RL 4.3
		Craft and Structure	
Word Meanings and Language Use	The basic student determines the meaning of simple words and phrases, including those related to mythology, as they are used in a text and distinguishes literal from nonliteral language. RL 4.4	The proficient student determines the meaning of words and phrases, including those related to mythology, as they are used in a text and distinguishes literal from nonliteral language. RL 4.4	The advanced student determines the intended meaning of complex words and phrases, including those related to mythology, as they are used in a text and distinguishes literal from nonliteral language. RL 4.4
Text Structures and Features	The basic student refers to parts of a text (e.g., chapters, stanzas, scenes, illustrations) when writing or speaking about a text to explain major differences between poems, dramas, and prose. RL 4.5	•	The advanced student refers to structural elements of literary genres when writing or speaking about a text to explain nuanced differences between poems, dramas, and prose (e.g., illustrations, chapters, scene, stanza). RL 4.5
Analysis Within or Across Texts	The basic student determines the point of view from which different stories are narrated, including the differences between first- and third-person narrations. RL 4.6	The proficient student compares and contrasts the point of view from which different stories are narrated, including the differences between first- and third-person narrations. RL 4.6	The advanced student compares, contrasts, and analyzes the point of view from which different stories are narrated, including the differences between first- and third-person narrations. RL 4.6

2014 ELA Grade 4 Performance Level Descriptors

		Reading Informational Text (PAWS)	
		Key Ideas and Details	
Key Details and	The basic student determines the simple or stated	The proficient student determines the main idea of a	The advanced student determines the implied main
Central Ideas	main idea of a text and how text-based details and	text and how text-based details and examples support	idea of a text and how text-based details and examples
	examples support that main idea when summarizing	that main idea when summarizing and drawing	support that main idea when summarizing and drawing
	and drawing sentence- or paragraph-level inferences	inferences from the text. RI 4.1 and RI 4.2	inferences based on multiple paragraphs or the full
	from the text. RI 4.1 and RI 4.2		text. RI 4.1 and RI 4.2
Central Ideas	The basic student uses details to explain a	The proficient student uses specific details to explain a	The advanced student uses specific details to explain a
	basic/simple/short series of historical events, central	series of historical events, central ideas, scientific	complex series of historical events, central ideas,
	ideas, scientific concepts, or technical procedures in a	concepts, or technical procedures in a text. RI 4.3	scientific concepts, or technical procedures in a text. RI
	text. RI 4.3		4.3
		Craft and Structure	
Word Meaning and	The basic student determines the meaning of simple	The proficient student determines the meaning of	The advanced student determines the meaning of
Language Use	academic and domain-specific words and phrases as	general academic and domain-specific words and	complex general academic and domain-specific words
	they are used in a text. RI 4.4	phrases as they are used in a text. RI 4.4	and phrases as they are used in a text. RI 4.4
Text Structures and	The basic student describes the overall structure of	The proficient student describes the overall structure	The advanced student describes the overall structure
Features	simple events, ideas, concepts, or information in a text	of events, ideas, concepts, or information in a text or	of complex events, ideas, concepts, or information in a
	or part of a text. RI 4.5	part of a text. RI 4.5	text or part of a text. RI 4.5
Analysis Within or	The basic student compares and contrasts different	The proficient student compares and contrasts	The advanced student compares and contrasts
Across Texts	accounts of the same topic or event, describing the	different accounts of the same topic or event,	different accounts of the same topic or event,
	basic similarities and differences in focus and	describing the similarities and differences in focus and	describing the subtle or implied similarities and
	information provided. RI 4.6	information provided. RI 4.6	differences in focus and information provided. RI 4.6
		Integration of Knowledge and Ideas (PAWS)	·
Text Structures and	The basic student interprets information presented in	The proficient student interprets information	The advanced student interprets information
Features	diverse but simple formats (e.g., charts, graphs,	presented in diverse formats (e.g., charts, graphs,	presented in diverse and complex formats (e.g.,
	diagrams, and timelines) and words in a text to	diagrams, and timelines) and words in a text to	charts, graphs, diagrams, and timelines) and words in a
	demonstrate or explain how the information	demonstrate or explain how the information	text to demonstrate or explain how the information
	contributes to an understanding of the text. RI 4.7	contributes to an understanding of the text. RI 4.7	contributes to an understanding of the text. RI 4.7
Reasoning and	The basic student explains how an author uses reasons	The proficient student explains how an author uses	The advanced student explains how an author uses
Evidence	and evidence to support particular simple/obvious	reasons and evidence to support particular points in	reasons and evidence to support or evaluate particular
Lvidence	points in the text. RI 4.8	the text. RI 4.8	and subtle points in the text. RI 4.8
Applycic Within or			
Analysis Within or Across Texts	The basic student compares and contrasts less	The proficient student compares and contrasts	The advanced student compares and contrasts complex themes, topics, and patterns of events in
ACIUSS TEXIS	complex/simple themes, topics, and patterns of events in stories from different cultures. RL 4.9	different cultures. RL 4.9	stories from different cultures. RL 4.9
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Analysis Within or	The basic student attempts to integrate directly stated	The proficient student integrates directly stated	The advanced student integrates stated or implied
Across Texts	information presented within and across two texts on	information presented within and across two texts on	information presented within and across two texts on
	the same topic. RI 4.9	the same topic. RI 4.9	the same topic. RI 4.9

2014 ELA Grade 4 Performance Level Descriptors

		Language (PAWS)	
Language Use	clues to help determine or clarify the meanings of		well as grade-appropriate Greek and Latin affixes and roots, as clues to help determine or clarify the
Language Use	The basic student demonstrates limited understanding of simple figurative language (simile, metaphor, common idioms, adages, and proverbs), word relationships (antonyms and synonyms), and obvious nuances in word meanings. L 4.5 and L 4.5 a, b, and c	figurative language (simile, metaphor, common idioms, adages, and proverbs), word (antonyms and	_
Language Use	The basic student accurately uses simple, yet grade- appropriate, general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal precise actions, emotions, and states of being, as well as those related to a particular topic. L 4.6	The proficient student accurately uses grade- appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal precise actions, emotions, and states of being, as well as those related to a particular topic. L 4.6	The advanced student accurately uses complex, grade- appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal precise actions, emotions, and states of being, as well as those related to a particular topic. L 4.6
		Writing (SAWS)	
		N/A for Grade 4	