2014 ELA Grade 6 Performance Level Descriptors

Page 1

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 cites textual evidence to support what the text says explicitly and when drawing sentence- and paragraph-level inferences and conclusions from text. RL 6.1	The proficient student cites textual evidence to support what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences and conclusions from text. RL 6.1	The advanced student cites textual evidence to support what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences and conclusions based on multiple paragraphs and the full text. RL 6.1
Central Ideas and	The basic student draws on specific details from the	The proficient student draws on specific details from	The advanced student draws on specific or subtle
Uses Evidence	text to summarize text, determine a simple theme, and identify how the plot unfolds, as well as how the characters respond or change as the plot comes to a resolution. RL 6.2 and RL 6.3	the text to objectively summarize text, determine a theme, and explain how the plot unfolds, as well as how the characters respond or change as the plot comes to a resolution. RL 6.2 and RL 6.3	details from the text to objectively summarize text, determine a complex theme, and analyze how the plot unfolds, as well as how the characters respond or change as the plot comes to a resolution. RL 6.2 and RL 6.3
		Craft and Structure	NE 0.5
Word Meanings and Language Use	The basic student determines the meaning of simple words and phrases as they are used in a text. RL 6.4	The proficient student determines the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including	The advanced student determines the meaning of complex words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings, and analyzes the impact of word choice on meaning and tone. RL 6.4
Text Structures and Features	The basic student analyzes how particular sentences, chapters, scenes, or stanzas fit within the overall simple structure and contribute to the theme, setting, or plot. RL 6.5	The proficient student analyzes how particular sentences, chapters, scenes, or stanzas fit within the overall structure/format of text and contribute to the theme, setting, or plot. RL 6.5	The advanced student analyzes how particular sentences, chapters, scenes, or stanzas fit within the overall and complex structure/format of text and contribute to the theme, setting, or plot. RL 6.5
Reasoning and Evidence	The basic student uses obvious or directly stated, text- based evidence to determine the author's point of view or purpose and explains how it is conveyed or developed in the text. RL 6.6	The proficient student uses textual evidence to determine the author's point of view or purpose and explains how it is conveyed or developed in the text. RL 6.6	The advanced student uses textual evidence, including text-based inferences/judgments, to determine the author's point of view or purpose and explains how it is conveyed or developed in the text. RL 6.6

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		Reading Informational Text (PAWS)	
		Key Ideas and Details	
Key Details	The basic student cites textual evidence to support what the text says explicitly and when drawing sentence- and paragraph-level inferences and conclusions from text. RI 6.1	The proficient student cites textual evidence to support what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences and conclusions from text. RI 6.1	The advanced student cites textual evidence to support what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences and conclusions based on multiple paragraphs or the full text. RI 6.1
Central Ideas	The basic student determines the stated central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through details; summarizes the text. RI 6.2	The proficient student determines the central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through details; summarizes the text distinct from personal opinions or judgment. RI 6.2	The advanced student determines the implied central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through details; summarizes the text distinct from personal opinions of judgment. RI 6.2
Analysis Within or Across Texts	The basic student analyzes how a simple event, idea, or key individual is introduced and illustrated in a text. RI 6.3	The proficient student analyzes how an event, idea, or key individual is introduced, illustrated, and elaborated in a text. RI 6.3	The advanced student analyzes how a complex event, idea, or key individual is introduced, illustrated, and elaborated in a text. RI 6.3
		Craft and Structure	
Language Use		The proficient student determines the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings. RI 6.4	The advanced student determines the meaning of complex words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings. RI 6.4
Text Structures and Features	The basic student analyzes how a particular sentence, paragraph, chapter, or section fits within the simple overall structure of text and contributes to the development of stated ideas. RI 6.5	The proficient student analyzes how a particular sentence, paragraph, chapter, or section fits within the overall structure of text and contributes to the development of ideas. RI 6.5	The advanced student analyzes how a particular sentence, paragraph, chapter, or section fits within the overall structure of text and contributes to the development of stated, as well as implied, ideas. RI 6.5
Analysis Within or Across Texts	The basic student uses evidence to identify the author's point of view or purpose and explains how it is conveyed or developed in the text. RI 6.6	The proficient student uses textual evidence to explain the author's point of view or purpose and explains how it is conveyed or developed in the text. RI 6.6	The advanced student uses textual evidence to analyze the author's point of view or purpose and explains how it is conveyed or developed in the text. RI 6.6
		Integration of Knowledge and Ideas (PAWS)	
Text Structures and Features	The basic student integrates information in different formats, as well as in words, to develop coherent understanding of a basic topic or issue. RI 6.7	The proficient student integrates information in different formats, as well as in words, to develop coherent understanding of a topic or issue. RI 6.7	The advanced student integrates information in different formats, as well as in words, to develop coherent understanding of a complex topic or issue. RI 6.7
Reasoning and Evidence	The basic student traces and evaluates simple arguments and obvious claims in a text; distinguishes those claims supported by reasons and evidence from those that are not. RI 6.8	The proficient student traces and evaluates arguments and claims in a text; distinguishes those claims supported by reasons and evidence from those that are not. RI 6.8	The advanced student traces and evaluates complex arguments and implied claims in a text; distinguishes those claims supported by reasons and evidence from those that are not. RI 6.8
Analysis Within or Across Texts	The basic student compares and contrasts approaches to less complex/simple themes and topics in texts of different forms and genres. RL 6.9	The proficient student compares and contrasts	The advanced student compares and contrasts approaches to complex themes and topics in texts of different forms and genres. RL 6.9
Analysis Within or Across Texts	The basic student compares and contrasts one author's presentation of simple events with that of another. RI 6.9	The proficient student compares and contrasts one author's presentation of events with that of another. RI 6.9	The advanced student compares and comtrasts one author's presentation of complex events with that of another. RI 6.9

		Language (PAWS)	
Language Use	by demonstrating limited use of context clues and reference materials, as well as grade-appropriate Greek and Latin affixes and roots to help determine the meanings of simple words and phrases and to	The proficient student determines or clarifies the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases by demonstrating use of context clues and reference materials, as well as grade-appropriate Greek and Latin affixes and roots, to help determine the meanings of words and phrases and to clarify parts of speech. L 6.4 and L 6.4 a, b, and c	The advanced student determines or clarifies the meaning of unknown and complex multiple-meaning words and phrases by demonstrating thorough use of context clues and reference materials, as well as grade appropriate Greek and Latin affixes and roots, to help determine the meanings of complex words and phrases and to clarify parts of speech. L 6.4 and L 6.4 a, b, and c
Language Use and Language/ Vocabulary Use			The advanced student determines the meaning of complex academic and domain-specific words, interprets complex figures of speech in context, and uses relationships between words as a basis for understanding, including distinguishing among abstract connotations of words with similar denotations or shades of meaning (e.g., stingy, scrimping, economical, thrifty). L 6.5, L 6.5 a, b, and c, and L 6.6
		Writing (SAWS)	
		N/A for Grade 6	