

**Virginia Standards of Learning Assessment  
Grade 5 Reading Performance Level Descriptors**

Fail/Below Basic	Fail/Basic	Pass/Proficient	Pass/Advanced
<p>A student performing at this level should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define context clues.</li> <li>• Identify roots, prefixes, or suffixes.</li> <li>• Define synonym and antonym.</li> <li>• Recognize that some words are homophones.</li> <li>• Recognize that some phrases and expressions have literal and figurative meanings.</li> <li>• Recall the purpose of word-reference materials.</li> <li>• Recall plot events.</li> <li>• List literary terms.</li> <li>• Explain the characteristics of fiction and nonfiction.</li> <li>• Recognize that texts are told through point(s) of view.</li> <li>• Recall that authors have specific writing styles.</li> <li>• Answer literal questions based on direct information.</li> <li>• Define cause and effect.</li> <li>• Compare texts by topic.</li> <li>• Locate text features.</li> <li>• Show how to skim a text.</li> <li>• Recognize the topic of a text.</li> </ul>	<p>A student performing at this level should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify context for unfamiliar words.</li> <li>• Identify roots, prefixes, and suffixes.</li> <li>• Identify synonyms or antonyms.</li> <li>• Identify homophones.</li> <li>• Define figurative language.</li> <li>• Locate information in word-reference materials.</li> <li>• Sequence plot events.</li> <li>• Explain literary terms.</li> <li>• Define genres.</li> <li>• Define first- and third-person point of view.</li> <li>• Recall that an author’s writing style is conveyed through specific word choice.</li> <li>• Answer literal questions or draw conclusions based on direct or indirect information.</li> <li>• Identify the direct effect of a given cause or the direct cause of a given effect.</li> <li>• Identify connections within texts.</li> <li>• Identify text features.</li> </ul>	<p>A student performing at this level should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use context to gain meaning from unfamiliar or multiple-meaning words.</li> <li>• Use roots or affixes to expand vocabulary.</li> <li>• Identify synonyms and antonyms.</li> <li>• Discriminate between homophones.</li> <li>• Identify figurative language.</li> <li>• Apply information from word-reference materials.</li> <li>• Summarize plot events.</li> <li>• Explain the impact of setting on plot development.</li> <li>• Describe a character at different points of a text.</li> <li>• Identify literary elements.</li> <li>• Identify genres.</li> <li>• Differentiate between first- and third-person point of view.</li> <li>• Identify examples of an author’s craft and style.</li> <li>• Draw conclusions and make inferences based on textual evidence.</li> <li>• Identify cause-and-effect</li> </ul>	<p>A student performing at this level should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use context to understand meaning of unfamiliar and multiple-meaning words.</li> <li>• Apply knowledge of roots and affixes to expand vocabulary.</li> <li>• Use synonyms and antonyms.</li> <li>• Discriminate among homophones.</li> <li>• Analyze figurative language.</li> <li>• Evaluate and apply information from word-reference materials.</li> <li>• Summarize plot events in a logical sequence.</li> <li>• Analyze the relationship between setting and plot development.</li> <li>• Analyze character development.</li> <li>• Explain literary elements.</li> <li>• Explain characteristics of genres.</li> <li>• Compare first- and third-person point of view.</li> <li>• Explain how an author’s word choice demonstrates the author’s style.</li> <li>• Draw multiple conclusions</li> </ul>

Fail/Below Basic	Fail/Basic	Pass/Proficient	Pass/Advanced
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognize that authors use organizational patterns.</li> <li>• Define fact and opinion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skim a text.</li> <li>• Identify details from a text.</li> <li>• Recall the purpose of organizing a text.</li> <li>• Identify words or phrases that signal an author’s organizational pattern.</li> <li>• Explain the difference between a fact and an opinion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>relationships.</li> <li>• Identify connections between texts related by topic or theme.</li> <li>• Use text features to aid in comprehension.</li> <li>• Skim text to locate specific information.</li> <li>• Identify main idea and supporting details.</li> <li>• Summarize information.</li> <li>• Identify an organizational pattern or the transitional words or phrases that signal the pattern.</li> <li>• Identify fact and opinion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>based on textual evidence.</li> <li>• Describe cause-and-effect relationships.</li> <li>• Compare and contrast information from texts related by topic or theme.</li> <li>• Evaluate text features for the purpose of providing or categorizing information.</li> <li>• Skim text to locate information and develop a general overview of content.</li> <li>• Summarize information by including the main idea and supporting details.</li> <li>• Identify an organizational pattern and the transitional words or phrases that signal the pattern.</li> <li>• Classify information as fact or opinion.</li> </ul>