



State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) Performance Level Descriptors Grade 7 Writing

Performance Level Descriptors

Students achieving Level III: Advanced Academic Performance can

- Write skillfully crafted expository essays with a sustained focus, substantial development, and an organizing structure that clearly shows the relationships among ideas
- Choose purposeful, varied, and well-controlled sentences when writing or revising texts

Students achieving Level II: Satisfactory Academic Performance can

- Write expository essays that establish a clear controlling idea, use appropriate organizational strategies and language to create a coherent piece of expository writing, sufficiently develop ideas with specific details and examples, and demonstrate an adequate command of grade-appropriate written conventions
- Use a variety of correct sentence structures
- Revise drafts to improve the effectiveness of sentences, strengthen the development of ideas by adding or deleting information, improve the progression of ideas, and ensure that word choice is appropriate and point of view is consistent
- Edit drafts to correct errors in grammar, sentence structure, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling

Students achieving Level I: Unsatisfactory Academic Performance can

- Write basic or limited expository essays that are marginally suited to the expository task and minimally developed
- Demonstrate a partial control of conventions
- Demonstrate limited skills in revision and editing