



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

Performance Level Descriptors

Students achieving Masters Grade Level Performance can

- Write skillfully crafted 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 Meets Grade Level Performance can

- Write essays that establish a clear controlling idea, use appropriate organizational strategies and language to create a coherent piece of writing, and sufficiently develop ideas with specific details and examples
- 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
- Demonstrate an adequate command of age-appropriate written conventions

Students achieving Approaches Grade Level Performance can

- Write essays that establish a weak or unclear controlling idea, use organizational strategies that are somewhat suited to the task, minimally develop ideas with details and examples that are not always appropriate to the purpose
- Use a variety of correct sentence structures
- Edit drafts to correct errors in grammar, sentence structure, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling

Students achieving Did Not Meet Grade Level Performance can

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