

**Virginia Standards of Learning Assessment
End-of-Course (EOC) Reading Performance Level Descriptors**

Fail/Does Not Meet	Pass/Proficient	Advanced/College Path
<p>A student performing at this level should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify common roots and affixes, figures of speech, word meanings, synonyms, antonyms, and connotations when clearly evident in fiction, poetry, and nonfiction texts. • Identify explicitly stated literary elements, main idea and supporting details, fact and opinion statements, author’s purpose, conclusions and simple inferences, and text structures in fiction, poetry, and nonfiction texts. • Identify explicitly stated elements of author’s word choice (diction) and syntax, including rhetorical question and irony. 	<p>A student performing at this level should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use knowledge of language and sentence structure to determine meanings of words, synonyms, antonyms, word origins, and figurative expressions when reading fiction, poetry, and nonfiction texts. • Interpret idioms, figures of speech, allusions, and connotative and denotative meanings. • Compare/contrast universal themes, characters, and genres in literary texts. • Analyze how an author’s word choice (diction) and syntax support the author’s purpose, including how two different authors reach divergent conclusions. 	<p>A student obtaining an “advanced/college path” score should have the necessary knowledge and skills for enrollment, without remediation, in an introductory credit-bearing college course with a substantial reading load, assuming that the student continues to demonstrate a comparable level of achievement in subsequent high school English courses. Because college courses with heavy reading loads often require students to convey ideas gleaned from reading, successful students in such courses will demonstrate the same level of skill in oral and written communication. A student performing at this level should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze how the author’s choices in syntax, diction, allusions, and figures of speech impact meaning in fiction, poetry, and nonfiction texts.

Fail/Does Not Meet	Pass/Proficient	Advanced/College Path
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use information from poetry, nonfiction, and fiction texts to make comparisons, interpret data, draw conclusions, organize information, differentiate between fact and opinion statements, and solve problems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate quality, accuracy, and effectiveness of nonfiction texts. • Synthesize information from multiple texts to extend concepts. • Apply comprehension and literary skills when reading fiction, nonfiction, and poetry materials with explicit or implied concepts.