

**Virginia Standards of Learning Assessment
Grade 8 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"> • Identify figurative language expressions, word meanings, common roots and affixes, synonyms, antonyms, and connotations when clearly evident in fiction, poetry, and nonfiction texts. • Identify explicitly stated cause and effect relationships, fact and opinion statements, viewpoints, supporting details, main idea, organizational patterns, and literary elements in fiction, poetry, and nonfiction texts. • Use reference materials and explicitly stated text structures to aid in literal comprehension. 	<p>A student performing at this level should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify language and sentence structures, including figurative language expressions, word origins, connotations, common roots and affixes, synonyms, and antonyms when reading fiction, poetry, and nonfiction texts. • Identify explicitly stated symbols and authors' styles and make simple inferences in fiction, poetry, and nonfiction texts. • Use information from reference materials and basic text structures to assist in literal comprehension. 	<p>A student performing at this level should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply knowledge of language and sentence structures including figurative language expressions, word origins, common roots and affixes, synonyms, antonyms, and connotations when reading fiction, poetry, and nonfiction texts. • Demonstrate comprehension and literary skills when reading fiction, poetry, and nonfiction texts by explaining authors' styles, comparing and contrasting authors' styles, explaining an author's use of literary elements, summarizing texts, analyzing viewpoints, organizing information for presentations, and making inferences. • Use text structure and reference materials to locate and evaluate information. 	<p>A student performing at this level should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze language and sentence structures, including analogies, cognates, figurative language expressions, connotations, synonyms, and antonyms. • Apply comprehension and literary skills when reading fiction, poetry, and nonfiction materials with explicit or implied concepts. • Synthesize information from a variety of references.