



Grade 8 Level A - Emerging

Eight grade students performing at the **Emerging** level demonstrate limited understanding of the knowledge and skills assessed on the Level A PASA. Based on 1-2 sentences of informational and/or narrative text (written at the mid-fourth grade readability level) read aloud to them with pictures as choices, they may be able to:

- ✓ identify themes or details,
- ✓ identify the meaning of simple words and phrases using context, and
- ✓ answer literal or inferential questions.

Grade 8 Level A - Novice

Eighth grade students performing at the **Novice** level are generally able to do the following based on 1-2 sentences of informational and/or narrative text (written at the mid-fourth grade readability level) read aloud to them with pictures as choices:

- ✓ identify a theme,
- ✓ identify a claim or an argument made by the author,
- ✓ identify a key detail,
- ✓ identify the meaning of words and phrases—including those with multiple meanings—using context and/or prefixes, suffixes, and roots, and
- ✓ answer literal and inferential questions.

Grade 8 Level A - Proficient

Eighth grade students performing at the **Proficient** level are able to perform almost all of the knowledge and skills that define Novice performance. In addition, based on 1-2 sentences of informational and/or narrative text (written at the mid-fourth grade readability level) read aloud to them with pictures as choices, they are generally able to:

- ✓ identify evidence that supports a claim/argument made by the author,
- ✓ identify up to three key details that summarize text, and
- ✓ identify the meaning of multiple-meaning words and figurative language—including idioms and personification—using context.

Grade 8 Level A - Advanced

Eighth grade students performing at the **Advanced** level are able to perform almost all of the knowledge and skills that define Proficient and Novice performance. In addition, based on 1-2 sentences of informational and/or narrative text (written at the mid-fourth grade readability level) read aloud to them with pictures as choices, they are generally able to:

- ✓ distinguish whether evidence is fact or opinion, and
- ✓ identify the meaning of multiple-meaning words and figurative language—including adages—using context.