

## **Grade 7 Language Usage ISAT Proficiency Level Descriptors**

### **Advanced**

Teachers observe that seventh grade students typically performing at the Advanced level of language usage demonstrate an in-depth understanding of grade-level skills and the writing process and can effectively relate the writing task to purpose and audience. On the ISAT Language Usage Test, seventh grade students typically performing at the Advanced level consistently identify a thesis statement and clear topic sentences, specific details, and a relevant conclusion. These students also consistently recognize that a variety of organizational strategies can be used to clarify and support the purpose of writing and that clear transition, precise language, and sentence variety improve meaning, clarity, fluency, and style. Students at this level demonstrate regular command of grade-level sentence structure, spelling, grammar, capitalization, and punctuation.

### **Proficient**

Teachers observe that seventh grade students typically performing at the Proficient level of language usage demonstrate an understanding of grade-level skills and the writing process and can generally relate the writing task to purpose and audience. On the ISAT Language Usage Test, seventh grade students typically performing at the Proficient level identify a thesis statement and clear topic sentences, specific details, and a relevant conclusion. These students also recognize that a variety of organizational strategies can be used to clarify and support the purpose of writing and that clear transition, precise language, and sentence variety improve meaning, clarity, fluency, and style. Students at this level demonstrate command of grade-level sentence structure, spelling, grammar, capitalization, and punctuation.

### **Basic**

Teachers observe that seventh grade students typically performing at the Basic level of language usage demonstrate a limited understanding of grade-level skills and the writing process and can occasionally relate the writing task to purpose and audience. On the ISAT Language Usage Test, seventh grade students typically performing at the Basic level rarely identify a thesis statement and clear topic sentences, specific details, and a relevant conclusion. These students also rarely recognize that a variety of organizational strategies can be used to clarify and support the purpose of writing and that clear transition, precise language, and sentence variety improve meaning, clarity, fluency, and style. Students at this level demonstrate an underdeveloped command of grade-level sentence structure, spelling, grammar, capitalization, and punctuation.