

Grade 8 Language Usage ISAT Proficiency Level Descriptors

Advanced

In the area of language usage, eighth grade students typically performing at the Advanced level demonstrate an **in-depth understanding** of grade-level skills. These students

- consistently identify a clear focus, specific and varied support, and a relevant conclusion.
- consistently identify logical organizational strategies and a variety of transition words/phrases to clarify and support the purpose of writing.
- consistently identify the purpose and intended audience of a piece of grade-appropriate writing.
- consistently identify precise language and consistent voice to improve meaning, clarity, and style.
- consistently revise by refining word choice, adding relevant details, deleting irrelevant or redundant details, and/or rearranging text to enhance meaning, clarity, organization, and style.
- consistently identify a variety of sentences to enhance fluency, style, and voice.
- demonstrate regular command of grade-level sentence structure, spelling, grammar, capitalization, and punctuation.

Proficient

In the area of language usage, eighth grade students typically performing at the Proficient level demonstrate an **understanding** of grade-level skills. These students

- identify a clear focus, specific and varied support, and a relevant conclusion.
- identify logical organizational strategies and a variety of transition words/phrases to clarify and support the purpose of writing.
- identify the purpose and intended audience of a piece of grade-appropriate writing.
- identify precise language and consistent voice to improve meaning, clarity, and style.
- revise by refining word choice, adding relevant details, deleting irrelevant or redundant details, and/or rearranging text to enhance meaning, clarity, organization, and style.
- identify a variety of sentences to enhance fluency, style, and voice.
- demonstrate command of grade-level sentence structure, spelling, grammar, capitalization, and punctuation.

Basic

In the area of language usage, eighth grade students typically performing at the Basic level demonstrate a **limited understanding** of grade-level skills. These students

- rarely identify a clear focus, specific and varied support, and a relevant conclusion.
- rarely identify logical organizational strategies and a variety of transition words/phrases to clarify and support the purpose of writing.
- rarely identify the purpose and intended audience of a piece of grade-appropriate writing.
- rarely identify precise language and consistent voice to improve meaning, clarity, and style.

- rarely revise by refining word choice, adding relevant details, deleting irrelevant or redundant details, and/or rearranging text to enhance meaning, clarity, organization, and style.
- rarely identify a variety of sentences to enhance fluency, style, and voice.
- demonstrate an underdeveloped command of grade-level sentence structure, spelling, grammar, capitalization, and punctuation.