

Grade 8 Language Usage ISAT Proficiency Level Descriptors

Advanced

Teachers observe that eighth 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, eighth grade students typically performing at the Advanced level consistently identify a clear focus, specific and varied support, and a relevant conclusion. These students also consistently recognize that logical organization, clear transition, precise language, consistent voice, and sentence variety enhance 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 eighth 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, eighth grade students typically performing at the Proficient level identify a clear focus, specific and varied support, and a relevant conclusion. These students also recognize that logical organization, clear transition, precise language, consistent voice, and sentence variety enhance 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 eighth 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, eighth grade students typically performing at the Basic level rarely identify a clear focus, specific and varied support, and a relevant conclusion. These students also rarely recognize that logical organization, clear transition, precise language, consistent voice, and sentence variety enhance meaning, clarity, fluency, and style. Students at this level demonstrate an underdeveloped command of grade-level sentence structure, spelling, grammar, capitalization, and punctuation.