

**Definitions of Performance Levels
for the 2015 Grades 3-8 English Language Arts Tests**

NYS Level 1: Students performing at this level are well below proficient in standards for their grade. They demonstrate limited knowledge, skills, and practices embodied by the New York State P-12 Common Core Learning Standards for English Language Arts/Literacy that are considered insufficient for the expectations at this grade.

NYS Level 2: Students performing at this level are partially proficient in standards for their grade. They demonstrate knowledge, skills, and practices embodied by the New York State P-12 Common Core Learning Standards for English Language Arts/Literacy that are considered partial but insufficient for the expectations at this grade. Students performing at Level 2 are considered on track to meet current New York high school graduation requirements but are not yet proficient on Common Core Learning Standards at this grade.

NYS Level 3: Students performing at this level are proficient in standards for their grade. They demonstrate knowledge, skills, and practices embodied by the New York State P-12 Common Core Learning Standards for English Language Arts/Literacy that are considered sufficient for the expectations at this grade.

NYS Level 4: Students performing at this level excel in standards for their grade. They demonstrate knowledge, skills, and practices embodied by the New York State P-12 Common Core Learning Standards for English Language Arts/Literacy that are considered more than sufficient for the expectations at this grade.

Scale Score Ranges Associated with Each Performance Level

| Grade | NYS Level 1 | NYS Level 2 | NYS Level 3 | NYS Level 4 |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 3 | 147-290 | 291-319 | 320-357 | 358-429 |
| 4 | 138-286 | 287-319 | 320-342 | 343-423 |
| 5 | 97-288 | 289-319 | 320-345 | 346-413 |
| 6 | 117-282 | 283-319 | 320-337 | 338-421 |
| 7 | 98-286 | 287-317 | 318-346 | 347-414 |
| 8 | 100-283 | 284-315 | 316-342 | 343-412 |