

**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