Literature & Composition II English Language Arts January 2025



# **DRAFT Achievement Level Descriptors**

# Literature & Composition II

**EFFECTIVE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR** 

### **Achievement Levels and Achievement Level Descriptors**

With the implementation of the Georgia Milestones Assessment System, Georgia educators have developed four achievement levels to describe student mastery and command of the knowledge and skills outlined in Georgia's content standards. Most students have at least some knowledge of the content described in the content standards; however, achievement levels succinctly describe how much mastery a student has. Achievement levels give meaning and context to scale scores by describing the knowledge and skills students must demonstrate to achieve each level.

The four achievement levels on Georgia Milestones are *Beginning Learner*, *Developing Learner*, *Proficient Learner*, and *Distinguished Learner*. The general meaning of each of the four levels is provided below:

Beginning Learners do not yet demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia's content standards. The students need substantial academic support to be prepared for the next grade level or course and to be on track for post-secondary readiness.

**Developing Learners demonstrate partial proficiency** in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia's content standards. The students need additional academic support to ensure success in the next grade level or course and to be on track for post-secondary readiness.

**Proficient Learners demonstrate proficiency** in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia's content standards. The students are prepared for the next grade level or course and are on track for post-secondary readiness.

**Distinguished Learners demonstrate advanced proficiency** in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia's content standards. The students *are well prepared* for the next grade level or course and are well prepared for post-secondary readiness.

More detailed and content-specific concepts and skills are provided for each grade, content area, and course in the **Achievement Level Descriptors** (ALDs). ALDs are narrative descriptions of the knowledge and skills expected at each of the four achievement levels and were developed for each grade level, content area, and course by committees of Georgia educators. The **draft ALDs for English Language Arts** were developed by Georgia educators in July of 2023 and are subject to revisions during the standard setting process that occurs after the first administration of a new assessment.

**ALDs show a progression of knowledge and skills** for which students must demonstrate competency across the achievement levels. It is important to understand that a student should demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills within his/her achievement level as well as all content and skills in any achievement levels that precede his/her own, if any. For example, a Proficient Learner should also possess the knowledge and skills of a Developing Learner and a Beginning Learner.

POLICY DESCRIPTORS				
Beginning Learner	Developing Learner	Proficient Learner	Distinguished Learner	
Beginning Learners do not yet demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia's content standards. The students need substantial academic support to be prepared for the next grade level or course and to be on track for post-secondary readiness.	Developing Learners demonstrate partial proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia's content standards. The students need additional academic support to ensure success in the next grade level or course and to be on track for post-secondary readiness.	Proficient Learners demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia's content standards. The students are prepared for the next grade level or course and are on track for post-secondary readiness.	Distinguished Learners demonstrate advanced proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia's content standards. The students are well prepared for the next grade level or course and are well prepared for post-secondary readiness.	
RANGE DESCRIPTORS				
	A student who achieves at the Developing Learner level demonstrates partial command of the grade-level standards working with various grade-level texts.  Detween authors, purposes, and audience alyze the impact of purpose and audience.	A student who achieves at the Proficient Learner level demonstrates proficiency of the grade-level standards and working with various grade-level texts.  es of texts, and analyze the influence of	A student who achieves at the Distinguished Learner level demonstrates advanced proficiency of the grade-level standards and working with various grade-level texts.  contextual factors.	
<ul> <li>Determine a text's disciplinary, personal, or technical purpose.</li> <li>Describe the context or language of a text.</li> <li>Construct multimodal texts and/or presentations for a specific purpose or audience using at least one feature of incorporated modes.</li> </ul>	Determine a text's disciplinary, personal, and/or technical purposes.     Explain the impact of context and/or language of a text on a text's reception by the audience.     Construct and self-evaluate multimodal texts and/or presentations for a specific purpose or audience using at least one feature of incorporated modes.	<ul> <li>Use knowledge of texts' distinct disciplinary, personal, or technical purposes to aid comprehension.</li> <li>Evaluate the impact of context and language on a text's reception by the audience.</li> <li>Construct and self-evaluate multimodal texts and/or presentations that serve more than one purpose and target a specific audience using multiple, clearly identifiable features of incorporated modes.</li> </ul>		

#### 10.T.C.2: Authors & Speakers – Evaluate how authors' and/or speakers' perspectives influence texts and how circumstances shape their creation.

- Identify varying perspectives on a particular topic found across multiple texts.
- Identify contexts (including historical and disciplinary) in text(s).
- Compare and contrast varying perspectives on a particular topic found across multiple texts, explaining how the text(s) establish or develop a different perspective to shape beliefs.
- Identify overtly commercial influences on texts.
- Describe how the provided context influences perspectives and/or the associated implications of text creation.
- Identify a variety of credible sources to research the answer(s) to question(s) on a provided topic.

- Compare and contrast varying perspectives on a particular topic found across a variety of texts, analyzing how texts establish and develop perspective to shape perceptions or beliefs.
- Identify overtly commercial influences on texts in audiovisual and digital modes and platforms.
- Explain how multiple contexts (including historical and disciplinary) influence perspectives across time and the associated implications of text creation.
- Synthesize information from a variety of credible sources used to research the answer to a question on a provided research topic.

 Explain how multiple contexts (including historical and disciplinary) influence perspectives across time and the associated implications of text creation and support explanation with textual evidence.

## Big Idea: Structure & Style

Students analyze and use organizational structures and style to shape ideas and information.

### 10.T.SS.1: Organization – Analyze, evaluate, and use organizational structures and style to shape thoughts across genres.

- Use a transition to enhance cohesion in a paragraph.
- Explain how a text's organizational structure meets the needs and expectations of the target audience or serves a specific purpose.
- Determine the appropriate organizational structure for a provided mode, genre, purpose, and/or audience.
- Use varied transitions between ideas within a paragraph to enhance cohesion.
- Apply knowledge of text structure and organization to create part of a text by focusing on one of the following:
  - Craft a section of a text using a coherent structure.

- Analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of a text's organizational structure to meet the needs and expectations of the target audience or serve a specific purpose.
- Craft and organize texts using an appropriate structure and features for mode, genre, purpose, and audience.
- Guide the audience through texts using varied transitions including between paragraphs to enhance cohesion.
- Apply knowledge of text structure and organization to create part of a coherent and cohesive text by focusing on one of the following:

- Analyze and evaluate the
  effectiveness of a text's
  organizational structure in a text
  where inferences are necessary to
  determine how the author meets
  the needs and expectations of the
  target audience or serves a
  specific purpose.
- Guide the audience through texts using varied transitions, including between all paragraphs and text sections to enhance cohesion across a text.
- Apply knowledge of text structure and organization to create coherent and cohesive texts with an introduction that guides the focus and captures the audience;

- Revise part of an introduction to guide the focus and capture the audience by addressing the research, question, purpose, and/or audience.
- Use purposefully organized and developed supporting facts, reasons, explanations, details, descriptions and/or events to increase coherence in one section of the text.
- Revise part of a conclusion to improve coherence.

- Craft a plan for a complete text using a coherent structure.
- Craft a complete introduction that guides the focus and captures the audience by addressing the research question, purpose, and audience.
- Use purposefully organized and developed supporting facts, reasons, details, explanations, descriptions and/or events to increase coherence in multiple sections of the text.
- Craft a complete conclusion that contributes to a coherent structure.

purposefully organized and developed supporting facts, reasons, explanations, details, descriptions, and/or events; and a memorable conclusion.

# 10.T.SS.2: Craft – Analyze, evaluate, and craft language to produce intended effects in a wide variety of texts.

- Identify the figurative, connotative, or rhetorical language in text(s) that contributes to the development of meaning, tone, or mood.
- Use a literary device, to create an effect as appropriate for the provided purpose or audience.
- Use formal style for a given purpose in a section of text.
- Describe the meaning of figurative, connotative, and/or rhetorical language when directly provided in text(s) when it contributes to the development of meaning, tone, or mood.
- Use literary devices, figurative language, rhetorical language, and/or rhetorical appeals in a section of text as appropriate to create an effect, as appropriate to the intended purpose and/or audience.
- Use formal style for a given purpose to establish credibility or tone in sentence(s).

- Analyze how the use of figurative, connotative, and/or rhetorical language contributes to the development of meaning, tone, or mood in text(s).
- Use literary devices, figurative language, rhetorical language, and/or rhetorical appeals to create a variety of effects, as appropriate to the intended purpose and target audience.
- Use formal style when speaking or writing to establish credibility and tone.
- Use literary devices, figurative language, rhetorical language, and/or rhetorical appeals to create a variety of effects throughout a text, as appropriate to the intended purpose and target audience.

#### Big Idea: Techniques

Students evaluate and apply various techniques to comprehend and shape meaning

# 10.T.T.1: Narrative Techniques – Evaluate and apply narrative techniques to enhance text's appeal to audiences or achieve specific purposes.

- Identify narrative technique(s) (including archetypes, multiple perspectives, story structure, and/or symbolism) within a text.
- Identify the author's use of plot structure, conflict, narrative devices and/or word structure within the text.
- Identify a text's theme and describe how it is developed across a text.
- Provide supportive textual evidence for theme(s) in text(s).
- Identify within a literary work the theme, event pattern, or character type that is drawn from a different time period.
- When provided two literary texts from different time periods, identify shared theme(s), event pattern(s), or character type(s).
- Apply a narrative technique that establishes mood through setting to achieve a specific purpose, engage an audience, and enhance writing.

- Analyze the author's use of a provided narrative technique (e.g., archetype, perspective, story structure, symbolism) in a text.
- Evaluate how plot structures, conflict, narrative devices, word choice, and other craft techniques are impacted by an author's purpose.
- Analyze how a text's theme has social relevance and is developed across a text.
- Analyze how a theme is developed across a text and provide supportive textual evidence.
- Explain how a literary work draws on a provided theme, event pattern, or character type from different time periods.
- Apply narrative technique(s) to develop a complex character who changes to achieve a specific purpose, engage an audience, and enhance writing.

- Evaluate how narrative techniques (e.g., archetypes, multiple perspectives, story structure, and symbolism) interact, using textual evidence.
- Evaluate how plot structures, conflict, narrative devices, word choice, and other craft techniques are impacted by an author's purpose.
- Analyze and evaluate how the social relevance of a text's theme is developed, providing both reasoning and supportive textual evidence.
- Analyze how a literary work draws on theme(s), event pattern(s), or character types from different time periods.
- Apply narrative techniques (e.g., establish mood through setting, develop complex characters who change, use metaphors) to develop an idea or theme that achieves a specific purpose, engages an audience, and enhances writing.

- Analyze how narrative technique(s) are used in conjunction with other techniques (e.g., argumentative, expository) to develop ideas.
- Apply narrative techniques in conjunction with other techniques (e.g., argumentative, expository) to engage the audience, achieve a specific purpose, and enhance writing.

# 10.T.T.2: Expository Techniques - Evaluate and apply expository techniques to enhance text's appeal to audiences or achieve specific purposes.

- Explain how an expository technique or organizational pattern is used.
- Identify where the texts agree and/or disagree on matters of fact or interpretations.
- Apply an expository technique to develop a cohesive text organized in a way that clarifies the relationship between ideas.
- Evaluate the effect of expository techniques and/or organizational patterns.
- Evaluate main ideas in a text and support the main ideas with expository techniques (e.g., facts, statistics, key details, information from text features).
- Describe conflicting information or opposing viewpoints found in texts.

- Evaluate expository techniques and organizational patterns and their effect.
- Analyze clarity of information.
- Analyze texts with conflicting information or opposing viewpoints and determine where the texts disagree on matters of fact or interpretations.
- Evaluate expository techniques, and organizational patterns and their effect, and support that evaluation with textual evidence
- Analyze clarity of information and support that analysis with textual evidence.

 Maintain a stated tone for an Apply expository techniques within Apply expository techniques across multiple paragraphs to intended audience and purpose. a paragraph to develop a cohesive text organized in a way that develop a cohesive text, organized clarifies the relationship between in a way that clarifies the relationship between ideas, ideas. includes multiple and varied types Apply expository techniques to develop the topic with multiple and of information, and/or adjusts tone varied types of information. for a variety of audiences and purposes. · Adjust tone for an intended audience and purpose. 10.T.T.3: Argumentative Techniques – Evaluate and apply argumentative techniques to enhance text's appeal to audiences. • Recognize the argumentative • Explain how the author's use of Evaluate a variety of argumentative technique an author uses (e.g., texts, considering the argumentative technique(s) author's claim, supporting relevant impacts the meaning or central argumentative techniques used to and logical evidence, identified idea of the text. present and design content and counterclaim, rebuttal, conclusion • Recognize an argumentative their associated implications on that logically follows the argument) meaning or central idea. technique and support the to create meaning or a central technique with relevant and logical Analyze the use of rhetorical idea. evidence. appeals throughout a text. Identify at least one rhetorical Describe the use of a rhetorical Identify fallacies in a text. appeal in a text. appeal. Apply more than one Apply an argumentative technique • Identify a fallacy in a text. argumentative technique to develop an introduction or a When provided an strategically (e.g., constructing a logical conclusion. claim, supporting with relevant and argumentative technique (e.g., logical evidence, constructing a claim, counterclaim, reason), apply an additional technique (e.g., counterclaim, constructing a rebuttal, and providing a logical counterclaim, relevant and logical conclusion) to enhance writing and evidence) to enhance writing. • When provided a purpose, engage audiences. Integrate multiple rhetorical integrate a rhetorical device or an appeal. devices or appeals strategically. 10.T.T.4: Poetic Techniques – Evaluate and apply poetic techniques to enhance text's appeal to audiences or achieve specific purposes. • Identify poetic technique(s) used to Evaluate a poetic text considering Evaluate poetic text(s), considering poetic technique(s) used to present present or design content. poetic techniques used to present and design content. and design content and their • Identify the theme of poetic text(s). associated implications on Evaluate poetic techniques used to develop meaning and/or theme(s) meaning and/or theme. in poetic text(s).

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	Apply knowledge of a poetic technique		
	or convention to create a poetic text	techniques and conventions to create	
	for an intended purpose.	a poetic text for an intended purpose.	
Big Idea: Research & Analysis			
Students use, discuss, analyze, and cu	irate texts as they engage in various con	versations, activities, and projects about	t a range of grade-level texts and
topics.			
10.T.RA.1: Research & Inquiry - Cond	uct research, generating questions to gu	ide investigations of complex topics of in	terest and using credible sources to
support analyses.			
	Generate questions to guide research, make connections between topics.      Use one analytical finding to answer a research question or support a thesis.      Paraphrase, summarize, or quote material.	<ul> <li>Generate questions to guide research, make connections between topics, explore solutions, narrow focus, and/or refine text creation.</li> <li>Use multiple analytical findings to support a research question or thesis.</li> <li>Integrate paraphrased, summarized, and quoted material into original texts in various ways for intended purposes that strengthen the writing, citing the sources of ideas in Modern Language Association (MLA)</li> </ul>	
connections across a broad range of to		a specific topic or question and explore	various sources of information to make
Follow a standard format for	Use a print or digital source to	Navigate and use a variety of	Navigate and use a variety of
citation when integrating textual	locate relevant information about a	credible print and digital	credible print and digital
evidence.	central argument, topic, or	sources, including from academic	sources, including from academic
eviderice.	question.	databases, to locate relevant	databases, to locate relevant
	<ul> <li>Using information from a source,</li> </ul>	information about <b>a central</b>	information about multiple central
	identify misconception(s),	argument, topic, or question.	arguments, topics, or questions.
	conflicting information or	<ul> <li>Analyze information from a variety</li> </ul>	arguments, topics, or questions.
	perspective(s), or author bias.	of sources by identifying	
	Follow Modern Language	misconceptions, conflicting	
	Association (MLA) guidelines	information or perspectives.	
	when citing textual evidence,	Analyze information from a source	
	ensuring each source is	by identifying author bias and	
	accompanied by an entry on a	verifying the validity, relevancy,	
	works cited page.	and accuracy of the information	
		being considered.	
		Follow Modern Language	

	•	Association (MLA) guidelines when making inferences about texts or when integrating and citing textual evidence, ensuring each source is accompanied by an entry on a works cited page.  es of literature from a particular time perior es, genres, and verbal styles of literature		
	<ul> <li>Identify an archetypal story, myth, event, or figure.</li> <li>Identify a theme, style, or aspect of context in a text that draws upon a period of English or American literary history.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Explain how a modern author adapts an archetypal story, myth, event, or figure to new purposes and circumstances.</li> <li>Discuss major authors and works of two periods of English or American literary history, including key themes and stylistic features.</li> </ul>		
Big Idea: Grammar Conventions Students observe, analyze, and use the structures and conventions of Standard English grammar, usage, and mechanics as they interpret and construct texts.  10.L.GC.1: Grammar, Usage, & Mechanics – Draw from knowledge of the conventions of Standard English grammar, usage, and mechanics when analyzing, evaluating and constructing texts.				
<ul> <li>Use ellipses appropriately.</li> <li>Use hyphens with appropriate affixes and compound words.</li> <li>Use semicolons, with or without a conjunctive adverb, to form compound and compound-complex sentences.</li> <li>Use parts of speech and their associated phrases or clauses to perform indicated sentence functions (e.g., subject, direct object, predicate nominative, modifier).</li> <li>Use colons to introduce lists, examples, and explanations.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Use conventional capitalization, quotation marks, commas, end punctuation, and parentheses (citations) when incorporating textual evidence.</li> <li>Form and use verbals and verbal phrases (participles/participials, gerunds, and infinitives) based on function.</li> <li>Use tenses and aspects to indicate the mood of a verb.</li> <li>Use colons to introduce quotations.</li> </ul>	Use dashes appropriately.     Use an appropriate style guide to address complex issues of grammar, usage, or mechanics.		

#### 10.L.GC.2: Syntax – Apply understanding of syntax to comprehend, analyze, evaluate, craft, and reshape sentences to achieve desired effects. Recognize parallel structure. Compose texts with varied syntax Apply understandings of syntax to OR compose texts with varied comprehend, analyze, and sentences that maintain evaluate a wide variety of texts, including analyzing instances of consistency of verb tenses. parallel structure. • Determine when active voice Compose texts with varied syntax, should be used. reshaping sentences for effect Determine when a sentence within while maintaining consistency of a text should be revised to expand verb tenses, aspects, and moods. and enrich ideas and information by incorporating details and Maintain consistent use of active descriptions. voice throughout a text for Use parallel structure by combining deliberate effect. sentences to create symmetry. Expand and enrich ideas and information, incorporating details and descriptions to achieve specific purposes or facilitate engagement. Recognize and use parallel structure within a paragraph to create symmetry and convey a congruence of ideas. Big Idea: Vocabulary Students engage in a wide range of written and spoken activities during which they expand and deepen their vocabularies, build word analysis skillsets (morphology), and determine or clarify the meanings of words and phrases. 10.L.V.1: General. Academic, & Vocabulary – Use expanding vocabulary knowledge to interpret texts and to craft effective communications across a wide variety of real-life, academic, disciplinary, technical, and professional contexts. · Acquire a range of general, academic, disciplinary, technical, and/or professional vocabulary through grade-level print, digital, and/or multimodal texts or content. • Use grade-level general, academic, disciplinary, technical, and/or professional vocabulary to communicate clearly and precisely, adjusting style as appropriate in a variety of settings.

	skills to determine the meaning of unfamiliar words and to communicate effectively for a
Deconstruct word(s) to do or clarity meaning using a knowledge when the test and Latin root, root word, below grade-level.     Construct a word using a Latin root or root word and statin root or root word and stati	clarity meaning using etymology knowledge when the tested Greek and Latin root, root word, or affix is at grade-level.  The Greek or and an affix.  Clarity meaning using etymology knowledge when the tested Greek and Latin root, root word, or affix is at grade-level.  Determine the meanings of words and phrases in context by analyzing the function of parts of speech.  Construct and use words based on Greek and Latin roots, root words, and/or affixes and use those words appropriately in context.  Use knowledge of parts of speech to determine precise and effective words and phrases when
10.L.V.3: Meaning & Purpose - Analyze and craft nuanced words an	constructing texts.
Analyze relationships be words within a sentence determine connotative and denotative meanings for and/or phrases.      Analyze relationships be words within a sentence determine connotative and denotative meanings for and/or phrases.	Analyze relationships between     words beyond a sentence to     determine connotative and

