Grade 7
Pass+
Seventh-grade students performing at the Pass+ level demonstrate advanced understanding when reading, comparing, and responding to a range of grade-level appropriate texts, including literature and nonfiction. Students display advanced writing skills using appropriate Standard English conventions when producing different writing forms.

When reading literature, such as fiction and poetry, specific knowledge, skills, and abilities for Grade 7 students scoring at the Pass+ level include:
- Analyze interactions of various elements in a text and how they contribute to its meaning;
- Analyze how the author develops and contrasts points of view of characters or narrators in a text; and
- Compare and contrast a fictional portrayal and a historical account of the same period.

When reading nonfiction, such as historical or scientific texts and articles, specific knowledge, skills, and abilities for Grade 7 students scoring at the Pass+ level include:
- Analyze interactions between individuals, events, and ideas in text;
- Analyze how the author distinguishes his or her position from the positions of others;
- Assess whether an argument is sound and evidence is relevant and sufficient to support claims; and
- Analyze how two or more authors writing about the same topic shape the presentation of key information.

When writing, students craft well-organized, clearly focused, and detailed argumentative, informative, and narrative compositions, including a response to a literature or nonfiction text, using varied word choices and appropriate Standard English conventions. Specific knowledge, skills, and abilities for Grade 7 students scoring at the Pass+ level include:
- Write compositions to describe, explain, and/or argue, developing multiple, relevant details and facts that connect to the purpose;
- Use precise words, phrases, sensory language, and content vocabulary appropriate to the audience and purpose; and
- Write focused and detailed paragraphs and compositions containing interesting word choices, effectively organized ideas, well-developed thoughts, and cohesiveness.

Grade 7
Pass
Seventh-grade students performing at the Pass level demonstrate proficient understanding when reading, comparing, and responding to a range of grade-level
appropriate texts, including literature and nonfiction. Students display proficient writing skills using mostly appropriate Standard English conventions when producing different writing forms.

When reading **literature**, such as fiction and poetry, specific knowledge, skills, and abilities for Grade 7 students scoring at the *Pass* level include:
- Cite textual evidence to support analysis of inferences drawn from a text;
- Analyze the development of a theme or central idea over the course of a work of literature;
- Analyze the interactions of various elements in a text; and
- Analyze how structural elements contribute to meaning and plot.

When reading **nonfiction**, such as historical or scientific texts and articles, specific knowledge, skills, and abilities for Grade 7 students scoring at the *Pass* level include:
- Cite textual evidence to support analysis of inferences drawn from a text;
- Analyze the development of two or more central ideas over the course of a text;
- Analyze a text’s structure, including how major sections contribute to the development of ideas;
- Determine an author’s perspective or purpose;
- Trace and evaluate an argument and specific claims in a text;
- Analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone; and
- Identify information in media messaging that can influence the audience.

When **writing**, students craft proficient argumentative, informative, and narrative compositions, including a response to a literature or nonfiction text, using varied word choices and mostly appropriate Standard English conventions. Specific knowledge, skills, and abilities for Grade 7 students scoring at the *Pass* level include:
- Write compositions to describe, explain, and/or argue, providing details and facts that connect to the purpose;
- Write to a specific audience and purpose;
- Assess the credibility of sources; and
- Write focused and detailed paragraphs and compositions containing some interesting word choices, effectively organized ideas, developed thoughts, and cohesion.

**Grade 7 Did Not Pass**

Seventh-grade students performing at the *Did Not Pass* level demonstrate limited understanding when reading, comparing, and responding to a range of grade-level appropriate texts, including literature and nonfiction. Students display limited writing skills using basic appropriate Standard English conventions when producing different writing forms.

When reading **literature**, such as fiction and poetry, specific knowledge, skills, and abilities for Grade 7 students scoring at the *Did Not Pass* level include:
- Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what a text says explicitly;
- Summarize text to support analysis; and
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text.
When reading **nonfiction**, such as historical or scientific texts and articles, specific knowledge, skills, and abilities for Grade 7 students scoring at the *Did Not Pass* level include:

- Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what a text says explicitly;
- Provide a summary of a text; and
- Determine the meaning of words or phrases used in a text.

When **writing**, students craft limited argumentative, informative, and narrative compositions, including a response to a literature or nonfiction text, using varied word choices and basic appropriate Standard English conventions. Specific knowledge, skills, and abilities for Grade 7 students scoring at the *Did Not Pass* level include:

- Write compositions to describe, explain, and/or argue, providing minimal details and facts that connect to the purpose;
- Use some language appropriate to the audience and purpose; and
- Write compositions containing some interesting word choices, organized ideas, and minimally developed thoughts.