

## Reading Performance Level Descriptors for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities

### Grade 7/8 Level A

**At this grade and level, Reading involves reading simple pictures and photographs and Comprehension refers to listening comprehension**

<b>BELOW BASIC (Emerging)</b>	<b>BASIC (Novice)</b>	<b>PROFICIENT</b>
<p>A student in grade 7 or 8 performing at the BELOW BASIC (EMERGING) level on the Level A PASA Reading demonstrates limited engagement with the tasks. The student requires extensive support to perform targeted skills through hand over hand guidance and frequent teacher cues to ensure the correct response. The support given will reduce the cognitive complexity of the skill assessed. The student interacts in a limited way with the array of objects or pictures. The student may passively participate or randomly choose answers. The student demonstrates limited understanding of the task and limited understanding of the vocabulary necessary to complete the task.</p> <p>Tasks on the grade 7/8 Level A PASA Reading assessments are multiple choice with 2 distractors that look very different from the correct response. A student performing at the BELOW BASIC (EMERGING) Level on the grade 7/8 Level A PASA Reading can perform the following independently:</p> <p><b><u>READING</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scans materials</li> </ul>	<p>A student in grade 7 or 8 performing at the BASIC (NOVICE) level on the Level A PASA Reading demonstrates engagement with the tasks, but requires moderate support to perform targeted skills. The student needs support such as redirection, modification of the task complexity through reduction of the arrays of objects or pictures, or assistance with task completion that may reduce the cognitive complexity of the skill. The student shows engagement but needs additional prompting. The student demonstrates a basic understanding of the vocabulary necessary to complete the task.</p> <p>Tasks on the grade 7/8 Level A PASA Reading assessments are multiple choice with 2 distractors that look very different from the correct response. A student performing at the BASIC (NOVICE) Level on the grade 7/8 A PASA Reading can perform the following independently:</p> <p><b><u>READING</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scans materials</li> <li>• Matches identical pictures/photographs</li> <li>• Selects a picture/photograph named</li> </ul>	<p>A student in grade 7 or 8 performing at the PROFICIENT level on the Level A PASA Reading independently performs targeted skills. The student independently orients to the task objects or pictures. The student may receive some support such as verbal prompting that does not reduce the cognitive complexity of the skill. The student demonstrates understanding of the vocabulary necessary to complete the task.</p> <p>Tasks on the grade 7/8 Level A PASA Reading assessments are multiple choice with 2 distractors that look very different from the correct response. A student performing at the Proficient Level on the grade 7/8 A PASA Reading can perform the following tasks independently:</p> <p><b><u>READING</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scans materials</li> <li>• Matches identical pictures/photographs</li> <li>• Selects a picture/photograph named</li> </ul> <p><b><u>COMPREHENSION</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifies how pictured items are used</li> <li>• Identifies categories, functions, and features of pictured items</li> <li>• Answers literal comprehension questions (who, what, where) after listening to a</li> </ul>

## Reading Performance Level Descriptors for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities

### Grade 7/8 Level B

**At this grade and level, Reading involves reading complex pictures and simple words and Comprehension refers to listening comprehension**

<b>BELOW BASIC (Emerging)</b>	<b>BASIC (Novice)</b>	<b>PROFICIENT</b>
<p>A student in grade 7 or 8 performing at the BELOW BASIC (EMERGING) level on the Level B PASA Reading requires extensive support to complete the targeted skills through frequent teacher cues to ensure the correct response. The support given will reduce the cognitive complexity of the skill assessed. The student may need extensive support to remain engaged on tasks. The student has a limited understanding of the vocabulary necessary to complete the task.</p> <p>Grade 7/8 Level B PASA Reading consists of mainly selected response items with limited production items; selection items on the have 3 distractors, two of which are related. A student performing at the BELOW BASIC (EMERGING) Level on the grade 7/8 Level B PASA can perform the following independently:</p>	<p>A student in grade 7 or 8 performing at the BASIC (NOVICE) level on the Level B PASA Reading requires moderate support to complete the targeted skills. The student needs support such as modification of the task complexity through reduction of the array of objects or pictures, or assistance with task completion that may reduce the cognitive complexity of the skill. The student has a basic understanding of the vocabulary necessary to complete the task.</p> <p>Grade 7/8 Level B PASA Reading consists of mainly selected response items with limited production items; selection items on the have 3 distractors, two of which are related. A student performing at the BASIC (NOVICE) Level on the grade 7/8 Level B PASA Reading can perform the following independently:</p> <p><b><u>READING</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selects a word named</li> <li>• Reads single words using clues from picture</li> </ul>	<p>A student in grade 7 or 8 performing at the PROFICIENT level on the Level B PASA Reading independently performs the targeted skills. The student may receive some support such as verbal prompting and redirection that does not reduce the cognitive complexity of the skills. The student may self correct. The student demonstrates an understanding of the vocabulary, including word endings, necessary to complete the task.</p> <p>Grade 7/8 Level B PASA Reading consists of mainly selected response items with limited production items; selection items on the have 3 distractors, two of which are related. A student performing at the PROFICIENT Level on the grade 7/8 Level B PASA Reading can perform the following independently:</p> <p><b><u>READING</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selects a word named</li> <li>• Reads single words using clues from picture</li> <li>• Selects a word with the same beginning sound as picture shown</li> <li>• Selects a picture of a word that rhymes</li> <li>• Names 2 actions illustrated in a complex picture</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>COMPREHENSION</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifies meaning of word by matching to picture</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>COMPREHENSION</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifies meaning of word by matching to picture</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>COMPREHENSION</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifies meaning of word by matching to picture</li> </ul>

- Identifies picture showing “main event” after listening to a story
- Defines the function of a word shown

- Identifies picture showing “main event” after listening to a story
- Defines the function of a word shown
- Selects complex picture showing 2 specific features named
- Identifies missing word in sentence using clues from pictures
- Answers literal comprehension questions (who, what, where, when, why) after listening to a sentence
- Identifies picture showing “next event” after listening to a story

**Reading Performance Level Descriptors for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities  
Grade 7/8 Level C**

**At this grade and level, Reading involves reading 11-29 words and Comprehension refers to reading comprehension**

<b>BELOW BASIC (Emerging)</b>	<b>BASIC (Novice)</b>	<b>PROFICIENT</b>	<b>ADVANCED</b>
<p>A student in grade 7 or 8 performing at the BELOW BASIC (EMERGING) level on the Level C PASA Reading actively performs the task, is engaged, but requires extensive support to complete targeted skills through frequent teacher cues to ensure the correct response. The support given will reduce the cognitive complexity of the skill assessed. Support needed may include modification of the task complexity through reduction of the array of pictures or objects, breaking down multi-step tasks into single steps, complete assistance with decoding skills, or being directed back to specific text to locate answers to open-ended questions. The student has a limited understanding of the vocabulary necessary to complete the task.</p> <p>Grade 7/8 Level C Reading contains a majority of production items, and the selected response items have 4 distractors; option choices for the selected response items are often closely related. A student performing at the BELOW BASIC (EMERGING) Level on the grade 7/8 Level C PASA Reading cannot perform reading tasks independently:</p>	<p>A student in grade 7 or 8 performing at the BASIC (NOVICE) level on the Level C PASA Reading actively performs the task, is engaged, and requires moderate support to complete targeted skills. Support needed may include modification of the task complexity through reduction of the array of pictures or objects, breaking down multi-step tasks into single steps, moderate assistance with decoding skills, or being directed back to specific text to locate answers to open-ended questions. The student has a basic understanding of the vocabulary necessary to complete the task.</p> <p>Grade 7/8 Level C Reading contains a majority of production items, and the selected response items have 4 distractors; option choices for the selected response items are often closely related. A student performing at the BASIC (NOVICE) Level on the grade 7/8 Level C PASA Reading can perform the following independently:</p>	<p>A student in grade 7 or 8 performing at the PROFICIENT level on the Level C PASA Reading performs the majority of targeted skills independently. The student actively performs the tasks, is completely engaged, and requires some support such as verbal prompting that does not reduce the cognitive complexity of the skill. The student may self correct. The student needs minimal assistance with decoding skills, such as being prompted to refer back to the text to locate answers. The student may require additional prompting from teacher to complete multi-step tasks. The student demonstrates understanding of the vocabulary necessary to complete the task.</p> <p>Grade 7/8 Level C Reading contains a majority of production items, and the selected response items have 4 distractors; option choices for the selected response items are often closely related. A student performing at the PROFICIENT Level on the grade 7/8 Level C PASA Reading can perform the following independently:</p>	<p>A student in grade 7 or 8 performing at the ADVANCED level on the Level C PASA Reading performs the targeted skills independently. The student may request clarification of the question. The student completes multi-step tasks and use strategies such as: self-correction, referring back to text, and mentally eliminating distracters and requesting clarification. Students are able to answer questions quickly and accurately, often using complete sentences. Students are able to read and recall proper names and non-phonetic words. The student demonstrates understanding of the vocabulary necessary to complete the task.</p> <p>Grade 7/8 Level C Reading contains a majority of production items, and the selected response items have 4 distractors; option choices for the selected response items are often closely related. A student performing at the ADVANCED Level on the grade 7/8 Level C PASA Reading can perform the following independently:</p>

**COMPRHENSION**

- Answers literal comprehension questions (who, what, where, when, why, why) after reading an 11-29 word story
- Demonstrates the understanding of an 11-29 word written direction

**READING**

- Reads correctly most words of 11-29 words of continuous text

**COMPREHENSION**

- Answers literal comprehension questions (who, what, where, when, why, why) after reading an 11-29 word story
- Demonstrates the understanding of an 11-29 word written direction
- Locates a word described in a display of 11-29 words
- Reads words and names other items that can be used in same way
- Recalls 3 events after reading 11-29 word story
- Recalls 3 facts after reading 11-29 word expository text
- Answers open ended inferential comprehension questions (who, what, where, when) after reading 11-29 word story

**READING**

- Reads aloud 11-29 words of continuous text

**COMPREHENSION**

- Answers literal comprehension questions (who, what, where, when, why, why) after reading an 11-29 word story
- Demonstrates the understanding of an 11-29 word written direction
- Locates a word described in a display of 11-29 words
- Reads words and names other items that can be used in same way
- Recalls 3 events after reading 11-29 word story
- Recalls 3 facts after reading 11-29 word expository text
- Answers open ended inferential comprehension questions (who, what, where, when) after reading 11-29 word story
- Reads an 11-29 word passage with a missing word and supplies missing words