

**Virginia Standards of Learning Assessment
Grade 8 Writing Performance Level Descriptors**

Fail/Does Not Meet	Pass/Proficient	Pass/Advanced
<p>A student performing at this level should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use prewriting strategies and resources to gather and organize information. • Support the main idea with sentences that include details and descriptive vocabulary. • Edit writing to correct errors in grammar and writing mechanics, including punctuation, spelling, and capitalization. 	<p>A student performing at this level should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize pre-writing strategies and diverse resources to gather and organize information around a central idea. • Elaborate the main idea using supporting details with varied sentence structures that include precise and descriptive vocabulary to create tone and voice. • Revise writing through varied sentence structure, transitional words and phrases, and appropriate word choice to create clear content. • Demonstrate reasonable control of sentence formation, usage, and mechanics. 	<p>A student performing at this level should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discriminately use pre-writing strategies and multiple resources to organize information around a central idea that addresses a specific audience and purpose. • Justify the main idea using deliberately chosen supportive details with varied sentence structures that include precise and descriptive vocabulary to enhance the tone and voice. • Apply revisions for clarity of content using consistent control of sentence formation, usage and mechanics.