

## 4th Grade Writing — Performance Level Descriptors

Reporting Categories	Needs Support	Close	Ready	Exceeding
<p><b>Expository Mode</b></p> <p>Students write analytical expository texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.</p>	<p><i>A student performing at the Needs Support level:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>identifies a topic and provides minimal analysis.</li> <li>provides specific and generalized details that make few connections to the analysis.</li> <li>uses an unclear organizational structure and few transitional words and phrases.</li> <li>uses limited word choice; uses a tone and voice that are sometimes appropriate for expository writing; uses minimal variation in sentence structures; writes with extensive grammatical, usage, or spelling errors that significantly impede understanding.</li> </ul>	<p><i>A student performing at the Close level:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>identifies a topic and provides a simple analysis.</li> <li>provides specific details and generalized ideas that make unclear connections to the analysis.</li> <li>uses a minimal organizational structure and minimal transitional words and phrases.</li> <li>uses occasionally precise word choice; uses a tone and voice that are sometimes appropriate for expository writing; uses mostly simple sentence structures; writes with several grammatical, usage, or spelling errors that sometimes impede understanding.</li> </ul>	<p><i>A student performing at the Ready level:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>identifies a topic and provides a mostly relevant analysis.</li> <li>provides specific details and generalized ideas that adequately connect to the analysis.</li> <li>uses a mostly clear organizational structure and appropriate transitional words and phrases.</li> <li>uses mostly precise word choice; uses a tone and voice that are mostly appropriate for expository writing; uses slightly varied sentence structures; writes with few grammatical, usage, or spelling errors that rarely impede understanding.</li> </ul>	<p><i>A student performing at the Exceeding level:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>identifies a topic and provides a clear analysis.</li> <li>provides specific details and generalized ideas that clearly connect to the analysis.</li> <li>uses a clear organizational structure and effective transitional words and phrases.</li> <li>uses consistently precise word choice; uses a consistently appropriate tone and voice for expository writing; uses varied sentence structures; writes with minimal grammar, usage, or spelling errors that do not impede understanding.</li> </ul>