

**American Literature and Composition – Understanding Your Child’s Performance:** Below is a summary of skills and knowledge students must demonstrate to achieve each performance level. A student should demonstrate mastery of knowledge and skills within his/her achievement level *as well as* all content and skills that precede it. For example, a Proficient Learner should also possess the knowledge and skills of a Developing Learner *and* a Beginning Learner.

	Beginning Learner	Developing Learner	Proficient Learner	Distinguished Learner
<p><b>End-of-Course American Literature and Composition</b></p>	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrate limited reading comprehension of near grade-level texts</li> <li>• determine two themes or central ideas and describe their development over the course of a text</li> <li>• provide a simple summary of a text</li> <li>• delineate reasoning in important U.S. texts</li> <li>• write argumentative pieces that loosely sequence claims, counterclaims, reasons, and evidence</li> <li>• write informative/explanatory pieces that loosely organize ideas using some relevant facts, details, or other information</li> <li>• write narratives that demonstrate simple development of real or imagined experiences</li> <li>• conduct short research projects to answer questions or solve problems</li> </ul>	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrate limited reading comprehension of grade-level texts</li> <li>• determine two themes or central ideas and analyze their development over the course of a text</li> <li>• provide a simple, objective summary of a text</li> <li>• evaluate reasoning in important U.S. texts</li> <li>• write argumentative pieces that generally sequence claims, counterclaims, reasons, and evidence</li> <li>• write informative/explanatory pieces that organize ideas using relevant facts, details, or other information</li> <li>• write narratives that develop real or imagined experiences using some effective techniques, details, and event sequences</li> <li>• conduct sustained research projects to answer questions, including self-generated questions, or solve problems</li> </ul>	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrate reading comprehension of moderately complex grade-level texts</li> <li>• analyze how multiple themes or central ideas interact and build on one another</li> <li>• provide an objective summary of a text</li> <li>• write argumentative pieces that logically sequence claims, counterclaims, reasons, and evidence</li> <li>• write informative/explanatory pieces that clearly organize complex ideas using the most relevant facts, details, or other information</li> <li>• write narratives that develop real or imagined experiences using effective techniques, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences</li> <li>• conduct sustained research projects, synthesizing multiple sources</li> </ul>	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrate reading comprehension of highly complex grade-level texts</li> <li>• analyze how multiple implied themes or central ideas interact and build on one another</li> <li>• provide a thorough, objective summary of a text</li> <li>• expound on reasoning in important U.S. texts</li> <li>• write argumentative pieces that strategically sequence claims, counterclaims, reasons, and evidence</li> <li>• write informative/explanatory pieces that strategically organize complex ideas using relevant facts, details, or other information</li> <li>• write narratives that completely develop real or imagined experiences using highly effective techniques and clearly structured event sequences</li> <li>• conduct sustained research projects, demonstrating through understanding of the subjects under investigation</li> </ul>