GRADE 8 – TIER 1 – EMERGING
An eighth grade Tier 1 student performing at the Emerging Level demonstrates a preliminary academic awareness of the knowledge, skills, and processes outlined by the Pennsylvania Alternate Eligible Content.

Students performing at this level demonstrate these abilities by
✓ identifying a theme and a supporting detail with support,
✓ identifying the meaning of simple words or phrases using context or prefix/root words,
✓ answering literal or inferential questions with support.

GRADE 8 – TIER 1 – NOVICE
An eighth grade Tier 1 student performing at the Novice Level demonstrates a limited academic awareness of the knowledge, skills, and processes outlined by the Pennsylvania Alternate Eligible Content.

In addition to the skills demonstrated by students performing at the Emerging level, students performing at this level demonstrate these abilities by
✓ identifying the main/central idea or the claim/argument made by the author,
✓ identifying two key details to support summary of text,
✓ identifying the meaning of words and phrases, including those with multiple meanings, using context and/or prefixes, suffixes and roots,
✓ answering literal and inferential questions.

GRADE 8 – TIER 1 – PROFICIENT
An eighth grade Tier 1 student performing at the Proficient Level demonstrates a developing academic awareness of the knowledge, skills, and processes outlined by the Pennsylvania Alternate Eligible Content.

In addition to the skills demonstrated by students performing at the Novice Level, students performing at this level demonstrate these abilities by
✓ determining if evidence supports a claim/argument made by the author,
✓ identifying up to three key details and summarize text,
✓ identifying the meaning of multiple-meaning words and figurative language, including idioms metaphors or similes,
✓ identifying similarities in two texts about the same topic written in 2 different time frames,
✓ identifying how one character’s actions affect the reader’s perceptions,
✓ identifying the basic parts of a paragraph (introduction, details, conclusion).

GRADE 8 – TIER 1 – ADVANCED
An eighth grade Tier 1 student performing at the Advanced Level demonstrates a progressing academic awareness of the knowledge, skills, and processes outlined by the Pennsylvania Alternate Eligible Content.

In addition to the skills demonstrated by students performing at the Proficient Level, students performing at this level demonstrate these abilities by
✓ determining the connection between 2 or more elements in the text,
✓ determining the author’s point of view and a competing point of view,
✓ determining how 2 characters in the story make the reader respond differently.

As approved by the State Board of Education on July 11, 2019
✓ identifying one discrepancy in information presented in 2 texts about the same topic.