GRADE 8 – TIER 2 – EMERGING
An eighth grade Tier 2 student performing at the Emerging Level demonstrates a progressing academic awareness of the knowledge, skills, and processes outlined by the Pennsylvania Alternate Eligible Content.

Students performing at this level demonstrate these abilities by
✓ determining the central message of a text and one piece of evidence to support it,
✓ identifying the meaning of words, including those with multiple meanings,
✓ locating one piece of evidence in the text to support answer to literal or inferential questions.

GRADE 8 – TIER 2 – NOVICE
An eighth grade Tier 2 student performing at the Novice 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 Emerging level, students performing at this level demonstrate these abilities by
✓ identifying a main/central idea or claim/argument made by the author using details from the text,
✓ identifying the meaning of words and phrases, including those with multiple meanings, using context and/or prefixes, suffixes and roots,
✓ identifying how different characters’ actions impact other characters and events,
✓ summarizing text with some details,
✓ citing evidence to answer literal and inferential questions.

GRADE 8 – TIER 2 – PROFICIENT
An eighth grade Tier 2 student performing at the Proficient Level demonstrates an essential 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 which evidence supports and does not support a claim/argument made by the author,
✓ identifying similarities and differences in a modern work of fiction and a traditional story addressing the same theme,
✓ determining how a character’s actions and attitude affect the reader’s perspective on the story,
✓ identifying the meaning of unfamiliar figurative language using context.

GRADE 8 – TIER 2 – ADVANCED
An eighth grade Tier 2 student performing at the Advanced Level demonstrates a consistent 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
✓ identifying multiple points of view in the text,
✓ determining how word choice and the character’s actions make the reader feel,
✓ identifying conflicting information presented in 2 texts on the same topic,
✓ identifying the connections between each major event in the story.

As approved by the State Board of Education on July 11, 2019