Performance Descriptors
Alabama High School Graduation Exam

Reading
Grade 11

**Level IV** – Level IV students demonstrate thorough comprehension by identifying supporting details, sequencing of events, and following directions. They consistently interpret various text types by identifying main ideas, drawing conclusions, determining causes and effects, distinguishing facts from opinions, and summarizing passages. In addition, they analyze texts critically to judge the strength of argument, interpret literary elements and figurative language, and understand analogies. They utilize various strategies to enhance comprehension by using context clues, previewing and predicting, locating information, and discerning organization patterns.

**Level III** – Level III students demonstrate literal comprehension by identifying supporting details. They interpret various text types by identifying main ideas, drawing conclusions, determining causes, recognizing opinions, and summarizing passages. They apply critical analysis strategies to interpret literary elements and demonstrate some understanding of figurative language. They enhance comprehension by using context clues, making predictions, locating information, and discerning organizational patterns.

**Level II** – Level II students demonstrate a general understanding of an author’s use of some literary elements, including characterization, setting, and theme. They comprehend some authors’ use of simile, metaphor, and personification. They are able to gain general understanding of some textual/informational and functional materials, identifying the most obvious examples of illogical thought. With some inconsistency, they can identify selections in which arguments are better supported.

**Level I** – Level I students demonstrate little or no ability to use the reading skills and abilities required in Level II.
Performance Descriptors  
*Alabama High School Graduation Exam*

**Mathematics**  
**Grade 11**

**Level IV** – Level IV students demonstrate thorough mastery of algebraic concepts including adding algebraic rational expressions with unlike denominators, squaring binomials, factoring polynomials, solving fractional and quadratic equations, solving systems of linear equations, solving multi-step inequalities of first degree, generating a function rule given a mapping, and evaluating functions. They can determine distance and slope, identify the equation of a line from its graph, graph a line when given its intercepts or any two points, identify the solution set of a linear equality, or identify the linear equality when given its number line graph. These students will be able to interpret information from a graph and simplify radicals. They will demonstrate a thorough mastery of geometric concepts by applying relationships between angles with parallel lines, applying the Pythagorean Theorem, and solving word problems involving plane geometric figures.

**Level III** – Level III students demonstrate a fundamental mastery of algebraic concepts including applying order of operations to all subsets of rational numbers; applying the distributive property with polynomials; combining like terms including fractional coefficients with unlike denominators; multiplying binomials; factoring second-degree polynomials; solving multi-step linear equations; determining the perimeter, circumference or area of geometric figures given the formula; and finding the midpoint of line segments when given endpoints and formula. These students can determine measures of central tendency, determine simple probabilities, and solve problems using direction variation. They demonstrate fundamental mastery of geometric concepts by applying properties of angles and determining relationships of angles, applying properties of similar polygons, determining perimeter and area of geometric figures when the dimensions are expressed as an algebraic expression.

**Level II** – Level II students demonstrate partially mastery of algebraic concepts including simplify numerical expressions using properties of real numbers. They can recognize linear functions from their equations, slopes, and intercepts. Students performing at this level determine characteristics of a relation when given tables of values or sets of ordered pairs and can graphically represent common relations. These students perform operations of addition and subtraction on binomial expressions, factor binomials using GCF, and solve multistep linear or literal equations. They can solve quadratic equations using the zero product property. They can calculate length or midpoint of a line segment when given coordinates of its endpoints on the Cartesian plane. These students can solve problems that involve area and perimeter of a polygon or area and circumference of a circle.

**Level I** – Level I students demonstrate little or no ability to use the mathematics skills and abilities required in Level II.