Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills–Modified (TAKS–M) Performance Level Descriptors

The TAKS–M Performance Level Descriptors are not equivalent to and should not be compared to the TAKS Performance Level Descriptors. It is important to remember that TAKS–M is a modified assessment based on modified academic achievement standards for students receiving special education services who meet TAKS–M participation requirements. Although this is a modified assessment, TAKS–M increases in complexity from grade to grade.

Writing
Grade 4

Did Not Meet the Standard	Met the Standard	Commended Performance
Unsatisfactory performance; below modified passing standard; insufficient understanding of the writing TEKS curriculum measured at this grade level	Satisfactory performance; at or above modified passing standard; sufficient understanding of the writing TEKS curriculum measured at this grade level	Advanced performance; considerably above modified passing standard; strong understanding of the writing TEKS curriculum measured at this grade level
Students Who Did Not Meet the Standard	**Students Who Met the Standard**	**Students Who Attained Commended Performance Achieve All of the Content and Skills at the Met the Standard Level and Also**
• Recognize correct usage of simple adjective and adverb form within a sentence • Recognize appropriate end punctuation for a given sentence • Capitalize the first word of a sentence, names of people, and the word "I"	• Write a simple response related to a given prompt using a chronological organizational strategy • Identify a sentence that is obviously irrelevant to the ideas in a paragraph • Combine simple sentences into a compound sentence using basic coordinate conjunctions such as *and*, *but*, and *or* • Identify awkward or wordy sentences • Recognize basic subject-verb agreement within a sentence • Revise sentences to correct double negatives • Recognize correct spellings of grade-appropriate sight words and rule-based words • Identify correct use of apostrophes in contractions • Identify correct use of commas in compound sentences	• Briefly develop most of the ideas within a focused written response on a given topic • Identify a sentence that could be added to a paragraph to provide logical support of the ideas • Identify correct sentence revisions for fragments and run-ons • Recognize correct homonym usage and verb tense within a given context • Replace a vague pronoun with a specific word • Identify and correct double indicators in sentences

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Writing
Grade 7

Did Not Meet the Standard	Met the Standard	Commended Performance
Unsatisfactory performance; below modified passing standard; insufficient understanding of the writing TEKS curriculum measured at this grade level	Satisfactory performance; at or above modified passing standard; sufficient understanding of the writing TEKS curriculum measured at this grade level	Advanced performance; considerably above modified passing standard; strong understanding of the writing TEKS curriculum measured at this grade level
Students Who Did Not Meet the Standard	**Students Who Met the Standard**	**Students Who Attained Commended Performance Achieve All of the Content and Skills at the Met the Standard Level and Also**
• Write a short list of ideas in response to a given prompt • Identify correctly placed prepositional phrases within a sentence • Recognize correct subject-verb agreement within a complex sentence	• Write an organized response with some development • Identify extraneous sentences and supporting sentences to effectively link ideas • Identify correct sentence revisions for fragments and run-ons • Recognize correct usage of verb tense and pronoun case within a given context • Recognize correct use of quotations marks, commas, apostrophes in possessives and contractions • Apply rules of capitalization including first word of a sentence, proper nouns, and the word “I” • Recognize correct spellings of grade appropriate sight words and rule-based words	• Write a response with focused paragraphs and development of most ideas • Identify transition words that effectively link ideas • Combine simple sentences into a compound or complex sentence by using appositives, subordinate clauses, and correctly placed modifiers • Replace vague words or phrases with precise wording • Recognize correct usage of grade appropriate homonyms