

HSGQE Proficiency Descriptors  
of the  
Minimum Competencies in Essential Skills  
**Reading**

**Use Context Clues**

A student proficient in the minimum competencies in essential skills

- uses context clues to determine the meaning of unfamiliar words within a text.

**Summarize Information**

A student proficient in the minimum competencies in essential skills

- summarizes events presented in a passage.
- determines and describes an author's position and/or viewpoint and applies it to a hypothetical situation.
- identifies relevant details and main ideas in a passage or parts of a passage.
- summarizes technical information from a set of directions into a chart.
- determines the purpose of a text.
- infers connections between ideas and events.
- interprets charts, graphs, tables, and illustrations.
- interprets information and applies it to new situations.

**Critique Arguments**

A student proficient in the minimum competencies in essential skills

- locates supporting evidence in text.
- sorts and categorizes information.
- applies information from a text.
- uses evidence to determine and support key ideas.
- describes the purpose behind language in an advertisement.
- differentiates between arguments based on opinions and arguments based on facts.

**Apply Multi-Step Directions**

A student proficient in the minimum competencies in essential skills

- follows multi-step directions to complete a task.
- determines and explains the reasons for using specific methods to complete a task.
- identifies and sequences information from a variety of sources.
- locates specific information from multi-step directions from one or more sources.
- uses information from a chart to fill out a form.

**Make and Support Assertions**

A student proficient in the minimum competencies in essential skills

- identifies clear assertions (statements, opinions, or interpretations).
- identifies evidence and details from a text to support assertions.