GED® Test: Reasoning Through Language Arts
Performance Level Descriptors
What Your Score Means: Level 4 — GED® College Ready + Credit

Some institutions may confer one (1) semester hour lower division credit in humanities on students who score at the GED® College Ready + Credit level. Test-takers who score at this level are typically able to comprehend and analyze complex passages similar to that of Toni Morrison’s *The Bluest Eye*, Thomas Jefferson’s *The Declaration of Independence*, and Malcolm Gladwell’s *The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference* and generally demonstrate outstanding proficiency with the skills identified in the previous performance levels, including the following:

**Analyzing and Creating Text Features and Technique**

- Infer relationships between ideas in a text (e.g., an implicit cause and effect, parallel, or contrasting relationship) at an outstanding level
- Infer an author’s implicit as well as explicit purposes based on details in text at an outstanding level
- Draw specific comparisons between two texts that address similar themes or topics or between information presented in different formats at an outstanding level
- Compare two passages in similar or closely related genres that share ideas or themes, focusing on similarities and/or differences in perspective, tone, style, structure, purpose, or impact at an outstanding level

**Using Evidence to Understand, Analyze, and Create Arguments**

- Infer implied main ideas in paragraphs or whole texts at an outstanding level
- Analyze how data or quantitative and/or visual information extends, clarifies, or contradicts information in text, or determine how data supports an author’s argument, at an outstanding level
- Identify an underlying premise or assumption in an argument and evaluate the logical support and evidence provided, at an outstanding level
- Compare two argumentative passages on the same topic that present opposing claims (either main or supporting claims) and analyze how each text emphasizes different evidence or advances a different interpretation of facts, at an outstanding level
Applying Knowledge of English Language Conventions and Usage

- Edit to correct errors in subject-verb or pronoun antecedent agreement in more complicated situations (e.g., with compound subjects, interceding phrases, or collective nouns) at an outstanding level
- Edit to eliminate wordiness or awkward sentence construction at an outstanding level