



<b>Literary</b>			
<b>Very Complex</b>		<b>Moderately Complex</b>	<b>Readily Accessible</b>
<b>Meaning</b>	Multiple levels of meaning that may be difficult to identify, separate, and interpret; theme is implicit, subtle, or ambiguous and may be revealed over the entirety of the text	Multiple levels of meaning that are relatively easy to identify; theme is clear but may be conveyed with some subtlety	One level of meaning; theme is obvious and revealed early in the text
<b>Text Structure</b>	Prose or poetry includes more intricate elements such as subplots, shifts in point-of-view, shifts in time, or non-standard text structures	Prose includes two or more storylines or has a plot that is somewhat difficult to predict (e.g.; in the case of a non-linear plot); poetry has some implicit or unpredictable structural elements	Prose or poetry is organized clearly and/or chronologically; the events in a prose work are easy to predict because the plot is linear; poetry has explicit and predictable structural elements
<b>Language Features</b>	Language is generally complex, with abstract, ironic, and/or figurative language, and regularly includes archaic, unfamiliar, and academic words; text uses a variety of sentence structures, including complex sentences with subordinate phrases and clauses	Language is often explicit and literal but includes academic, archaic, or other words with complex meaning (e.g; figurative language); text uses a variety of sentence structures	Language is explicit and literal, with mostly contemporary and familiar vocabulary; text uses mostly simple sentences
<b>Knowledge Demands</b>	The text explores complex, sophisticated, or abstract themes; text is dependent on allusions to other texts or cultural elements; allusions or references have no context and require inference and evaluation	The text explores several themes; text makes few references or allusions to other texts or cultural elements; the meaning of references or allusions may be partially explained in context	The text explores a single theme; if there are any references or allusions, they are fully explained in the text
<b>Use of Graphics</b>	When graphics are present, the connection between the text and graphics is subtle and requires interpretation	Graphics support interpretation of selected parts of the corresponding written text; they may introduce some new and relevant information	Graphics support and assist in interpreting text by directly representing important concepts from the corresponding written text
<b>Informational</b>			
<b>Very Complex</b>		<b>Moderately Complex</b>	<b>Readily Accessible</b>
<b>Meaning</b>	The text contains multiple purposes, and the primary purpose is subtle, intricate, and/or abstract	The primary purpose of the text is not stated explicitly but is easy to infer based upon context or source; the text may include multiple perspectives	The primary purpose of the text is clear, concrete, narrowly focused, and explicitly stated; the text has a singular perspective
<b>Text Structure</b>	Connections among an expanded range of ideas, processes, or events are often implicit, subtle, or ambiguous; organization exhibits some discipline-specific traits; any text features are essential to comprehension of content	Connections between some ideas, processes, or events are implicit or subtle; organization is generally evident and sequential; any text features help facilitate comprehension of content	Connections between ideas, processes, and events are explicit and clear; organization is chronological, sequential, or easy to predict because it is linear; any text features help readers navigate content but are not essential to understanding content
<b>Language Features</b>	Language is generally complex, with abstract, ironic, and/or figurative language, and archaic and academic vocabulary and domain specific words that are not otherwise defined; text uses many complex sentences with subordinate phrases and clauses	Language is often explicit and literal but includes some academic, archaic, or other words with complex meaning; text uses some complex sentences with subordinate phrases or clauses	Language is explicit and literal, with mostly contemporary and familiar vocabulary; text uses mostly simple sentences
<b>Knowledge Demands</b>	The subject matter of the text relies on specialized, discipline-specific knowledge; the text makes many references or allusions to other texts or outside areas; allusions or references have no context and require inference	The subject matter of the text involves some discipline-specific knowledge; the text makes some references or allusions to other texts or outside ideas; the meaning of references or allusions may be partially explained in context	The subject matter of the text relies on little or no discipline-specific knowledge; if there are any references or allusions, they are fully explained in the text
<b>Use of Graphics</b>	Graphics are essential to understanding the text; they may clarify or expand information in the text and may require close reading and thoughtful analysis in relation to the text	Graphics are mainly supplementary to understanding the text; they generally contain or reinforce information found in the text	Graphics are simple and may be unnecessary to understanding the text



## Text Complexity Descriptions