

knowledge

## TEXT COMPLEXITY: QUALITATIVE MEASURES RUBRIC

## LITERARY TEXTS



| LEVELS OF MEANING   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| High  | Middle High  | Middle Low  | Low   |
| ☐ Multiple Levels of Complex<br>Meaning   | ☐ Multiple Levels of Meaning   | ☐ Single Level of Complex Meaning   | ☐ Single Level of Simple Meaning  |
| STRUCTURE   |  |   |   |
| High  | Middle High  | Middle Low  | Low   |
| <ul> <li>□ Narrative Structure: complex, implicit, and unconventional</li> <li>□ Narration: many shifts in point of view</li> <li>□ Order of Events: not in chronological order</li> <li>□ Use of Graphics: sophisticated graphics, essential to understanding the text, may also provide information not otherwise conveyed in the text</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>□ Narrative Structure: some complexities, more implicit than explicit, some unconventionality</li> <li>□ Narration: occasional shifts in point of view</li> <li>□ Order of Events: several major shifts in time, use of flashback</li> <li>□ Use of Graphics: some sophisticated graphics, may occasionally be essential to understanding the text</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>□ Narrative Structure: largely simple structure, more explicit than implicit, largely conventional,</li> <li>□ Narration: few, if any, shifts in point of view</li> <li>□ Order of Events: occasional use of flashback, no major shifts in time</li> <li>□ Use of Graphics: largely simple graphics, supplementary to understanding of the text</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>□ Narrative Structure: simple, explicit, conventional, no shifts in point of view</li> <li>□ Narration: no shifts in point of view</li> <li>□ Order of Events: chronological</li> <li>□ Use of Graphics: use of simple graphics, unnecessary to understand the text</li> </ul> |
| LANGUAGE CONVENTIONALITY AND CLARITY  |  |   |   |
| High  | Middle High  | Middle Low  | Low   |
| <ul> <li>☐ Meaning: implicit or inferred meaning, heavy use of figurative or ironic language, may be purposefully ambiguous or misleading at times</li> <li>☐ Register: generally unfamiliar, archaic, domain-specific, or overly academic</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>☐ Meaning: some implicit or inferred meaning, use of figurative or ironic language</li> <li>☐ Register: occasionally unfamiliar, archaic, domain-specific, or overly academic</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>☐ Meaning: largely explicit and literal meaning, subtle use of figurative or ironic language</li> <li>☐ Register: largely contemporary, familiar, conversational, rarely unfamiliar, archaic, domain-specific, or overly academic</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>☐ Meaning: explicit and literal meaning, little or no use of figurative or ironic language</li> <li>☐ Register: contemporary, familiar, conversational</li> </ul>  |
| KNOWLEDGE DEMANDS   |  |   |   |
| High  | Middle High  | Middle Low  | Low   |
| ☐ Life Experiences: explores complex, sophisticated, multiple themes; experiences portrayed are not fantasy but are distinctly different from the common reader   | ☐ <b>Life Experiences:</b> explores multiple themes of varying levels of complexity; experiences portrayed are not fantasy but are uncommon to most readers  | ☐ <b>Life Experiences:</b> explores a single complex theme; experiences portrayed are common to many readers or are clearly fantasy   | ☐ <b>Life Experiences:</b> explores a single theme; experiences portrayed are everyday and common or are clearly fantasy  |
| □ Cultural/Literary Knowledge: many references/allusions to other texts (intertextuality) and cultural elements □ Subject Matter Knowledge: requires extensive, perhaps specialized content   | □ Cultural/Literary Knowledge: some references/allusions to other texts (intertextuality) and cultural elements □ Subject Matter Knowledge: requires moderate levels of content knowledge  | □ Cultural/Literary Knowledge: few references/allusions to other texts (intertextuality) and cultural elements □ Subject Matter Knowledge: requires some content knowledge  | □ Cultural/Literary Knowledge: no references/allusions to other texts (intertextuality) and cultural elements □ Subject Matter Knowledge: requires only everyday content knowledge  |