



DRAFT

TEXT COMPLEXITY: QUALITATIVE MEASURES RUBRIC INFORMATIONAL TEXTS

DRAFT



LEVELS OF PURPOSE

High

- Purpose:** subtle, implied, difficult to determine

Middle High

- Purpose:** implied, but fairly easy to infer

Middle Low

- Purpose:** implied, but easy to identify based upon context or source

Low

- Purpose:** explicitly stated

STRUCTURE

High

- Organization of Main Ideas and Details:** highly complex; not explicit, must be inferred by the reader
- Text Features:** if used, are essential in understanding content
- Use of Graphics:** sophisticated graphics, essential to understanding the text, may also provide information not otherwise conveyed in the text

Middle High

- Organization of Main Ideas and Details:** complex but largely explicit; may exhibit traits common to a specific subject or discipline
- Text Features:** if used, greatly enhance the reader's understanding of content
- Use of Graphics:** some sophisticated graphics, may occasionally be essential to understanding the text

Middle Low

- Organization of Main Ideas and Details:** may be complex, but clearly stated and generally sequential
- Text Features:** if used, enhance the reader's understanding of content
- Use of Graphics:** largely simple graphics, supplementary to understanding of the text

Low

- Organization of Main Ideas and Details:** clearly stated and sequential
- Text Features:** if used, help the reader navigate and understand content but are not essential
- Use of Graphics:** use of simple graphics, unnecessary to understand the text

LANGUAGE CONVENTIONALITY AND CLARITY

High

- Meaning:** dense and complex; may be abstract, ironic, and/or figurative; language may be purposefully ambiguous or misleading
- Register:** generally unfamiliar, archaic, subject-specific, or overly academic

Middle High

- Meaning:** somewhat complex; may occasionally be abstract, ironic, and/or figurative
- Register:** occasionally unfamiliar, archaic, subject-specific, or overly academic

Middle Low

- Meaning:** largely explicit and easy to understand with few occasions of more complex meaning
- Register:** largely contemporary, familiar, conversational; rarely unfamiliar, archaic, subject-specific, or overly academic

Low

- Meaning:** explicit, literal, straightforward, easy to understand
- Register:** contemporary, familiar, conversational

KNOWLEDGE DEMANDS

High

- Subject Matter Knowledge:** requires extensive, perhaps specialized or even theoretical subject-specific knowledge
- Intertextuality:** many references/allusions to other texts

Middle High

- Subject Matter Knowledge:** requires moderate levels of subject-specific knowledge; some theoretical knowledge may enhance understanding
- Intertextuality:** some references/allusions to other texts

Middle Low

- Subject Matter Knowledge:** largely everyday, practical knowledge is necessary; requires some subject-specific knowledge
- Intertextuality:** few references/allusions to other texts

Low

- Subject Matter Knowledge:** requires only everyday, practical knowledge
- Intertextuality:** no references/allusions to other texts