Components of the Text Complexity Shift Kit

Shift Two: Extract and Employ Evidence
Table of Contents

• Critical Directions
• PowerPoints
• Articles and Research
• Handouts
• Videos
• Podcasts/Webinars
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International Reading Association Guidelines (Critical Direction)

- Use of challenging texts
- Foundational Skills
- Comprehension
- Vocabulary
- Writing
- Disciplinary Literacy
- Diverse Learners

The attached link from RI places the information into a chart form.
CCSS-Critical Direction
Appendix A pp. 2-16

www.corestandards.org

• Why Text Complexity Matters
• The Standard’s Approach To Text Complexity
• Key Considerations in Implementing Text Complexity
PowerPoints

K-12

K-12

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6-12 Content Areas

6-12 ELA
Research

Supplemental Information from Common Core:

• As a result of new research on the quantitative and qualitative dimensions of text complexity, this supplemental document adds to the information found in Appendix A.

http://www.corestandards.org/assets/E0813_Appendix_A_New_Research_on_Text_Complexity.pdf
Research

Measures of Text Difficulty: Testing their Predictive Value for Grade Levels and Student Performance by David Liben

(This 58 page report addresses the extent to which current measures of text complexity meet complexity guidelines).

Key Question: What is the best use of these metrics in your school or classroom?
Research

Not So Common: Comparing the Lexile Measures with the Standards’ Other Text Complexity Tools by Malbert Smith III, President of MetaMetrics

Key Question: Design your “toolbox” of text complexity tools for measuring texts.

This 10 pg document provides a contextual framework for how the similarities and differences could be interpreted and used by the educational and publishing communities when selecting a text complexity tool.
Research

*Reading Between the Lines: What the ACT Reveals About College Readiness in Reading*

- This policy report summarizes ACT data and are followed by recommended action steps that educators can take to help students read and succeed in college or career education without remediation.
Research

Advancing Our Students Language and Literacy: The Challenge of Complex Text by Marilyn Jager-Adams

Key Question: How are textbooks different than they were over 50 years ago? Why is that important to the CCSS?
Understanding Language: What Does Text Complexity Mean for English Learners and Language Minority Students? By Lily Wong Fillmore & Charles J. Fillmore

**Key Question:** What other areas of focus in texts must be given to ELL learners other than the area of vocabulary?
Research

A Discussion of “Increasing Text Complexity” by Karen Hess and Sue Biggam

Key Question: What are the suggestions the authors propose to increase text complexity?

5 Easy Strategies for Increasing Text Complexity by Barbara Blackburn

Key Question: What should be considered when matching a student with a text?
Handouts

Qualitative Rubric for Informational Text
• Items for teachers to evaluate to determine complexity of informational text.

Qualitative Rubric for Literary Text
• Items for teachers to evaluate to determine complexity of literary text.
Handouts

New York City School’s Informational and Literary Text Complexity Rubrics

• Qualitative
  – Literary
  – Informational
Handouts

Student Achievement Partners

Text Complexity Quantitative Analysis Tools
• Free resources for determining the quantitative measure

Text Complexity Grade Bands
• Newly revised text complexity grade bands
Book Study Ideas

• Begin a book study with a group.
• Start an independent study and become a teacher leader on a topic.
• Some books have study guides or podcasts from the authors available from the publishers—check out their websites!
• Share your knowledge—start a wiki, a newsletter or blog in your district.
Check back often!

• Please check back often for new articles, research, PowerPoints or books that might assist you with the Text Complexity Shift.
• As your professional knowledge deepens around the topic of Text Complexity, please contact us with your ideas:
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