

Text Complexity Analysis Template

Text complexity analysis			
Created by:	Bonnie Ruby	Event/Date:	July 29, 2014, TeachFest 2014
Text and Author	<i>The Noisiest Cat</i> , W. M. Akers	Where to Access Text	Download this text from Readworks.org
Text Description			
<p>This is a fictional passage that provokes a discussion of what may or may not be an adequate solution to a problem. Melissa has a cat named Roger that loves her so much, he won't leave her alone. At night, Roger yowls continuously and wakes her up. Her mother suggests that she let him in her room to sleep with her, but Melissa says that she has already tried that and Roger walks on her head and pokes her with his paws. Finally, she decides to let him in again, and he is quiet when she allows him to sleep on her head.</p>			
Quantitative			
Lexile and Grade Level	520, Grade 3	Text Length	733 words
Qualitative			
Meaning/Central Ideas		Text Structure/Organization	
<p>Solving a problem sometimes requires a compromise, especially when it involves an emotional issue. Not all readers will agree that allowing the cat to sleep on her head really is an acceptable solution. Theme is somewhat explicit throughout the text and can be implied from the conclusion.</p>		<p>No graphics. No special text features. The connections between ideas is simple; multiple strategies are tried to solve the problem without resolution, until a compromise is reached.</p>	
Prior Knowledge Demands		Language Features	
<p>Prior knowledge about pet ownership, particularly cats, is useful, but not essential. Experience with babies or younger siblings in the family could make this more realistic. No other text familiarity required.</p>		<p>Language is clear and conventional with a few exceptions (use of words like yowl and Heeeeeeee-yowl!); these words can be discovered in context. Standard English, includes dialogue with this exception (Heeeeeeee-yowl!). Personification is used with to the cat. Possible other unfamiliar vocab are perched, impatient, bounded; context clues embedded.</p>	
Potential Reader/Task Challenges			
<p>This text could pose a challenge especially to students with more rigid thinking as sometimes they are unable to compromise to reach a solution (possible debate of student solutions and their impact)</p>			
Big Takeaway			
<p>Author's point of view 3.6: The author wants the reader to realize how important Roger is to Melissa; important enough to rethink an old idea. Relationships between characters 3.3: The author develops the shift that Melissa loves Roger "too much" to shut out the cat from her room. Central ideas 3.2: Sometimes solving a problem requires a compromise or a revisit of old concepts.</p>			

Vocabulary Analysis Template

	Words that demand less teaching time (i.e. the definition is singular and concrete)	Words that demand more teaching time (i.e. words with multiple meanings and/or that are part of a word family)
Words that can be determined in context	stomach (tier 1) impatient (tier 1) awful (tier 1) cuddled (tier 1) squirt (tier 1)	perched (tier 2) bounded (tier 2) yowl (tier 2) heeeeeee-yowl (tier 2)
Words that cannot be determined in context	guinea pigs(tier 3) hamsters (tier 3) hermit crabs (tier 3)	