

Text Complexity Analysis Template

Text complexity analysis			
Created by:	Kylie Rousseau	Event/Date:	Teachfest Connecticut: Summer Academy July 2014
Text and Author	"A Sudden Slice of Summer" Author Unknown	Where to Access Text	Download this text from Readworks.org
Text Description			
<p>"A Sudden Slice of Summer" is about a young girl named Susannah who hates wintertime. When her family and siblings go away on a ski trip, Susannah stays home and discovers her own "slice of summer." Susannah changes her feelings about climate after spending her warm, summer day alone.</p>			
Quantitative			
Lexile and Grade Level	Grade 4, Lexile: 810	Text Length	1,093 words
Qualitative			
Meaning/Central Ideas		Text Structure/Organization	
<p>The main idea of this text is that Susannah hates the wintertime. She despises the snow and cold and just wishes she could live in the summer heat all year round. Another central idea of the text is that Susannah realizes the importance of spending time with family and her siblings regardless of the weather outside. This idea is inferred towards the end of the text when Susannah reflects on her summer day spent alone.</p>		<p>"A Sudden Slice of Summer" is organized in a literary format. The story is told through the eyes of the young girl named Susannah. There is only one graphic under the title of the text. This graphic allows the reader to have a picture of what summer means to Susannah. The connections between ideas are fairly explicit but have to be implied by the reader.</p>	
Prior Knowledge Demands		Language Features	
<p>Comprehension of the text does demand some prior knowledge of life experiences and topics. It is necessary for children to have some prior knowledge of season changes as well as the feelings of each season. It is also important for students to have some prior knowledge of relationships with families and siblings. Susannah realizes how important her family is to her and how she enjoys spending time with them every day.</p>		<p>"A Sudden Slice of Summer" contains some challenging new words with some use of figurative language. Some words can be implied through context; however; many of the words will require additional instructional time.</p>	
Potential Reader/Task Challenges			
<p>The potential challenges that may pose for readers throughout this task would be the challenging vocabulary and deeper thinking skills. "A Sudden Slice of Summer" requires close reading and inferential skills in order to acquire the deeper understanding of the text.</p>			
Big Takeaway			
<p>One key idea that I would want my students to take away after reading "A Sudden Slice of Summer" would be the theme/author's message about the importance of spending time with your family. While in the beginning of the story, Susannah despises winter and chooses to stay home during a family ski trip. After her short summer discovery, she realizes she would much rather enjoy spending time with her family regardless of the climate outside. This corresponds to RL. 4.2- Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text; summarize the text.</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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Puffed-up • Bobbed • Chatter • Magnificent • Settled • Determined • Disappeared • Low-hanging • Immediately • Furiously • Refreshing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Despised • Constructed • Refused • Sigh • Dozing • Sprawled • Lather • Reluctant • Trudged • Forkfuls • Sculpting
Words that cannot be determined in context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sickly • brimmed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • giddily • unrelenting