

Text Complexity Analysis Template

Text complexity analysis			
Created by:	Mary Connolly	Event/Date:	Teachfest Summer Academy July 29,2014
Text and Author	<i>Look Out!</i> By Max Fatchen	Where to Access Text	<i>No More Homework! No More Tests!</i> Edited by Jack Prelutsky
Text Description			
This text is a poem written in couplet form. It takes the reader through a series of nightmarish situations involving every imaginable horror from a Martian kidnapping to a cataclysmic disaster where the earth melts in the sun. The surprise ending reveals that these “horrors” are the comical thoughts of a student the night before the first day of school.			
Quantitative			
Lexile and Grade Level	Intermediate grades	Text Length	88 words
Qualitative			
Meaning/Central Ideas		Text Structure/Organization	
The mixed feelings (anxiety and excitement) all bring to the first day of school can result in exaggerated fears. The surprise ending provides the connection to these first day mixed feelings.		There are no text features or illustrations provided. Each line of the poem is a single event but all share the idea that horrible things are happening to the reader with no hope for rescue. The last word in every two lines rhymes.	
Prior Knowledge Demands		Language Features	
Familiar scenarios common to horror stories are presented. There are no prior knowledge demands.		This poem contains vivid verbs and adjectives, descriptive imagery, and an easily identifiable rhyme scheme. There is limited use of simile and alliteration.	
Potential Reader/Task Challenges			
The title could be misleading prior to reading the poem. Otherwise, the students should find each scenario engaging and suspenseful.			
Big Takeaway			
Throughout <i>Look Out!</i> , Max Fatchen uses vivid imagery and humor to exaggerate the fears most students bring to the first day of school.			

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	tomahawk (tier 2)	
Words that cannot be determined in context	All Tier 2 Words mumble horrid chants scolded fearsome hurls	vain (tier 2)