

Text Complexity Analysis Template

Text complexity analysis			
Created by:	Lauren McKenna	Event/Date:	July 29, 2014
Text and Author	"Sticky Fingers, Helping Hands" by ReadWorks	Where to Access Text	Online: www.readworks.org
Text Description			
<p>This text is a non-fiction article that engages students' interest in the making of chocolate. The article discusses the production of chocolate including the origins of the chocolate bar and explores where cocoa comes from, including the countries involved in making chocolate. Chocolate farming is explained including the harsh working and living conditions in these countries as well as discussing fair trade practices and what is involved in certifying a country as participating in fair trade. Students can learn about consumer involvement in affecting change.</p>			
Quantitative			
Lexile and Grade Level	1180/ grade 5/6	Text Length	778 words
Qualitative			
Meaning/Central Ideas		Text Structure/Organization	
<p>Meaning and central idea of the text (farming and production of cocoa for manufacturing chocolate involves countries with poor living conditions and not all countries participate in fair trade act) As implied in the text, these countries are not respectful of child labor laws and differ from American regulations.</p> <p>Purpose is Moderately Complex: It is implied but easy to identify based upon context.</p>		<p>One graphic with informational text. Structure begins with a narrative lead and describes the process of making chocolate and the distribution.</p> <p>Text structure is slightly complex. Connections between processes are explicit and clear; organization of text is chronological, sequential and can be somewhat easy to predict.</p>	
Prior Knowledge Demands		Language Features	
<p>Knowledge Demands are Very Complex: Relies on moderate levels of discipline-specific knowledge; includes a mix of recognizable ideas and challenging abstract concepts.</p>		<p>Content-specific language related to manufacturing, production and distribution of chocolate.</p> <p>Language Features are Moderately Complex. Conventionality is largely explicit and easy to understand with some occasions for more complex meaning. Vocabulary is mostly contemporary, familiar, conversational; some unfamiliar and content specific. Sentence structure is primarily simple with some compound sentences.</p>	
Potential Reader/Task Challenges			
<p>Interesting subject for fifth and sixth graders that provides background information, students may want to continue researching. Scaffolding is built into the lesson to briefly explain fair trade practices, which may be new knowledge for some and may require additional reading</p>			
Big Takeaway			
<p>6.1 – Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.</p> <p>6.4 – Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including technical meanings.</p> <p>6.10 – Read and comprehend literary nonfiction in the text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.</p> <p>Students develop a sense of consumer responsibility in purchasing chocolate that is produced in countries with fair trade practices. This lesson can be expanded, as students may want to take on this “cause” and write persuasive essays to politicians or manufacturers who support poor working conditions.</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"> indulge origins thrive idyllic scenarios sustainability prohibit trafficking designated 	vehicle
Words that cannot be determined in context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cacao tree – cocoa pods regulations commodities adhere 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Countries that are “still developing” First world countries child exploitation unsafe conditions National and international regulations fair trade fair trade movement earth friendly fair trade certified operations