

## Text Complexity Analysis Template

Text complexity analysis			
<b>Created by:</b>	Christina Carew	<b>Event/Date:</b>	Connecticut 7/29/2014
<b>Text and Author</b>	<i>Why being a thinker means pocketing your smartphone</i>	<b>Where to Access Text</b>	<a href="http://www.cnn.com/2013/10/23/tech/innovation/thinking-time/">http://www.cnn.com/2013/10/23/tech/innovation/thinking-time/</a>
Text Description			
<b>This article's main idea is that Smartphones don't allow people to daydream any more. People feel the need to occupy all of their spare minutes with digital satisfaction and that may be hurting people by not allowing them to actually think.</b>			
Quantitative			
<b>Lexile and Grade Level</b>	1000 L	<b>Text Length</b>	626 words
Qualitative			
Meaning/Central Ideas		Text Structure/Organization	
Slightly Complex: The main idea is explicitly stated when it says "If you want to get any creative thinking done, shut off the damned smartphone and detach, reflect, and recharge."		Slightly Complex: Text is clear, easy to predict and in chronological order. There are no graphics.	
Prior Knowledge Demands		Language Features	
<p>Moderately Complex: Students will need to have experience with using a smart phone and be aware of its addictive qualities. Students will also need to know about Samuel Johnson's line about the "prospects of being hanged." It is a quote he said: "Nothing concentrates a man's mind more than the prospect of being hanged in the morning." This quote could be a schema activator. This quote can be tied in to the reference in the article about "impending deadlines."</p> <p>There are also references to Henry Ford and Tom Watson. Students will need to know about Henry Ford's factory line and Tom Watson's IBM business.</p>		<p>Moderately Complex: There are a few tier 2 academic vocabulary words and one technical Tier 3 vocabulary word.</p> <p>The article ends in an oxymoron: "I find that the quietest times of my life speak the loudest."</p> <p>Primarily compound sentences.</p>	
Potential Reader/Task Challenges			
There are some complex vocabulary words in the article. Also, students might be confused by the Samuel Johnson reference. Students who need assistance with vocabulary can be given the words in advance and can use context clues in the article to define the words.			

### **Big Takeaway**

RI.9-10.6 Students will determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how an author uses rhetoric to advance that point of view or purpose.

The big takeaway is for students to realize how the author evolves his idea, through rhetoric, that having down time away from smart phones can actually stimulate imaginations by allowing the mind time to daydream.

## 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	Efficiency Undergirds Intuition Impending	Fruition Headway
Words that cannot be determined in context	Economist	Apocryphal