#### **Text Complexity Analysis Template**

| Text complexity analysis |                               |                      |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Created by:              | Jennifer Kinsall              | Event/Date:          | Teachfest, July 28, 2014   |  |  |  |
| Text and Author          | "The Pedestrian" Ray Bradbury | Where to Access Text | http://mikejmoran.typepad.com/files/pedestrian-by-bradbury-1.pdf |  |  |  |
|                          |                               |                      |  |  |  |  |

#### **Text Description**

Leonard Mead, protagonist of "The Pedestrian," feels immense isolation in his futuristic society, an anti-utopian world dominated by television. Mead enjoys walking at night, an act that no one else does, and is considered a crime. During one of Mead's evening strolls, he encounters a police car automaton. The police car cannot comprehend why Mead would be walking alone for leisure, so forces Leonard to get into the car, and takes him to the Center for Research on Regressive Tendencies.

| Quantitative Quantitative  |   |  |                   |  |  |
|--|---|--|-------------------|--|--|
| Lexile and Grade Level   | Grade 10  | Text Length  | 1446 words        |  |  |
| Qualitative  |   |  |                   |  |  |
| N  | Meaning/Central Ideas   | Text Structure/Organization  |                   |  |  |
| may result in regression, rath   | eader to examine whether advances in technology er than progress. He also suggests that this type strip humans of their humanity. | Short story, linear, chronological, conventional.  |                   |  |  |
| Prid   | or Knowledge Demands  |  | Language Features |  |  |
| Prior knowledge demands include understanding what an anti-utopian society is. Students also will need to understand the following literary terms: simile, metaphor, protagonist, imagery, setting, tone, and irony. |   | There is a lot of figurative language, including metaphors, similes, and imagery. Overall, the language is contemporary, but there are some challenging vocabulary words. The author also expects the reader to understand the connotation of certain words in order to understand the desired tone. |                   |  |  |
| Petantial Penday/Tank Challenges   |   |  |                   |  |  |

### Potential Reader/Task Challenges

Students may struggle with the settings and understanding how a society could have reached a point where its members live in such utter isolation. They also might struggle with comprehending the tone that the author is trying to establish through his use of figurative language and word connotations.

## **Big Takeaway**

Students should be able to identify the theme of the short story, and be able to explain how the setting and tone helped to reveal this theme.

# **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    | Stride Flickers Murmurs Calvary Puttering Entranced Specimen Fiery Manifest         | Intermittent Surge Illumination Ebbing Touching Cold (connotation)   |
| Words that cannot be determined in context | Misty Buckling Seams Revue Scarab-beetles Riveted                                   | Antiseptic<br>Regressive tendencies  |