

Text Complexity Analysis Template

Text complexity analysis			
Created by:	Kimberly Garger	Event/Date:	TeachFest Connecticut: Summer Academy July 29, 2014
Text and Author	A Star-Spangled Banner	Where to Access Text	Readworks.org
Text Description			
Short informational text to educate about our national anthem. It teaches what an anthem is and what the title “A Star-Spangled Banner” means.			
Quantitative			
Lexile and Grade Level	720L / Grade 1/2	Text Length	5 paragraphs – 133 words
Qualitative			
Meaning/Central Ideas		Text Structure/Organization	
The big idea in this text is teaching one about what an anthem is and what the title of our anthem means. This idea is more abstract and will require whole group discussions to infer the message.		This text structure and organization is moderately complex. The connections between the ideas are subtle. The organization is evident and generally sequential.	
Prior Knowledge Demands		Language Features	
The subject matter knowledge is very complex and relies on moderate levels of discipline specific knowledge. It includes a variety of recognizable ideas and has some challenging abstract concepts.		The language features are very complex. There is some abstract and figurative language. Some of the vocabulary words listed below may be unfamiliar to the students and is subject specific. Students will be able to use sentence-level context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase (L.1.4a)	
Potential Reader/Task Challenges			
Engaging subject matter that is age appropriate for first and second graders. Most students will have the knowledge necessary to access the content of this short text. A group discussion will need to occur to facilitate the understanding of the big idea about our national anthem. They will be able to identify the main topic and retell key details of a text (RI.1.5).			
Big Takeaway			
It is important to learn about the history of our country. Understanding our national anthem will help students to understand the freedoms we enjoy by living in our country. This will help students understand that they should not take freedom for granted. With prompting and support, students will read this informational text (RI.1.10).			

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	<p>United States of America (tier 1) Song (tier 1) Stars (tier 1) Story (tier 1) Fighting (tier 1) Writer (tier 1) Flying (tier 1) Land (tier 1)</p>	<p>Battle (tier 2) Exploding (tier 2) Rockets (tier 2) Freedom (tier 2) Bombs (tier 2) Celebrates (tier 2) Star-spangled (tier 3)</p>
Words that cannot be determined in context	<p>Country (tier 1) Wonders (tier 1)</p>	<p>National (tier 3) Anthem (tier 3)</p>