ELA Tool #6a

Resource: Qualitative Analysis Rubric for Informational Texts¹

Text Title_____

Text Author_____

| Feature | Slightly Complex | Moderately Complex | Very Complex | Exceedingly Complex |
|--|--|---|--|--|
| | Organization: Connections among ideas, processes, or events are explicit and clear; organization of text is chronological, sequential, or easy to predict. | Organization: Connections among some ideas, processes, or events are implicit or subtle; organization is evident and generally sequential or chronological. | Organization: Connections among an expanded range of ideas, processes, or events are often implicit or subtle; organization may contain multiple pathways or exhibit some discipline-specific traits. | Organization: Connections among an extensive range of ideas, processes, or events are deep, intricate, and often ambiguous; organization is intricate or discipline-specific. |
| STRUCTURE | Text Features: If used, help the reader navigate and understand content but are not essential to understanding content. | Text Features: If used, enhance the reader's understanding of content. | Text Features: If used, directly enhance the reader's understanding of content. | Text Features: If used, are essential in understanding content. |
| | Graphics: If used, are simple and unnecessary to understanding the text, but may support and assist readers in understanding the text. | Graphics: If used, are mostly supplemental to understanding the text. | Graphics: If used, support or are integral to understanding the text. | Graphics: If used, are intricate, extensive, and integral to making meaning of the text; may provide information not otherwise conveyed in the text. |
| LANGUAGE CLARITY AND CONVENTIONS | Conventionality: Language is explicit, literal, straightforward, and easy to understand. | Conventionality: Language is largely explicit and easy to understand, with some occasions for more complex meaning. | Conventionality: Language is fairly complex; contains some abstract, ironic, and/or figurative language. | Conventionality: Language is dense and complex; contains considerable abstract, ironic, and/or figurative language. |

¹ Adapted from Appendix A: Research Supporting Key Elements of the Standards, Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy in History/Social Studies and Science and Technical Subjects (2010).

| Feature | Slightly Complex | Moderately Complex | Very Complex | Exceedingly Complex |
|----------------------|--|--|---|---|
| | Vocabulary: Words are contemporary, familiar, and conversational. | Vocabulary: Words are mostly contemporary, familiar, and conversational; rarely overly academic. | Vocabulary: Words are fairly complex and sometimes unfamiliar, archaic, subject- specific, or overly academic. | Vocabulary: Words are complex and generally unfamiliar, archaic, subject- specific, or overly academic; may be ambiguous or purposefully misleading. |
| | Sentence Structure: Uses mainly simple sentences. | Sentence Structure: Uses primarily simple and compound sentences, with some complex constructions. | Sentence Structure: Uses many complex sentences, with several subordinate phrases or clauses and transition words. | Sentence Structure: Uses mainly complex sentences, with several subordinate clauses or phrases and transition words; sentences often contain multiple concepts. |
| KNOWLEDGE DEMANDS | Subject Matter Knowledge: Relies on everyday, practical knowledge; includes simple, concrete ideas. | Subject Matter Knowledge: Relies on common, practical knowledge and some discipline-specific content knowledge; includes a mix of simple and more complicated, abstract ideas. | Subject Matter Knowledge: Relies on moderate levels of discipline-specific or theoretical knowledge; includes a mix of recognizable ideas and challenging abstract concepts. | Subject Matter Knowledge: Relies on extensive levels of discipline-specific or theoretical knowledge; includes a range of challenging abstract concepts. |
| | Intertextuality: Includes no references or allusions to other texts, or outside ideas, theories, etc. | Intertextuality: Includes few references or allusions to other texts or outside ideas, theories, etc. | Intertextuality: Includes some references or allusions to other texts or outside ideas, theories, etc. | Intertextuality: Includes many references or allusions to other texts or outside ideas, theories, etc. |
| PURPOSE | Purpose: Is explicitly stated, clear, concrete, and narrowly focused. | Purpose: Is implied but easy to identify based on context or source. | Purpose: Is implicit or subtle but fairly easy to infer; is more theoretical or abstract than concrete. | Purpose: Is subtle and intricate, and difficult to determine; includes many theoretical or abstract elements. |

ELA Tool #6b

Resource: Qualitative Analysis Rubric for Literary Texts²

| Text Title | Text Author | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Feature | Slightly Complex | Moderately Complex | Very Complex | Exceedingly Complex | |
| STRUCTURE | Organization: Is clear, chronological, or easy to predict. | Organization: May have two or more storylines and occasionally be difficult to predict. | Organization: May include subplots, time shifts, and complex characters. | Organization: Is intricate with regard to elements such as point of view, time shifts, multiple characters, storylines, and detail. | |
| | Graphics: If used, are simple and unnecessary to understanding the text, but may support and assist readers in understanding the text. | Graphics: If used, are mostly supplemental to understanding the text. | Graphics: If used, support or are integral to understanding the text. | Graphics: If used, are intricate, extensive, and integral to making meaning of the text; may provide information not otherwise conveyed in the text. | |
| LANGUAGE CLARITY AND CONVENTIONS | Conventionality: Language is explicit, literal, straightforward, and easy to understand. | Conventionality: Language is largely explicit and easy to understand, with some occasions for more complex meaning. | Conventionality: Language is fairly complex; contains some abstract, ironic, and/or figurative language. | Conventionality: Language is dense and complex; contains considerable abstract, ironic, and/or figurative language. | |
| | Vocabulary: Words are contemporary, familiar, and conversational. | Vocabulary: Words are mostly contemporary, familiar, conversational, and rarely overly academic. | Vocabulary: Words are fairly complex and sometimes unfamiliar, archaic, subject- specific, or overly academic. | Vocabulary: Words are complex and generally unfamiliar, archaic, subject- specific, or overly academic; may be ambiguous or purposefully misleading. | |

² Adapted from Appendix A: Research Supporting Key Elements of the Standards, Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy in History/Social Studies and Science and Technical Subjects (2010).

| Feature | Slightly Complex | Moderately Complex | Very Complex | Exceedingly Complex |
|----------------------|--|---|--|---|
| | Sentence Structure: Uses mainly simple sentences. | Sentence Structure: Uses primarily simple and compound sentences, with some complex constructions. | Sentence Structure: Uses many complex sentences with several subordinate phrases or clauses and transition words. | Sentence Structure: Uses mainly complex sentences with several subordinate clauses or phrases and transition words; sentences often contain multiple concepts. |
| KNOWLEDGE DEMANDS | Life Experiences: Explores a single theme; experiences portrayed are everyday and common to most readers. | Life Experiences: Explores several themes; experiences portrayed are common to many readers. | Life Experiences: Explores themes of varying levels of complexity or abstraction; experiences portrayed are uncommon to most readers. | Life Experiences: Explores complex, sophisticated, or abstract themes; experiences portrayed are distinctly different from those of most readers. |
| | Intertextuality: Includes no reference or allusion to other texts or outside ideas, theories, etc. | Intertextuality: Includes few references or allusions to other texts or outside ideas, theories, etc. | Intertextuality: Includes some references or allusions to other texts or outside ideas, theories, etc. | Intertextuality: Includes many references or allusions to other texts or outside ideas, theories, etc. |
| MEANING | Meaning: Has one level of meaning; theme is obvious and revealed early in the text. | Meaning: Has multiple levels of meaning clearly distinguished from each other; theme is clear but may be conveyed with some subtlety. | Meaning: Has multiple levels of meaning that may be difficult to identify or separate; theme is implicit or subtle and may be revealed over the entirety of the text. | Meaning: Has multiple competing levels of meaning that are difficult to identify, separate, and interpret; theme is implicit or subtle, often ambiguous and revealed over the entirety of the text. |