

Measures of Text Difficulty

Appendix C: Common Scale for Band Level Text Difficulty Ranges

Text Analyzer Tools						
Common Scale for Band	ATOS	DRP	FK	Lexile	SR	RM
2 nd -3 rd	2.75-5.14	42-54	1.98-5.34	420-820	0.005-2.48	3.53-6.13
4 th -5 th	4.97-7.03	52-60	4.51-7.73	740-1010	0.84-5.75	5.42-7.92
6 th -8 th	7.00-9.98	57-67	6.51-10.34	925-1185	4.11-10.66	7.04-9.57
9 th -10 th	9.67-12.01	62-72	8.32-12.12	1050-1335	9.02-13.93	8.41-10.81
11 th -CCR	11.20-14.10	67.74	10.34-14.20	1185-1385	12.30-14.50	9.57-12.00

Key:

ATOS: ATOS (Renaissance Learning) – Used by Accelerated Reader
 DRP: Degrees of Reading Power (Questar Assessment, Inc.)
 FK: Flesch Kincaid (public domain, no mass analyzer tool available)
 Lexile: Lexile Framework (MetaMetrics) – Used by Scholastic Reading Counts
 SR: Source Rater (Educational Testing Service)
 RM: Pearson Reading Maturity Metric (Pearson Education)
 Not in report: Guided Reading – Uses Fountas & Pinnell

Distribution of Literary and Informational Passages by Grade in the 2009 NAEP Reading Framework (Common Core ELA)

Grade	Literary	Information
4	50%	50%
8	45%	55%
12	30%	70%

(2008). *Reading framework for the 2009 National Assessment of Educational Progress*. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office.

Distribution of Communicative Purposes by Grade in the 2011 NAEP Writing Framework (Common Core ELA)

Grade	To Convey Experience	To Persuade	To Explain
4	35%	30%	35%
8	30%	35%	35%
12	20%	40%	40%

Source: National Assessment Governing Board. (2007). *Writing framework for the 2011 National Assessment of Educational Progress, pre-publication edition*. Iowa City, IA: ACT, Inc.

Resources

Text measures:

- www.lexile.com Search for books to find Lexile scores, learn about implementing Lexile professional development, and utilize the Lexile Framework to match readers with corresponding texts.
 - Text complexity: <http://www.lexile.com/using-lexile/lexile-measures-and-the-ccssi/the-common-core-and-text-complexity/>
 - Lexile bands: <http://www.lexile.com/using-lexile/lexile-measures-and-the-ccssi/text-complexity-grade-bands-and-lexile-ranges/>
- www.arbookfind.com Search for books to find ATOS book levels, interest levels, AR points, quiz types and publisher information.
- Measures of Text Difficulty: See a comparison of six metrics and implications for education.
http://www.ccsso.org/Documents/2012/Measures%20ofText%20Difficulty_final.2012.pdf
- Supplemental Information for Appendix A of the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy: New Research on Text Complexity
http://www.corestandards.org/assets/E0813_Appendix_A_New_Research_on_Text_Complexity.pdf

Common Core

www.corestandards.org View information about the standards (criteria, FAQs, process), access presentations, and view differences among states. Listed by standard.

- Common Core Appendix A (includes Glossary of Key Terms, p.42-43)
http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix_A.pdf
- Standards listed by Grade Level:
http://www.isbe.net/common_core/pdf/ELA_common_core_standards.pdf
- AASL Crosswalk of the Common Core Standards and the Standards for the 21st-Century Learner
<http://www.ala.org/aasl/guidelinesandstandards/commoncorecrosswalk>
- Common Core Appendix B (includes text exemplars and sample performance tasks)
http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix_B.pdf
- LiveBinder – School Librarians and the Common Core Standards: Resources by Carolyn Jo Starkey
<http://www.livebinders.com/play/play/84777>

A comprehensive collection of links to information for librarians on all aspects of the Common Core. LiveBinder is a tool to organize and share digital information. Users can keep track of URL links easily, and upload PDF and word docs into one binder.

Text analyzers

- <http://lexile.com/analyzer/>
- <http://www.renlearn.com/atos/default.aspx>