

**Text Complexity: Qualitative Measures Rubric**  
**INFORMATIONAL TEXTS**

Text Title \_\_\_\_\_

Text Author \_\_\_\_\_

	Exceedingly Complex	Very Complex	Moderately Complex	Slightly Complex
PURPOSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Purpose:</b> Subtle, implied, difficult to determine; intricate, theoretical elements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Purpose:</b> Implied, but fairly easy to infer; more theoretical than concrete</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Purpose:</b> Implied, but easy to identify based upon context or source</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Purpose:</b> Explicitly stated; clear, concrete with a narrow focus</li> </ul>
TEXT STRUCTURE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Organization of Main Ideas:</b> Connections between an extensive range of ideas or events are deep, intricate and often implicit or subtle; organization of the text is intricate or specialized for a particular discipline</li> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Text Features:</b> If used, are essential in understanding content</li> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Use of Graphics:</b> If used, extensive, intricate, essential integrated graphics, tables, charts, etc., necessary to make meaning of text; also may provide information not otherwise conveyed in the text</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Organization of Main Ideas:</b> Connections between an expanded range ideas, processes or events are deeper and often implicit or subtle; organization may contain multiple pathways and may exhibit traits common to a specific discipline</li> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Text Features:</b> If used, greatly enhance the reader's understanding of content</li> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Use of Graphics:</b> If used, essential integrated graphics, tables, charts, etc.; may occasionally be essential to understanding the text</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Organization of Main Ideas:</b> Connections between some ideas or events are implicit or subtle; organization is evident and generally sequential</li> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Text Features:</b> If used, enhance the reader's understanding of content</li> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Use of Graphics:</b> If used, graphics mostly supplementary to understanding of the text, such as indexes, glossaries; graphs, pictures, tables, and charts directly support the text</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Organization of Main Ideas:</b> Connections between ideas, processes or events are explicit and clear; organization of text is clear or chronological or easy to predict</li> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Text Features:</b> If used, help the reader navigate and understand content but are not essential</li> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Use of Graphics:</b> If used, simple graphics, unnecessary to understanding the text but directly support and assist in interpreting the written text</li> </ul>
LANGUAGE FEATURES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Conventionality:</b> Dense and complex; contains abstract, ironic, and/or figurative language</li> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Vocabulary:</b> Generally unfamiliar, archaic, subject-specific, or overly academic language; may be ambiguous or purposefully misleading</li> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Sentence Structure:</b> Mainly complex sentences often containing multiple concepts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Conventionality:</b> Complex; contains some abstract, ironic, and/or figurative language</li> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Vocabulary:</b> Somewhat complex language that is sometimes unfamiliar, archaic, subject-specific, or overly academic</li> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Sentence Structure:</b> Many complex sentences with several subordinate phrases or clauses and transition words</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Conventionality:</b> Largely explicit and easy to understand with some occasions for more complex meaning</li> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Vocabulary:</b> Mostly contemporary, familiar, conversational; rarely unfamiliar or overly academic</li> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Sentence Structure:</b> Simple and compound sentences, with some more complex constructions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Conventionality:</b> Explicit, literal, straightforward, easy to understand</li> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Vocabulary:</b> Contemporary, familiar, conversational language</li> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Sentence Structure:</b> Mainly simple sentences</li> </ul>
KNOWLEDGE DEMANDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Subject Matter Knowledge:</b> Extensive, perhaps specialized or even theoretical discipline-specific content knowledge; range of challenging abstract and theoretical concepts</li> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Intertextuality:</b> Many references or allusions to other texts or outside ideas, theories, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Subject Matter Knowledge:</b> Moderate levels of discipline-specific content knowledge; some theoretical knowledge may enhance understanding; range of recognizable ideas and challenging abstract concepts</li> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Intertextuality:</b> Some references or allusions to other texts or outside ideas, theories, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Subject Matter Knowledge:</b> Everyday practical knowledge and some discipline-specific content knowledge; both simple and more complicated, abstract ideas</li> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Intertextuality:</b> A few references or allusions to other texts or outside ideas, theories, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Subject Matter Knowledge:</b> Everyday, practical knowledge; simple, concrete ideas</li> <li><input type="radio"/> <b>Intertextuality:</b> No references or allusions to other texts, or outside ideas, theories, etc.</li> </ul>