

Text Complexity Analysis Template

Text complexity analysis			
Created by:	Stephanie Held	Event/Date:	TeachFest Connecticut Summer Academy July 29, 2014
Text and Author	<i>The Weather</i> by Kira Freed	Where to Access Text	www.sciencea-z.com (paid subscription service)
Text Description			
<p>This is an informational text from www.sciencea-z.com (paid subscription service) that helps students to explore the different aspects of weather including temperature, wind, clouds, precipitation, and storms. The book is laid out in sections by the type of weather. Detail is given about the types and kinds of weather in matching photographs and in text. Many photographs include captions.</p>			
Quantitative			
Lexile and Grade Level	50 L Mid level grade K	Text Length	16 pages Word Count: 219
Qualitative			
Meaning/Central Ideas		Text Structure/Organization	
<p>Weather is made up of different variables, which include temperature, wind, clouds, precipitation, and storms. These aspects change daily and with the seasons and from place to place. Weather can be hot, warm, cool, or cold. Clouds can be thick or thin or white or gray and may cover the sky completely, partially, or not at all. The wind brings us the weather and can be gentle or hard. Weather can bring us rain, snow, floods, or storms. The weather changes with each season.</p>		<p>This is an informational text that includes photographs of each weather aspect as well as a caption (no other informational text features). The author starts by giving a main idea for each aspect of weather and then includes supporting details. Each aspect of weather is classified (e.g. types of clouds, temperature, wind etc.).</p>	
Prior Knowledge Demands		Language Features	
<p>Most of the topics should be familiar to students. The teacher may want to discuss weather changes that the students have noticed as well as different types of basic weather (e.g. sunny, cloudy, snowy, rainy) prior to reading.</p>		<p>The language of the article is literal and contemporary. There are some new content words having to do with the weather.</p>	
Potential Reader/Task Challenges			
<p>Familiarity with different types of weather (e.g. have students experienced floods, storms, or snowstorms?) Understanding the differences between the seasons: how the weather changes during different times of years.</p>			
Big Takeaway			
<p>Weather is all around us and changes all the time. There are many aspects of weather. Aspects of weather include temperature, clouds, wind, precipitation, and storms. Temperature can be hot, warm, cold or cool. The sky can be clear, cloudy or partly cloudy and clouds can be thick, thin, white, or gray. The wind is moving air that brings us the weather and can be gentle or hard. Weather can bring rain, snow, floods, and storms. The weather changes with the seasons.</p>			

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hot (Tier 2) • warm (Tier 2) • cool (Tier 2) • cold (Tier 2) • clear (Tier 2) • partly cloudy (Tier 2) • lightning (Tier 2) • thunder (Tier 2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • thick (Tier 2) • thin (Tier 2) • summer (Tier 2) • fall (Tier 2) • winter (Tier 2) • spring (Tier 2)
Words that cannot be determined in context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • flood (Tier 3) • storms (Tier 3) • seasons (Tier 3) • precipitation (Tier 3) 	