

Text-Based Comprehension



Text Complexity Measures

Use the rubric to familiarize yourself with the text complexity of **Coyote School News**.

Bridge to Complex Knowledge

Quantitative Measures	Lexile	740L
	Average Sentence Length	12.03
	Word Frequency	3.66

Qualitative Measures	Levels of Meaning	understand historical fiction; figurative language: onomatopoeia; understand how setting contributes to the story
	Structure	dialogue; unconventional, unusual structure; map; newspaper front pages; explicit structure; glossary with pronunciations
	Language Conventinality and Clarity	non-English words; sentences that include lists
	Theme and Knowledge Demands	references to other cultures; experiences that are very different from one's own; a basic knowledge of life in the Southwest and U.S. history in the 1930s; references to other literary text (movie reference)

Reader and Task Suggestions	FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT Based on assessment results, use the Reader and Task Suggestions in Access Main Selection to scaffold the selection or support independence for students as they read Coyote School News .	
	READER AND TASK SUGGESTIONS	
	Preparing to Read the Text	Leveled Tasks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss how to use a dictionary or glossary to understand unfamiliar words. • Point out text features the author uses to organize the selection, such as maps, photographs, newspaper articles, and glossaries. • Remind students that they may need to adjust their reading rate to understand the non-English words and figurative language in the selection. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language Conventinality and Clarity If students find the words in Spanish confusing, have students look at pp. 204-205. Show them how the glossary at the bottom of p. 205 provides a translation and pronunciation for the Spanish words. • Theme and Knowledge Demands The knowledge demands of this selection may be challenging for students. Have them examine the photographs for details about life in the Southwest and U.S. history in the 1930s.

Recommended Placement One of the quantitative measures suggests this text might be slightly below the Grade 4–5 text complexity band. The unconventional structure and knowledge demands raise the overall text complexity of the selection and make it appropriately placed at this level.