

Text-Based Comprehension



Text Complexity Measures

Use the rubric to familiarize yourself with the text complexity of *My Brother Martin*.

Bridge to Complex Knowledge

Quantitative Measures	Lexile	1060L
	Average Sentence Length	17.38
	Word Frequency	3.59

Qualitative Measures	Levels of Meaning	understand biographies; understand the writer's motivation to write about her brother; figurative language: onomatopoeia
	Structure	mostly conventional structure; unusual structure (speech excerpt); introductory paragraph
	Language Conventionality and Clarity	clear, literal language; academic language
	Theme and Knowledge Demands	a basic knowledge of segregation and African Americans' struggle for civil rights; experiences that may be different from one's own

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 <i>My Brother Martin</i> .	
	READER AND TASK SUGGESTIONS	
	Preparing to Read the Text	Leveled Tasks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review skills and strategies for using root words and word structure to find meanings of new words. Discuss segregation and African Americans' struggle for civil rights. Remind students to adjust their reading rate in order to gather facts and details about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Levels of Meaning • Analysis If students have difficulty understanding the figurative language, have them identify context clues to figure out meanings of phrases such as “three peas in a pod” and “stuck together like the pages of a book.” Structure If students have difficulty understanding the speech excerpt, analyze each line individually. Have students identify the places on a map, and think about why freedom in all those places would be important to Dr. King.

Recommended Placement Some of the quantitative and qualitative measures suggest this text may be outside the Grade 4–5 text complexity band. Students will benefit from scaffolded support as they work through the biography. Support for students as they work through the quote excerpt will make the content of this selection more accessible.