

Text-Based Comprehension



Text Complexity Measures

Use the rubric to familiarize yourself with the text complexity of *Sweet Music in Harlem*.

Bridge to Complex Knowledge

Quantitative Measures	Lexile	860
	Average Sentence Length	11.96
	Word Frequency	3.75

Qualitative Measures	Levels of Meaning	understand how characters are used in realistic fiction; figurative language: idioms, hyperbole, simile
	Structure	predictable structure; conventional chronology
	Language Conventinality and Clarity	natural, conversational language; humor
	Theme and Knowledge Demands	a basic knowledge of jazz instruments; simple theme; references to experiences that may be very 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>Sweet Music in Harlem</i> .	
	READER AND TASK SUGGESTIONS	
	Preparing to Read the Text	Leveled Tasks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using the information on p. 438e, review strategies for using context clues to determine the meanings of homographs. Explain how dialogue in realistic fiction often contains regional dialect. Remind students to slow down or re-read certain passages as they encounter unfamiliar words or challenging syntax. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Levels of Meaning • Evaluation Students may have difficulty understanding figurative language and idioms. As they read, reminds students that not every word or phrase in the selection should be taken literally. Language Conventinality and Clarity Students may not have difficulty recognizing the selection's lively tone. As they read, have them point out specific words that help create this tone.

Recommended Placement Both the qualitative and quantitative measures suggest this text should be placed in the Grade 4–5 text complexity band, which is where both the Common Core State Standards and *Scott Foresman Reading Street* have placed it.