

Exercise: Consider Options for Complex Texts

Teachers must be aware of what qualifies a text to be complex. Review this chapter's three criteria for text complexity—and the "Tool for Measuring Text Complexity" in appendix A (page 255)—to ascertain the complexity level of any text your team has under consideration for classroom instruction. Make plans as a team to select appropriately challenging texts or review current texts for this purpose. Use the following questions to guide this exercise.

- What texts do we already use? Should we re-evaluate any texts for complexity?
- Have we considered using culturally responsive texts? (See chapter 9, page 227.)
- Which complex texts can we use as mentor texts (exemplary models) to illustrate learning targets in the unit? (See chapter 7, page 165, for a detailed discussion about mentor texts.)