

# Text Complexity: Qualitative Measures Rubric—Literature

Text Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Text Author: \_\_\_\_\_

	Exceedingly Complex	Very Complex	Moderately Complex	Slightly Complex
<b>Text Structure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Organization:</b> Is intricate with regard to such elements as point of view, time shifts, multiple characters, storylines and detail</li> <li>○ <b>Use of Graphics:</b> If used, illustrations or graphics are essential for understanding the meaning of the text</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Organization:</b> May include subplots, time shifts and more complex characters</li> <li>○ <b>Use of Graphics:</b> If used, illustrations or graphics support or extend the meaning of the text</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Organization:</b> May have two or more storylines and occasionally be difficult to predict</li> <li>○ <b>Use of Graphics:</b> If used, a range of illustrations or graphics support selected parts of the text</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Organization:</b> Is clear, chronological or easy to predict</li> <li>○ <b>Use of Graphics:</b> If used, either illustrations directly support and assist in interpreting the text or are not necessary to understanding the meaning of the text</li> </ul>
<b>Language Features</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Conventionality:</b> Dense and complex; contains abstract, ironic, and/or figurative language</li> <li>○ <b>Vocabulary:</b> Complex, generally unfamiliar, archaic, subject-specific, or overly academic language; may be ambiguous or purposefully misleading</li> <li>○ <b>Sentence Structure:</b> Mainly complex sentences with several subordinate clauses or phrases; sentences often contain multiple concepts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Conventionality:</b> Fairly complex; contains some abstract, ironic, and/or figurative language</li> <li>○ <b>Vocabulary:</b> Fairly complex language that is sometimes unfamiliar, archaic, subject-specific, or overly academic</li> <li>○ <b>Sentence Structure:</b> Many complex sentences with several subordinate phrases or clauses and transition words</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Conventionality:</b> Largely explicit and easy to understand with some occasions for more complex meaning</li> <li>○ <b>Vocabulary:</b> Mostly contemporary, familiar, conversational; rarely unfamiliar or overly academic</li> <li>○ <b>Sentence Structure:</b> Primarily simple and compound sentences, with some complex constructions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Conventionality:</b> Explicit, literal, straightforward, easy to understand</li> <li>○ <b>Vocabulary:</b> Contemporary, familiar, conversational language</li> <li>○ <b>Sentence Structure:</b> Mainly simple sentences</li> </ul>
<b>Meaning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Meaning:</b> Multiple competing levels of meaning that are difficult to identify, separate, and interpret; theme is implicit or subtle, often ambiguous and revealed over the entirety of the text</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Meaning:</b> Multiple levels of meaning that may be difficult to identify or separate; theme is implicit or subtle and may be revealed over the entirety of the text</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Meaning:</b> Multiple levels of meaning clearly distinguished from each other; theme is clear but may be conveyed with some subtlety</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Meaning:</b> One level of meaning; theme is obvious and revealed early in the text.</li> </ul>

# REPRODUCIBLE

	Exceedingly Complex	Very Complex	Moderately Complex	Slightly Complex
<b>Knowledge Demands</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Life Experiences:</b> Explores complex, sophisticated or abstract themes; experiences portrayed are distinctly different from the common reader</li> <li>○ <b>Intertextuality and Cultural Knowledge:</b> Many references or allusions to other texts or cultural elements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Life Experiences:</b> Explores themes of varying levels of complexity or abstraction; experiences portrayed are uncommon to most readers</li> <li>○ <b>Intertextuality and Cultural Knowledge:</b> Some references or allusions to other texts or cultural elements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Life Experiences:</b> Explores several themes; experiences portrayed are common to many readers</li> <li>○ <b>Intertextuality and Cultural Knowledge:</b> Few references or allusions to other texts or cultural elements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Life Experiences:</b> Explores a single theme; experiences portrayed are everyday and common to most readers</li> <li>○ <b>Intertextuality and Cultural Knowledge:</b> No references or allusions to other texts or cultural elements</li> </ul>

*Source: Achieve the Core. (n.d.). Reviewing using the IMET: ELA: Module 101—high-quality texts, evidence-based discussion and writing, and building knowledge. Accessed at [https://achievethecore.org/content/upload/Understanding%20the%20IMET\\_ELA.LIT\\_Handout\\_101.pdf](https://achievethecore.org/content/upload/Understanding%20the%20IMET_ELA.LIT_Handout_101.pdf) on April 29, 2020.*