

CCRS Teacher Workout

Matching Readers with Texts and Tasks

Time needed: 20-30 minutes

Goals:

- Review how to interpret measures of text complexity (a.k.a. Lexile or ATOS score)
- Use measures of text complexity in classroom situations to aid in choosing texts and activities

Materials

[Matching Readers with Texts and Tasks Worksheet](#)

Introduction

1. Look at page 21 of the [CCRS book](#) at Reading Anchor 10, which is a chart showing quantitative measures of text complexity. If needed, ask someone familiar with the chart to give a brief overview of how to use it.
2. Show the website for [Lexile](#) (free registration is required) and the one for [ATOS](#). For each, point out the text box and submit button to show how to generate a complexity rating for a text. A handout for how to use the Lexile Free Analyzer can be found [here](#). A handout for how to use the ATOS Analyzer can be found [here](#).

Practice

3. *Introduce the activity: “The purpose of this activity is to apply text complexity ratings to classroom situations. Knowing both how complex a text is and the complexity of the related activities helps with designing effective lessons. These lessons allow learners to experience productive struggle without overwhelming them.”*
4. Show the “Matching Readers with Texts and Tasks Worksheet,” pointing out the sections in the worksheet where participants will fill them in with a text and an activity.
5. Participants can work individually, in pairs, or in groups to complete the worksheet.
6. If time permits, identify the CCR English Language Arts Standards the tasks in the worksheet are targeting.

Wrap Up

7. Discuss takeaways and next steps, such as the benefits of measuring text complexity.