

# Using Lexile Levels and SRI Data for Improving Reading Instruction

# What is the purpose of Lexile levels?

- To assess the reading difficulty of texts
- To assess students' ranges of reading comprehension
- To predict how well a student is likely to comprehend a particular text

# What is a Lexile and how is it determined?

A Lexile measure is an indicator of how difficult a text is to comprehend based upon:

- Word frequency
- Sentence length

# Sample Text Comparison

Most people stay away from snakes. But not Jesus Rivas. He likes to follow them. He follows a snake called the anaconda. It is one of the biggest snakes in the world. Rivas takes the anaconda from the water. He studies it. Then Rivas puts the snake back. His job makes him a snake stalker. (280L)

# Sample Text Comparison Cont:

Everyone should stay focused at work, but if Jesus Rivas gets distracted for even a moment, he could be strangled by a 500 pound snake. Rivas, a biologist, is leading the first-ever study of anacondas in the wild. (1120L)

# What *doesn't* a Lexile measure?

- Content
- Quality
- Complexity (syntax, irony, symbolism, etc.)
- Jargon
- Interest
- Design

# Lexile Correlation

- Lexile ranges correlate to grade-level equivalents indicating at risk, basic, proficient, or advanced reading performance.

Grade	At-Risk	Basic	Proficient	Advanced
9	649 and below	650 to <b>999</b>	1,000 to 1,200	1,201 and above
10	699 and below	700 to <b>1,024</b>	1,025 to 1,250	1,251 and above

# Example Lexile Levels

*Muskegon Chronicle 8/30/09*

- “County to Hold on Sewer Rates” 1030L
- “Once Endangered Cormorant” 1140L
- “Consumers Devouring Enriched Foods, Drink” 1070L

# Example Lexile Levels

## World History Textbook

- Sample 1 – 1070L
- Sample 2 – 1030L
- Sample 3 – 1010L
- Sample 4 – 940L
- Sample 5 – 1040L

## Biology Textbook

- Sample 1 – 1060
- Sample 2 – 1110
- Sample 3 – 1140
- Sample 4 – 950
- Sample 5 – 1200

## Government

- Sample 1 – 1210L
- Sample 2 – 1020L
- Sample 3 – 1130
- Sample 4 – 1270L
- Sample 5 – 1110L

## English Required Novels

- *Catcher in the Rye* 790L
- *To Kill a Mockingbird* 870L
- *The Great Gatsby* 1070L
- *Kaffir Boy* 1040L

# Example Lexile Levels

## *SIRS*

- Article 1 – 1290
- Article 2 – 970
- Article 3 – 1370
- Article 4 – 1160
- Article 5 - 1240

## *InfoTrac/GeneralOnefile*

- Article 1 – 1260
- Article 2 – 1600
- Article 3 – 1160
- Article 4 – 1310
- Article 5 - 1260

# How are students measured?

- Students are measured using the **Scholastic Reading Inventory** or **SRI**
- The **SRI** is an interactive test that determines students' comprehension ranges in Lexiles

# Comprehension Skills Tested:

- Paraphrase Information in Passage
- Drawing Conclusions from Passage
- Making Inferences
- Identifying Supporting Details
- Making Generalizations from Passage

How could we use this  
information to improve reading  
instruction?

# Goal:

To match what we teach with students'  
Lexile measures in order to leverage their  
success



**The Lexile Framework<sup>®</sup> for Reading**  
Linking assessment with reading instruction

# More information...

- All students grades 9 through 11 will be assessed using the **SRI** in September
- Results will be available on Gradebook (TBA)
- More to come on differentiating learning using Lexiles at a future in-service

Questions?