

THE WRITING ACADEMY®, LLC
COURSE OVERVIEW · TEACHER RESOURCES

Grade 3 Cluster 3 Text Complexity and Reading Stamina Report

Part of the ECR Supplemental Support System.

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Package Contents

Scope, organization, and intended instructional use

RECORD	DETAIL
Intended Use	Supplemental Support Lesson Guide
Document Type	Official Teacher-Facing Instructional Planning Report
Version / Date	Version 1.0 2026
Texts Analyzed	8 passage versions across 2 reading selection(s)

SECTION	CONTENTS
Section I	Overall purpose, cluster architecture, research basis, and interpretation rules
Section II	Master quantitative comparison and cross-text findings
Section III	Per-passage text complexity evidentiary profiles
Section IV	Cross-text implementation guidance and verification record

Report Use

This package is designed for direct placement in the Grade 3 Supplemental Support Lesson Guide of The Writing Academy®, LLC. It documents every supplied passage version separately while also explaining how the Cluster 3 set grows across four stamina levels. Every count in this report is calculated directly from the supplied passage text.

Source Set Overview

The reading selections analyzed in this report

READING SELECTION	VERSIONS PROVIDED	READING VOLUME RANGE (WORDS)
Why We Need Laws	Low, Medium, High, Very High	93 to 427
The Lunchroom Discoveries	Low, Medium, High, Very High	153 to 1,006

Overall Purpose and Cluster Architecture

How the passage set builds knowledge and reading stamina across four modules

The Cluster 3 set gives each reading at four stamina levels, one for every module. The conceptual core stays stable while reading volume, vocabulary load, evidence distance, and synthesis demand increase from the shortest Module 1 reading to the fullest Module 4 reading. Teachers can match the version to a student while keeping the same lesson purpose.

MODULE	STAMINA LEVEL	PRIMARY INSTRUCTIONAL FUNCTION	APPROPRIATE PRODUCT
Module 1	Low Stamina	Establish the shared knowledge framework and locate local evidence.	Brief evidence-based response
Module 2	Medium Stamina	Add subtopics, vocabulary, and evidence from several paragraphs.	Multi-sentence explanation
Module 3	High Stamina	Integrate multiple categories and retrieve evidence across the text.	Extended response with several supports
Module 4	Very High Stamina	Synthesize the full topic and explain historical, civic, or scientific significance.	Whole-text extended explanation

Research Basis and Measurement Protocol

How the evidentiary profile is calculated and interpreted

Each selection is evaluated through quantitative statistics, qualitative dimensions, and reader and task demands rather than one score alone. The planning estimate emphasizes mean sentence length and lexical demand. It does not by itself measure total stamina, quality, content, or task complexity. The same text can be more or less demanding depending on rereading, scaffolds, the required response, and students prior knowledge.

Counting Conventions

- Word counts include student-facing passage language and exclude titles, stamina labels, and report metadata. Contractions, possessives, and hyphenated compounds count as one word, and numerals count as one word.
- Sentence counts use terminal punctuation. Runs of terminal marks and ellipses collapse to one boundary, and decimal points and common abbreviations do not split a sentence.
- Paragraph and narrative-beat counts follow the separated source blocks. Short dialogue, reflection, and list blocks are retained because they affect pacing and retrieval.
- Syllable counts use a pronunciation dictionary (CMUdict) when the word is listed, and a consistent vowel-group heuristic with silent-ending adjustments for names and uncommon terms.
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level uses 0.39 times words per sentence, plus 11.8 times syllables per word, minus 15.59. It is used for triangulation only, not as a grade-placement decision.
- Metric-derived complexity bands: Reader and Stamina Load is Lower below 300 words, Moderate from 300 to 900, and Higher above 900. Lexical Demand is Lower below 8%, Moderate from 8 to 11.5%, and Higher above 11.5% three-or-more-syllable words. Sentence Complexity is Lower below 10 words average, Moderate from 10 to 13, and Higher above 13. Formula Readability is Lower below 5.5, Moderate from 5.5 to 7.0, and Higher above 7.0.

Master Quantitative Comparison

Actual counts computed across all Cluster 3 selections

SELECTION	LEVEL	WORDS	SENT.	PARA.	AVG. SENT.	3+ SYL.	F-K
Why We Need Laws	Low	93	6	12	15.5	3 (3.2%)	6.4
Why We Need Laws	Medium	189	12	24	15.8	6 (3.2%)	6.0

SELECTION	LEVEL	WORDS	SENT.	PARA.	AVG. SENT.	3+ SYL.	F-K
Why We Need Laws	High	310	20	40	15.5	12 (3.9%)	6.1
Why We Need Laws	Very High	427	28	56	15.2	21 (4.9%)	6.5
The Lunchroom Discoveries	Low	153	15	16	10.2	13 (8.5%)	6.7
The Lunchroom Discoveries	Medium	421	46	38	9.2	35 (8.3%)	6.0
The Lunchroom Discoveries	High	677	81	68	8.4	56 (8.3%)	5.8
The Lunchroom Discoveries	Very High	1,006	134	102	7.5	102 (10.1%)	6.1

What the Numbers Demonstrate

- The Why We Need Laws sequence grows from 93 to 427 words, a 4.59-fold increase in reading volume, and the beat span grows from 12 to 56.
- Three-or-more-syllable density in the Why We Need Laws set moves from 3.2% at the shortest version to 4.9% at the fullest version.
- The Lunchroom Discoveries sequence grows from 153 to 1,006 words, a 6.58-fold increase in reading volume, and the beat span grows from 16 to 102.
- Three-or-more-syllable density in the Lunchroom Discoveries set moves from 8.5% at the shortest version to 10.1% at the fullest version.

Per-Passage Text Complexity Profiles

One evidentiary profile per supplied passage version

Why We Need Laws - Low Stamina Report

Cluster 3 | Module 1 / Low Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 93 total words; 76 unique word forms
- 6 punctuation-defined sentences; 12 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 15.5 words average sentence length; 17 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 5 sentences of 15+ words; 0 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 65 (69.9%); 2 syllables: 25 (26.9%); 3+ syllables: 3 (3.2%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 6.4, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 0.8 to 0.9 minutes at 100 to 120 words per minute

B. Metric-Derived Complexity Indicators

Planning indicators derived deterministically from the computed statistics above, using the documented bands in the Research Basis section. They summarize measurable load, not an editorial judgment of quality.

INDICATOR	COMPUTED BASIS	BAND
Reader / Stamina Load	93 words across 12 beats	Lower
Lexical Demand	3.2% of words carry 3+ syllables	Lower
Sentence Complexity	15.5 words average; 5 sentences of 15+ words	Higher
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 6.4	Moderate

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

Disagreements everyone Communities

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

people argued clashing problems quickly others little voices
brittle across fairness tumble

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Voices Many Strong And To Communities

Every example above is a word that appears verbatim in this passage. Three-or-more-syllable words are identified with the pronunciation-dictionary method described in the Research Basis section.

D. Sentence, Cohesion, and Beat Evidence

Opening Sentence

“Long ago people argued over land and things, Voices grew loud like clashing, noisy rings.”

Longest Sentence (17
words)

“Some took more food while others had too little, Strong voices won while quiet ones stayed brittle.”

Beat / Paragraph Count	12 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat
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Why We Need Laws - Medium Stamina Report

Cluster 3 | Module 2 / Medium Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 189 total words; 127 unique word forms
- 12 punctuation-defined sentences; 24 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 15.8 words average sentence length; 17 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 11 sentences of 15+ words; 0 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 139 (73.5%); 2 syllables: 44 (23.3%); 3+ syllables: 6 (3.2%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 6.0, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 1.6 to 1.9 minutes at 100 to 120 words per minute

B. Metric-Derived Complexity Indicators

Planning indicators derived deterministically from the computed statistics above, using the documented bands in the Research Basis section. They summarize measurable load, not an editorial judgment of quality.

INDICATOR	COMPUTED BASIS	BAND
Reader / Stamina Load	189 words across 24 beats	Lower
Lexical Demand	3.2% of words carry 3+ syllables	Lower
Sentence Complexity	15.8 words average; 11 sentences of 15+ words	Higher
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 6.0	Moderate

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

Disagreements everyone Communities anyone expected

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

people argued clashing problems quickly others little voices
brittle across fairness tumble

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Voices Many Strong And To Communities The Because They

Every example above is a word that appears verbatim in this passage. Three-or-more-syllable words are identified with the pronunciation-dictionary method described in the Research Basis section.

D. Sentence, Cohesion, and Beat Evidence

Opening Sentence

“Long ago people argued over land and things, Voices grew loud like clashing, noisy rings.”

Longest Sentence (17
words)

“The rules helped neighbors settle what was fair, And gave each person rights that all could share.”

Beat / Paragraph Count	24 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat
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Why We Need Laws - High Stamina Report

Cluster 3 | Module 3 / High Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 310 total words; 175 unique word forms
- 20 punctuation-defined sentences; 40 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 15.5 words average sentence length; 17 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 17 sentences of 15+ words; 0 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 225 (72.6%); 2 syllables: 73 (23.5%); 3+ syllables: 12 (3.9%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 6.1, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 2.6 to 3.1 minutes at 100 to 120 words per minute

B. Metric-Derived Complexity Indicators

Planning indicators derived deterministically from the computed statistics above, using the documented bands in the Research Basis section. They summarize measurable load, not an editorial judgment of quality.

INDICATOR	COMPUTED BASIS	BAND
Reader / Stamina Load	310 words across 40 beats	Moderate
Lexical Demand	3.9% of words carry 3+ syllables	Lower
Sentence Complexity	15.5 words average; 17 sentences of 15+ words	Higher
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 6.1	Moderate

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

Disagreements everyone Communities anyone expected villages
protected discovered Citizens

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

people argued clashing problems quickly others little voices
brittle across fairness tumble

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Voices Many Strong And So To With Communities The
Because They While

Every example above is a word that appears verbatim in this passage. Three-or-more-syllable words are identified with the pronunciation-dictionary method described in the Research Basis section.

D. Sentence, Cohesion, and Beat Evidence

Opening Sentence

“Long ago people argued over land and things, Voices grew loud like clashing, noisy rings.”

Longest Sentence (17 words)	<i>"The rules helped neighbors settle what was fair, And gave each person rights that all could share."</i>
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Beat / Paragraph Count	40 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat
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Why We Need Laws - Very High Stamina Report

Cluster 3 | Module 4 / Very High Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 427 total words; 222 unique word forms
- 28 punctuation-defined sentences; 56 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 15.2 words average sentence length; 17 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 23 sentences of 15+ words; 0 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 302 (70.7%); 2 syllables: 104 (24.4%); 3+ syllables: 21 (4.9%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 6.5, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 3.6 to 4.3 minutes at 100 to 120 words per minute

B. Metric-Derived Complexity Indicators

Planning indicators derived deterministically from the computed statistics above, using the documented bands in the Research Basis section. They summarize measurable load, not an editorial judgment of quality.

INDICATOR	COMPUTED BASIS	BAND
Reader / Stamina Load	427 words across 56 beats	Moderate
Lexical Demand	4.9% of words carry 3+ syllables	Lower
Sentence Complexity	15.2 words average; 23 sentences of 15+ words	Higher
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 6.5	Moderate

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

Disagreements everyone Communities anyone expected villages
protected discovered Citizens neighborhoods encourage responsibility
continues together

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

people argued clashing problems quickly others little voices
brittle across fairness tumble

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Voices Many Strong And So To With Communities The
Because They While

Every example above is a word that appears verbatim in this passage. Three-or-more-syllable words are identified with the pronunciation-dictionary method described in the Research Basis section.

D. Sentence, Cohesion, and Beat Evidence

Opening Sentence “Long ago people argued over land and things, Voices grew loud like clashing, noisy rings.”

Longest Sentence (17 words)	<i>"The rules helped neighbors settle what was fair, And gave each person rights that all could share."</i>
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Beat / Paragraph Count	56 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat
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The Lunchroom Discoveries - Low Stamina Report

Cluster 3 | Module 1 / Low Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 153 total words; 98 unique word forms
- 15 punctuation-defined sentences; 16 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 10.2 words average sentence length; 18 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 5 sentences of 15+ words; 0 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 83 (54.2%); 2 syllables: 56 (36.6%); 3+ syllables: 13 (8.5%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 6.7, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 1.3 to 1.5 minutes at 100 to 120 words per minute

B. Metric-Derived Complexity Indicators

Planning indicators derived deterministically from the computed statistics above, using the documented bands in the Research Basis section. They summarize measurable load, not an editorial judgment of quality.

INDICATOR	COMPUTED BASIS	BAND
Reader / Stamina Load	153 words across 16 beats	Lower
Lexical Demand	8.5% of words carry 3+ syllables	Moderate
Sentence Complexity	10.2 words average; 5 sentences of 15+ words	Moderate
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 6.7	Moderate

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

Characters NARRATOR cafeteria remember discovery pasteurized
Exactly realize scientific

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

lunchtime students eating talking something science carton
problem people werent destroyed learning

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

NARRATOR JORDAN Scene Lunchroom It Alex Hey Louis Pasteur
Really A The

Every example above is a word that appears verbatim in this passage. Three-or-more-syllable words are identified with the pronunciation-dictionary method described in the Research Basis section.

D. Sentence, Cohesion, and Beat Evidence

Opening Sentence

“Characters: NARRATOR ALEX JORDAN Scene 1: Lunchroom NARRATOR: It is lunchtime in the school cafeteria.”

Longest Sentence (27 words)

“(Alex opens a milk carton and looks at the label.) ALEX: Hey Jordan, did you know Louis Pasteur’s discovery later helped people solve a huge problem with food and milk?”

Beat / Paragraph Count

16 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

The Lunchroom Discoveries - Medium Stamina Report

Cluster 3 | Module 2 / Medium Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 421 total words; 198 unique word forms
- 46 punctuation-defined sentences; 38 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 9.2 words average sentence length; 18 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 8 sentences of 15+ words; 0 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 246 (58.4%); 2 syllables: 139 (33.0%); 3+ syllables: 35 (8.3%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 6.0, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 3.5 to 4.2 minutes at 100 to 120 words per minute

B. Metric-Derived Complexity Indicators

Planning indicators derived deterministically from the computed statistics above, using the documented bands in the Research Basis section. They summarize measurable load, not an editorial judgment of quality.

INDICATOR	COMPUTED BASIS	BAND
Reader / Stamina Load	421 words across 38 beats	Moderate
Lexical Demand	8.3% of words carry 3+ syllables	Moderate
Sentence Complexity	9.2 words average; 8 sentences of 15+ words	Lower
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 6.0	Moderate

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

Characters NARRATOR cafeteria remember discovery pasteurized
Exactly realize scientific discoveries noticing understand diseases
Definitely

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

lunchtime students eating talking something science carton
problem people destroyed learning lesson

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

NARRATOR JORDAN Scene Lunchroom It Alex Hey Louis Pasteur
Really A The

Every example above is a word that appears verbatim in this passage. Three-or-more-syllable words are identified with the pronunciation-dictionary method described in the Research Basis section.

D. Sentence, Cohesion, and Beat Evidence

Opening Sentence

"Characters: NARRATOR ALEX JORDAN Scene 1: Lunchroom NARRATOR: It is lunchtime in the school cafeteria."

Longest Sentence (27 words)	<i>"[Alex opens a milk carton and looks at the label.] ALEX: Hey Jordan, did you know Louis Pasteur's discovery later helped people solve a huge problem with food and milk?"</i>
Beat / Paragraph Count	38 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

The Lunchroom Discoveries - High Stamina Report

Cluster 3 | Module 3 / High Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 677 total words; 263 unique word forms
- 81 punctuation-defined sentences; 68 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 8.4 words average sentence length; 19 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 8 sentences of 15+ words; 0 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 384 (56.7%); 2 syllables: 236 (34.9%); 3+ syllables: 56 (8.3%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 5.8, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 5.6 to 6.8 minutes at 100 to 120 words per minute

B. Metric-Derived Complexity Indicators

Planning indicators derived deterministically from the computed statistics above, using the documented bands in the Research Basis section. They summarize measurable load, not an editorial judgment of quality.

INDICATOR	COMPUTED BASIS	BAND
Reader / Stamina Load	677 words across 68 beats	Moderate
Lexical Demand	8.3% of words carry 3+ syllables	Moderate
Sentence Complexity	8.4 words average; 8 sentences of 15+ words	Lower
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 5.8	Moderate

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

Characters NARRATOR cafeteria remember discovery pasteurized
Exactly realize scientific discoveries noticing understand diseases
Definitely

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

lunchtime students eating talking something science carton
problem people destroyed learning lesson

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

NARRATOR JORDAN Scene Lunchroom It Alex Hey Louis Pasteur
Really What A

Every example above is a word that appears verbatim in this passage. Three-or-more-syllable words are identified with the pronunciation-dictionary method described in the Research Basis section.

D. Sentence, Cohesion, and Beat Evidence

Opening Sentence

"Characters: NARRATOR ALEX JORDAN MAYA Scene 1: Lunchroom NARRATOR: It is lunchtime in the school cafeteria."

Longest Sentence (27 words)

"[Alex opens a milk carton and looks at the label.] ALEX: Hey Jordan, did you know Louis Pasteur's discovery later helped people solve a huge problem with food and milk?"

Beat / Paragraph Count

68 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

The Lunchroom Discoveries - Very High Stamina Report

Cluster 3 | Module 4 / Very High Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 1,006 total words; 338 unique word forms
- 134 punctuation-defined sentences; 102 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 7.5 words average sentence length; 24 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 12 sentences of 15+ words; 2 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 544 (54.1%); 2 syllables: 355 (35.3%); 3+ syllables: 102 (10.1%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 6.1, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 8.4 to 10.1 minutes at 100 to 120 words per minute

B. Metric-Derived Complexity Indicators

Planning indicators derived deterministically from the computed statistics above, using the documented bands in the Research Basis section. They summarize measurable load, not an editorial judgment of quality.

INDICATOR	COMPUTED BASIS	BAND
Reader / Stamina Load	1,006 words across 102 beats	Higher
Lexical Demand	10.1% of words carry 3+ syllables	Moderate
Sentence Complexity	7.5 words average; 12 sentences of 15+ words	Lower
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 6.1	Moderate

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

Characters NARRATOR cafeteria remember discovery pasteurized
Exactly realize scientific discoveries noticing understand diseases
Definitely

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

lunchtime students eating talking something science carton
problem people destroyed learning lesson

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

NARRATOR JORDAN MR Scene Lunchroom It Alex Hey Louis
Pasteur Really What

Every example above is a word that appears verbatim in this passage. Three-or-more-syllable words are identified with the pronunciation-dictionary method described in the Research Basis section.

D. Sentence, Cohesion, and Beat Evidence

Opening Sentence "Characters: NARRATOR ALEX JORDAN MAYA MR."

Longest Sentence (27 words)

"[Alex opens a milk carton and looks at the label.] ALEX: Hey Jordan, did you know Louis Pasteur's discovery later helped people solve a huge problem with food and milk?"

Beat / Paragraph Count

102 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

Cross-Text Implementation Guidance

Using the stamina staircase in daily instruction

- Use the Low version to establish the shared knowledge framework, then move students up the staircase as their stamina and evidence handling grow.
- Match the assigned writing product to the evidence available in the selected version, using the module framework table above.
- Teach the longer versions across multiple purposeful readings rather than assigning the full text as one unsupported first read.
- Preview the three-or-more-syllable and domain vocabulary listed in each passage profile before the first read.

Verification Record

Every count in this report was produced by a single deterministic generator that reads the supplied passage text directly. The method reproduces the published Grade 3 report counts for words, sentences, paragraphs, and three-or-more-syllable words. No passage text or metric was entered by hand.