

THE WRITING ACADEMY®, LLC
COURSE OVERVIEW · TEACHER RESOURCES

Grade 4 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 4 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)
A Lone Star Choice	Low, Medium, High, Very High	155 to 406
Making it Happen	Low, Medium, High, Very High	348 to 1,754

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
A Lone Star Choice	Low	155	13	24	11.9	5 (3.2%)	4.2
A Lone Star Choice	Medium	258	21	40	12.3	9 (3.5%)	4.4

SELECTION	LEVEL	WORDS	SENT.	PARA.	AVG. SENT.	3+ SYL.	F-K
A Lone Star Choice	High	340	29	56	11.7	17 (5.0%)	4.8
A Lone Star Choice	Very High	406	35	68	11.6	26 (6.4%)	5.1
Making it Happen	Low	348	49	33	7.1	38 (10.9%)	4.2
Making it Happen	Medium	673	97	62	6.9	83 (12.3%)	4.8
Making it Happen	High	1,214	175	113	6.9	176 (14.5%)	5.3
Making it Happen	Very High	1,754	252	164	7.0	263 (15.0%)	5.4

What the Numbers Demonstrate

- The A Lone Star Choice sequence grows from 155 to 406 words, a 2.62-fold increase in reading volume, and the beat span grows from 24 to 68.
- Three-or-more-syllable density in the A Lone Star Choice set moves from 3.2% at the shortest version to 6.4% at the fullest version.
- The Making it Happen sequence grows from 348 to 1,754 words, a 5.04-fold increase in reading volume, and the beat span grows from 33 to 164.
- Three-or-more-syllable density in the Making it Happen set moves from 10.9% at the shortest version to 15.0% at the fullest version.

Per-Passage Text Complexity Profiles

One evidentiary profile per supplied passage version

A Lone Star Choice - Low Stamina Report

Cluster 3 | Module 1 / Low Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 155 total words; 110 unique word forms
- 13 punctuation-defined sentences; 24 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 11.9 words average sentence length; 16 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 2 sentences of 15+ words; 0 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 114 (73.5%); 2 syllables: 35 (22.6%); 3+ syllables: 5 (3.2%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 4.2, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 1.3 to 1.6 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	155 words across 24 beats	Lower
Lexical Demand	3.2% of words carry 3+ syllables	Lower
Sentence Complexity	11.9 words average; 2 sentences of 15+ words	Moderate
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 4.2	Lower

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

republic Mexico Wondering USa

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

beneath peoples standing unsure joining hopeful others hopeless
across soldiers marching showing

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Texas A Mexico Now About US USa But And With Each
West

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

"Texas stood beneath wide skies, A young republic in people's eyes."

Longest Sentence (15
words)

"The war came to an end at last, But its effects were strong and vast."

Beat / Paragraph Count	24 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat
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A Lone Star Choice - Medium Stamina Report

Cluster 3 | Module 2 / Medium Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 258 total words; 169 unique word forms
- 21 punctuation-defined sentences; 40 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 12.3 words average sentence length; 26 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 4 sentences of 15+ words; 1 of 20+ words; 1 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 190 (73.6%); 2 syllables: 58 (22.5%); 3+ syllables: 9 (3.5%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 4.4, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 2.1 to 2.6 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	258 words across 40 beats	Lower
Lexical Demand	3.5% of words carry 3+ syllables	Lower
Sentence Complexity	12.3 words average; 4 sentences of 15+ words	Moderate
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 4.4	Lower

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

republic Mexico Wondering USa opinions discussions Citizens
understand

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

beneath peoples standing unsure joining hopeful others hopeless
across soldiers marching showing

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Texas A Mexico Now About US In USa But And With
Each

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

“Texas stood beneath wide skies, A young republic in people’s eyes.”

Longest Sentence (26 words)

“Some believed the nation would grow, With stronger trade and room to show That Texas could become a place To prosper, learn, and keep its pace.”

Beat / Paragraph Count

40 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

A Lone Star Choice - High Stamina Report

Cluster 3 | Module 3 / High Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 340 total words; 210 unique word forms
- 29 punctuation-defined sentences; 56 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 11.7 words average sentence length; 26 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 4 sentences of 15+ words; 1 of 20+ words; 1 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 243 (71.5%); 2 syllables: 79 (23.2%); 3+ syllables: 17 (5.0%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 4.8, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 2.8 to 3.4 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	340 words across 56 beats	Moderate
Lexical Demand	5.0% of words carry 3+ syllables	Lower
Sentence Complexity	11.7 words average; 4 sentences of 15+ words	Moderate
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 4.8	Lower

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

republic Mexico Wondering USa opinions discussions Citizens
understand Newspapers surrounded conversation possible Independent
respectfully

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

beneath peoples standing unsure joining hopeful others hopeless
across soldiers marching showing

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Texas A Mexico Now About US In USa But And With
Each

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

"Texas stood beneath wide skies, A young republic in people's eyes."

Longest Sentence (26 words)	<i>“Some believed the nation would grow, With stronger trade and room to show That Texas could become a place To prosper, learn, and keep its pace.”</i>
Beat / Paragraph Count	56 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

A Lone Star Choice - Very High Stamina Report

Cluster 3 | Module 4 / Very High Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 406 total words; 231 unique word forms
- 35 punctuation-defined sentences; 68 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 11.6 words average sentence length; 26 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 4 sentences of 15+ words; 1 of 20+ words; 1 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 286 (70.4%); 2 syllables: 93 (22.9%); 3+ syllables: 26 (6.4%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 5.1, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 3.4 to 4.1 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	406 words across 68 beats	Moderate
Lexical Demand	6.4% of words carry 3+ syllables	Lower
Sentence Complexity	11.6 words average; 4 sentences of 15+ words	Moderate
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 5.1	Lower

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

republic Mexico Wondering USa opinions discussions Citizens
understand Newspapers surrounded conversation possible Independent
respectfully

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

beneath peoples standing unsure joining hopeful others hopeless
across soldiers marching showing

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Texas A Mexico Now About US In USa But And With
Each

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

"Texas stood beneath wide skies, A young republic in people's eyes."

Longest Sentence (26 words)	<i>“Some believed the nation would grow, With stronger trade and room to show That Texas could become a place To prosper, learn, and keep its pace.”</i>
Beat / Paragraph Count	68 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

Making it Happen - Low Stamina Report

Cluster 3 | Module 1 / Low Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 348 total words; 174 unique word forms
- 49 punctuation-defined sentences; 33 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 7.1 words average sentence length; 19 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 4 sentences of 15+ words; 0 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 225 (64.7%); 2 syllables: 81 (23.3%); 3+ syllables: 38 (10.9%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 4.2, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 2.9 to 3.5 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	348 words across 33 beats	Moderate
Lexical Demand	10.9% of words carry 3+ syllables	Moderate
Sentence Complexity	7.1 words average; 4 sentences of 15+ words	Lower
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 4.2	Lower

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

Characters NARRATOR AALIYAH curious MATEO ideas businesses idea
together arranges Exactly enterprise Exactlyand

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

always asking questions teacher business middle sitting raises
people actually question artists

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

NARRATOR MRS Scene Classroom It Chen Aaliyah Like Smiles
Thats So Leans

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 AALIYAH, curious and always asking questions MATEO, her friend MRS.”

Longest Sentence (19 words)	<i>“Scene 2: Walking Home NARRATOR: Later that day, Aaliyah and Mateo walk home together, thinking about what they learned.”</i>
Beat / Paragraph Count	33 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

Making it Happen - Medium Stamina Report

Cluster 3 | Module 2 / Medium Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 673 total words; 272 unique word forms
- 97 punctuation-defined sentences; 62 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 6.9 words average sentence length; 23 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 7 sentences of 15+ words; 1 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 419 (62.3%); 2 syllables: 166 (24.7%); 3+ syllables: 83 (12.3%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 4.8, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 5.6 to 6.7 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	673 words across 62 beats	Moderate
Lexical Demand	12.3% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	6.9 words average; 7 sentences of 15+ words	Lower
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 4.8	Lower

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

Characters NARRATOR AALIYAH curious MATEO ideas businesses idea
inventors depended important together equipment customers

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

always asking questions teacher business middle sitting raises
people actually question artists

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

NARRATOR MRS Scene Classroom It Chen Aaliyah Like Smiles
Thats A So

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 AALIYAH, curious and always asking questions MATEO, her friend MRS.”

Longest Sentence (23 words)	<i>“She realizes that every successful business, invention, or work of art began with a simple idea, and someone willing to help make it happen.”</i>
Beat / Paragraph Count	62 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

Making it Happen - High Stamina Report

Cluster 3 | Module 3 / High Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 1,214 total words; 396 unique word forms
- 175 punctuation-defined sentences; 113 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 6.9 words average sentence length; 20 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 13 sentences of 15+ words; 1 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 731 (60.2%); 2 syllables: 298 (24.5%); 3+ syllables: 176 (14.5%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 5.3, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 10.1 to 12.1 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	1,214 words across 113 beats	Higher
Lexical Demand	14.5% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	6.9 words average; 13 sentences of 15+ words	Lower
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 5.3	Lower

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

Characters NARRATOR AALIYAH curious MATEO ideas businesses idea
inventors depended important Absolutely Exactly invention

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

always asking questions teacher business middle sitting raises
people actually question artists

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

It Happen Characters NARRATOR MRS Scene Classroom Chen
Aaliyah Like Smiles Thats

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

“Making It Happen Characters: NARRATOR AALIYAH, curious and always asking questions MATEO, her friend MRS.”

Longest Sentence (28 words)	<i>“[The students begin discussing their own ideas as the scene ends.] NARRATOR: Sometimes the biggest accomplishments start with the smallest idea, and someone willing to help make it happen.”</i>
Beat / Paragraph Count	113 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

Making it Happen - Very High Stamina Report

Cluster 3 | Module 4 / Very High Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 1,754 total words; 506 unique word forms
- 252 punctuation-defined sentences; 164 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 7.0 words average sentence length; 21 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 16 sentences of 15+ words; 3 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 1054 (60.1%); 2 syllables: 425 (24.2%); 3+ syllables: 263 (15.0%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 5.4, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 14.6 to 17.5 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	1,754 words across 164 beats	Higher
Lexical Demand	15.0% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	7.0 words average; 16 sentences of 15+ words	Lower
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 5.4	Lower

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

Characters NARRATOR AALIYAH curious MATEO ideas businesses idea
inventors depended important Absolutely Exactly invention

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

always asking questions teacher business classmate middle sitting
raises people actually question

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

NARRATOR AALIYAH MATEO STUDENT MAYA Scene Classroom It
Mrs Chen Like Smiles

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 AALIYAH, curious and always asking questions MATEO, her friend MRS.”

Longest Sentence (27 words)

“Every business started with one person saying, “I think this could work.” Scene 3: At a Store
NARRATOR: As they pass a small shop, they see Mr.”

Beat / Paragraph Count

164 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.