

THE WRITING ACADEMY®, LLC
COURSE OVERVIEW · TEACHER RESOURCES

Grade 4 Prepare 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 Prepare 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)
Dream	Low, Medium, High, Very High	263 to 2,111
Serve	Low, Medium, High, Very High	254 to 2,556

Overall Purpose and Cluster Architecture

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

The Prepare 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 Prepare selections

SELECTION	LEVEL	WORDS	SENT.	PARA.	AVG. SENT.	3+ SYL.	F-K
Dream	Low	263	33	17	8.0	16 (6.1%)	3.6
Dream	Medium	522	66	35	7.9	28 (5.4%)	3.3

SELECTION	LEVEL	WORDS	SENT.	PARA.	AVG. SENT.	3+ SYL.	F-K
Dream	High	1,074	89	58	12.1	131 (12.2%)	7.3
Dream	Very High	2,111	225	171	9.4	210 (9.9%)	5.5
Serve	Low	254	27	17	9.4	40 (15.7%)	7.4
Serve	Medium	540	59	40	9.2	53 (9.8%)	5.6
Serve	High	1,588	177	100	9.0	200 (12.6%)	6.1
Serve	Very High	2,556	282	174	9.1	311 (12.2%)	5.9

What the Numbers Demonstrate

- The Dream sequence grows from 263 to 2,111 words, a 8.03-fold increase in reading volume, and the beat span grows from 17 to 171.
- Three-or-more-syllable density in the Dream set moves from 6.1% at the shortest version to 9.9% at the fullest version.
- The Serve sequence grows from 254 to 2,556 words, a 10.06-fold increase in reading volume, and the beat span grows from 17 to 174.
- Three-or-more-syllable density in the Serve set moves from 15.7% at the shortest version to 12.2% at the fullest version.

Per-Passage Text Complexity Profiles

One evidentiary profile per supplied passage version

Dream - Low Stamina Report

Prepare | Dream / Low

A. Official Passage Profile

- 263 total words; 165 unique word forms
- 33 punctuation-defined sentences; 17 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 8.0 words average sentence length; 18 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 3 sentences of 15+ words; 0 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 186 (70.7%); 2 syllables: 61 (23.2%); 3+ syllables: 16 (6.1%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 3.6, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 2.2 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	263 words across 17 beats	Lower
Lexical Demand	6.1% of words carry 3+ syllables	Lower
Sentence Complexity	8.0 words average; 3 sentences of 15+ words	Lower
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 3.6	Lower

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

enormous Everywhere quietly Memorial everyone America Suddenly
imagined neighborhoods becoming another remember

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

tightly people shoulder carried waited gathered forward became
steady freedom justice speaking

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

I Mamas Lincoln Memorial Mama America August Dr Martin
Luther King Jr

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

"I held Mama's hand tightly as we moved through the enormous crowd."

Longest Sentence (18 words)	<i>"I was only nine years old, and I had never seen so many people gathered in one place."</i>
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Beat / Paragraph Count	17 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat
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Dream - Medium Stamina Report

Prepare | Dream / Medium

A. Official Passage Profile

- 522 total words; 247 unique word forms
- 66 punctuation-defined sentences; 35 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 7.9 words average sentence length; 18 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 6 sentences of 15+ words; 0 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 377 (72.2%); 2 syllables: 117 (22.4%); 3+ syllables: 28 (5.4%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 3.3, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 4.3 to 5.2 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	522 words across 35 beats	Moderate
Lexical Demand	5.4% of words carry 3+ syllables	Lower
Sentence Complexity	7.9 words average; 6 sentences of 15+ words	Lower
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 3.3	Lower

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

enormous Everywhere quietly Memorial everyone America reminded
together important understand difficult understood whatever Suddenly

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

tightly people shoulder carried waited gathered around parents
shoulders themselves folded papers

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

I Mamas Lincoln Memorial Mama America August Dr Martin
Luther King Jr

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

"I held Mama's hand tightly as we moved through the enormous crowd."

Longest Sentence (22 words)	<i>““A dream where children have a chance to learn, grow, and become whatever they hope to be.” I looked back toward Dr.”</i>
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Beat / Paragraph Count	35 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat
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Dream - High Stamina Report

Prepare | Dream / High

A. Official Passage Profile

- 1,074 total words; 432 unique word forms
- 89 punctuation-defined sentences; 58 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 12.1 words average sentence length; 33 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 23 sentences of 15+ words; 11 of 20+ words; 4 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 667 (62.1%); 2 syllables: 276 (25.7%); 3+ syllables: 131 (12.2%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 7.3, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 8.9 to 10.7 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	1,074 words across 58 beats	Higher
Lexical Demand	12.2% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	12.1 words average; 23 sentences of 15+ words	Moderate
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 7.3	Higher

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

enormous Memorial Everywhere anything colorful messages together
quietly volunteers carefully everything important unforgettable
everyone

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

tightly gathered people shoulder beneath sunshine although
crowded carried hopeful families waited

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

I Mamas Lincoln Memorial August Mama Dr Martin Luther
King Jr His

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

"I held Mama's hand tightly as we moved through the enormous crowd gathered near the Lincoln Memorial."

Longest Sentence (33 words)	<i>“Some of his words were unfamiliar to me, and some of his sentences were longer than the ones I usually heard in school, so I listened carefully and tried to understand his message.”</i>
Beat / Paragraph Count	58 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

Dream - Very High Stamina Report

Prepare | Dream / Very High

A. Official Passage Profile

- 2,111 total words; 631 unique word forms
- 225 punctuation-defined sentences; 171 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 9.4 words average sentence length; 55 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 34 sentences of 15+ words; 9 of 20+ words; 2 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 1369 (64.9%); 2 syllables: 532 (25.2%); 3+ syllables: 210 (9.9%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 5.5, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 17.6 to 21.1 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	2,111 words across 171 beats	Higher
Lexical Demand	9.9% of words carry 3+ syllables	Moderate
Sentence Complexity	9.4 words average; 34 sentences of 15+ words	Lower
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 5.5	Moderate

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

enormous Memorial Washington Everywhere experienced anything
colorful messages together quietly volunteers carefully everything
important

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

tightly gathered people shoulder beneath sunshine although
crowded programs carried hopeful written

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

I Mamas Lincoln Memorial Washington DC Everywhere August
Mama She We 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

"I held Mama's hand tightly as we moved through the enormous crowd gathered near the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C."

Longest Sentence (35 words)	<i>“Everywhere I looked, people stood shoulder to shoulder beneath the bright August sunshine, and although I had seen busy streets, crowded stores, and noisy school programs before, I had never experienced anything quite like this.”</i>
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Beat / Paragraph Count	171 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat
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Serve - Low Stamina Report

Prepare | Serve / Low

A. Official Passage Profile

- 254 total words; 154 unique word forms
- 27 punctuation-defined sentences; 17 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 9.4 words average sentence length; 22 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 6 sentences of 15+ words; 1 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 147 (57.9%); 2 syllables: 65 (25.6%); 3+ syllables: 40 (15.7%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 7.4, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 2.1 to 2.5 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	254 words across 17 beats	Lower
Lexical Demand	15.7% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	9.4 words average; 6 sentences of 15+ words	Lower
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 7.4	Higher

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable Examples

President Kennedy recorder interviewing Kennedys administration
exciting Americans important inauguration ideas remembered
conversations responsibility

Longer Academic Vocabulary

turning project wanted something serving others explained people
discussed become citizenship person

Proper Nouns and Domain Terms

President Kennedy I Grandpa John F Kennedys Americans On
January Washington 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

““Tell me again about President Kennedy,” I said, turning on my recorder.”

Longest Sentence (33 words)

““President Kennedy wanted Americans to think about something important: serving others.” Grandpa explained that before Kennedy’s inauguration in 1961, many people in the administration discussed ideas that might become part of his speech.”

Beat / Paragraph Count

17 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

Serve - Medium Stamina Report

Prepare | Serve / Medium

A. Official Passage Profile

- 540 total words; 247 unique word forms
- 59 punctuation-defined sentences; 40 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 9.2 words average sentence length; 26 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 13 sentences of 15+ words; 7 of 20+ words; 1 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 343 (63.5%); 2 syllables: 141 (26.1%); 3+ syllables: 53 (9.8%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 5.6, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 4.5 to 5.4 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	540 words across 40 beats	Moderate
Lexical Demand	9.8% of words carry 3+ syllables	Moderate
Sentence Complexity	9.2 words average; 13 sentences of 15+ words	Lower
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 5.6	Moderate

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

President Kennedy recorder interviewing Kennedys administration
exciting answering idea Americans inauguration ideas responsibility
citizenship

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

project feeling people country better opened notebook moment
wanted service explained discussed

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

President Kennedy I Grandpa John F Kennedys What He
Americans Then January

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

““Tell me again about President Kennedy,” I said as I placed my recorder on the table between us.”

Longest Sentence (35 words)

““Everyone was waiting to hear what he would say.” When Kennedy challenged Americans to think about what they could do for their country, Grandpa said the crowd seemed to understand the importance of the message.”

Beat / Paragraph Count

40 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

Serve - High Stamina Report

Prepare | Serve / High

A. Official Passage Profile

- 1,588 total words; 501 unique word forms
- 177 punctuation-defined sentences; 100 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 9.0 words average sentence length; 30 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 33 sentences of 15+ words; 8 of 20+ words; 1 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 997 (62.8%); 2 syllables: 388 (24.4%); 3+ syllables: 200 (12.6%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 6.1, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 13.2 to 15.9 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	1,588 words across 100 beats	Higher
Lexical Demand	12.6% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	9.0 words average; 33 sentences of 15+ words	Lower
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 6.1	Moderate

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable Examples

President Kennedy recorder carefully interviewing Kennedys
administration understand especially inauguration exciting entering
ordinary citizens

Longer Academic Vocabulary

kitchen folded project wanted details leading feeling country
chapter people believed meaningful

Proper Nouns and Domain Terms

President Kennedy I Grandpa John F Kennedys There What
He Americans Were

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

““Tell me again about President Kennedy,” I said as I placed my recorder carefully on the kitchen table between us.”

Longest Sentence (41 words)	<i>““There was a feeling that our country was entering a new chapter, and many people believed ordinary citizens could help make that chapter meaningful.” I opened my notebook, clicked my pen, and wrote the date across the top of the page.”</i>
Beat / Paragraph Count	100 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

Serve - Very High Stamina Report

Prepare | Serve / Very High

A. Official Passage Profile

- 2,556 total words; 635 unique word forms
- 282 punctuation-defined sentences; 174 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 9.1 words average sentence length; 43 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 50 sentences of 15+ words; 11 of 20+ words; 2 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 1630 (63.8%); 2 syllables: 612 (23.9%); 3+ syllables: 311 (12.2%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 5.9, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 21.3 to 25.6 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	2,556 words across 174 beats	Higher
Lexical Demand	12.2% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	9.1 words average; 50 sentences of 15+ words	Lower
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 5.9	Moderate

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

President Kennedy recorder carefully interviewing Kennedys
administration understand especially inauguration delivered exciting
entering ordinary

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

kitchen folded project wanted details leading person feeling
country chapter people believed

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

President Kennedy I Grandpa John F Kennedys There Grandpas
What He Americans

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

““Tell me again about President Kennedy,” I said as I placed my recorder carefully on the kitchen table between us.”

Longest Sentence (43 words)

"I had heard parts of the story before, but this time I wanted to understand the details, especially how Grandpa had helped during the months leading up to Kennedy's inauguration and what it had felt like to hear the speech delivered in person."

Beat / Paragraph Count

174 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.