

THE WRITING ACADEMY®, LLC
COURSE OVERVIEW · TEACHER RESOURCES

Grade 5 Cluster 2 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 5 Supplemental Support Lesson Guide of The Writing Academy®, LLC. It documents every supplied passage version separately while also explaining how the Cluster 2 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)
Spanish Rule in Early Texas	Low, Medium, High, Very High	259 to 2,004
A Harvest to Remember	Low, Medium, High, Very High	261 to 2,034

Overall Purpose and Cluster Architecture

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

The Cluster 2 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 2 selections

SELECTION	LEVEL	WORDS	SENT.	PARA.	AVG. SENT.	3+ SYL.	F-K
Spanish Rule in Early Texas	Low	259	21	6	12.3	31 (12.0%)	7.8
Spanish Rule in Early Texas	Medium	500	41	8	12.2	64 (12.8%)	8.0
Spanish Rule in Early Texas	High	1,059	93	17	11.4	134 (12.7%)	7.8
Spanish Rule in Early Texas	Very High	2,004	179	32	11.2	264 (13.2%)	7.9
A Harvest to Remember	Low	261	20	5	13.1	29 (11.1%)	6.5
A Harvest to Remember	Medium	480	36	5	13.3	49 (10.2%)	6.8
A Harvest to Remember	High	1,379	104	15	13.3	143 (10.4%)	6.8
A Harvest to Remember	Very High	2,034	161	23	12.6	191 (9.4%)	6.3

What the Numbers Demonstrate

- The Spanish Rule in Early Texas sequence grows from 259 to 2,004 words, a 7.74-fold increase in reading volume, and the beat span grows from 6 to 32.
- Three-or-more-syllable density in the Spanish Rule in Early Texas set moves from 12.0% at the shortest version to 13.2% at the fullest version.
- The A Harvest to Remember sequence grows from 261 to 2,034 words, a 7.79-fold increase in reading volume, and the beat span grows from 5 to 23.
- Three-or-more-syllable density in the A Harvest to Remember set moves from 11.1% at the shortest version to 9.4% at the fullest version.

Per-Passage Text Complexity Profiles

One evidentiary profile per supplied passage version

Spanish Rule in Early Texas - Low Stamina Report

Cluster 2 | Module 1 / Low Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 259 total words; 141 unique word forms
- 21 punctuation-defined sentences; 6 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 12.3 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: 147 (56.8%); 2 syllables: 80 (30.9%); 3+ syllables: 31 (12.0%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 7.8, 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	259 words across 6 beats	Lower
Lexical Demand	12.0% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	12.3 words average; 6 sentences of 15+ words	Moderate
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 7.8	Higher

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

empire religion presidios settlements missionaries Americans
Catholicism expected accepted resisted traditions protective area
together

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

explore leaders wanted expand protect countries missions across
region convert transfer customs

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Spain Texas Spanish Catholic Native Americans Catholicism

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

“Before 1600, Spain began to explore and claim land in what is now Texas.”

Longest Sentence (18 words)	<i>“Spanish leaders wanted to expand their empire, spread the Catholic religion, and protect their land from other countries.”</i>
Beat / Paragraph Count	6 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

Spanish Rule in Early Texas - Medium Stamina Report

Cluster 2 | Module 2 / Medium Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 500 total words; 235 unique word forms
- 41 punctuation-defined sentences; 8 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 12.2 words average sentence length; 25 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 11 sentences of 15+ words; 1 of 20+ words; 1 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 283 (56.6%); 2 syllables: 152 (30.4%); 3+ syllables: 64 (12.8%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 8.0, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 4.2 to 5.0 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	500 words across 8 beats	Moderate
Lexical Demand	12.8% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	12.2 words average; 11 sentences of 15+ words	Moderate
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 8.0	Higher

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

empire religion presidios America area Exploration animals already
settlements missionaries Americans Catholicism expected accepted

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

explore leaders wanted expand protect countries missions across
region reason create border

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Spain Texas Spanish Catholic North America France Native
Americans Catholicism American Mexican

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

“Before 1600, Spain began to explore and claim land in what is now Texas.”

Longest Sentence (25 words)

“They were part of a larger plan to claim land, spread ideas, and create communities that would connect Texas to Spain for many years afterward.”

Beat / Paragraph Count

8 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

Spanish Rule in Early Texas - High Stamina Report

Cluster 2 | Module 3 / High Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 1,059 total words; 380 unique word forms
- 93 punctuation-defined sentences; 17 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 11.4 words average sentence length; 19 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 16 sentences of 15+ words; 0 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 581 (54.9%); 2 syllables: 343 (32.4%); 3+ syllables: 134 (12.7%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 7.8, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 8.8 to 10.6 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	1,059 words across 17 beats	Higher
Lexical Demand	12.7% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	11.4 words average; 16 sentences of 15+ words	Moderate
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 7.8	Higher

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

empire religion presidios powerful explorers already Americas
resources area important European another Exploration areas

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

explore leaders wanted expand protect countries missions across
region traveled looking places

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Spain Texas Spanish Catholic Americas European Native American
Americans Catholicism San Antonio

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

“Before 1600, Spain began to explore and claim land in what is now Texas.”

Longest Sentence (28 words)	<i>“One important route became known as El Camino Real, which means “the Royal Road.” Roads like this made it easier for Spain to maintain control over faraway places.”</i>
Beat / Paragraph Count	17 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

Spanish Rule in Early Texas - Very High Stamina Report

Cluster 2 | Module 4 / Very High Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 2,004 total words; 544 unique word forms
- 179 punctuation-defined sentences; 32 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 11.2 words average sentence length; 24 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 30 sentences of 15+ words; 7 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 1096 (54.7%); 2 syllables: 643 (32.1%); 3+ syllables: 264 (13.2%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 7.9, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 16.7 to 20.0 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	2,004 words across 32 beats	Higher
Lexical Demand	13.2% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	11.2 words average; 30 sentences of 15+ words	Moderate
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 7.9	Higher

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

empire religion presidios explorers already Americas areas
resources settlements important European especially Mexico
borderland

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

explore leaders wanted expand protect countries missions across
region strongest traveled islands

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Spain Texas Spanish Catholic Americas European France Mexico
Native American Americans Catholicism

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

“Before 1600, Spain began to explore and claim land in what is now Texas.”

Longest Sentence (24 words)	<i>“These names remind people that Spain and later Mexico had a strong influence on the region before Texas became part of the United States.”</i>
Beat / Paragraph Count	32 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

A Harvest to Remember - Low Stamina Report

Cluster 2 | Module 1 / Low Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 261 total words; 150 unique word forms
- 20 punctuation-defined sentences; 5 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 13.1 words average sentence length; 21 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 7 sentences of 15+ words; 2 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 180 (69.0%); 2 syllables: 51 (19.5%); 3+ syllables: 29 (11.1%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 6.5, 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	261 words across 5 beats	Lower
Lexical Demand	11.1% of words carry 3+ syllables	Moderate
Sentence Complexity	13.1 words average; 7 sentences of 15+ words	Higher
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 6.5	Moderate

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

celebration presentday Massachusetts difficult Americans Wampanoag
area understood geography productive gathering decided celebrate
invited

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

settlers climate enough became winter improve harvest members
lasted several together received

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

English Pilgrims Plymouth Massachusetts Native Americans Wampanoag
Squanto Thanksgiving

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

"In 1621, a group of English settlers called Pilgrims held a celebration in Plymouth, in present-day Massachusetts."

Longest Sentence (21 words)	<i>“He also understood the geography of the area and showed them how to use the land in ways that worked best.”</i>
Beat / Paragraph Count	5 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

A Harvest to Remember - Medium Stamina Report

Cluster 2 | Module 2 / Medium Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 480 total words; 220 unique word forms
- 36 punctuation-defined sentences; 5 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 13.3 words average sentence length; 22 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 13 sentences of 15+ words; 4 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 317 (66.0%); 2 syllables: 113 (23.5%); 3+ syllables: 49 (10.2%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 6.8, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 4.0 to 4.8 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	480 words across 5 beats	Moderate
Lexical Demand	10.2% of words carry 3+ syllables	Moderate
Sentence Complexity	13.3 words average; 13 sentences of 15+ words	Higher
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 6.8	Moderate

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

celebration presentday Massachusetts difficult challenges Americans
Wampanoag area understood geography important understand situation
easier

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

settlers climate enough became winter simple supplies survive
different improve knowledge rivers

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

English Pilgrims Plymouth Massachusetts Native Americans Wampanoag
Squanto Thanksgiving

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

"In 1621, a group of English settlers called Pilgrims held a celebration in Plymouth, in present-day Massachusetts."

Longest Sentence (22 words)	<i>"The settlers had to learn how to survive in a place that was very different from the land they had known before."</i>
Beat / Paragraph Count	5 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

A Harvest to Remember - High Stamina Report

Cluster 2 | Module 3 / High Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 1,379 total words; 407 unique word forms
- 104 punctuation-defined sentences; 15 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 13.3 words average sentence length; 22 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 38 sentences of 15+ words; 8 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 907 (65.8%); 2 syllables: 325 (23.6%); 3+ syllables: 143 (10.4%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 6.8, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 11.5 to 13.8 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	1,379 words across 15 beats	Higher
Lexical Demand	10.4% of words carry 3+ syllables	Moderate
Sentence Complexity	13.3 words average; 38 sentences of 15+ words	Higher
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 6.8	Moderate

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

celebration presentday Massachusetts difficult expected understand
animals unfamiliar environment Americans Wampanoag understood
resources area

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

settlers climate enough became winter colder harsher hoping
shelters arrived better future

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

English Pilgrims Plymouth Massachusetts England Native Americans
Wampanoag Squanto Thanksgiving

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

"In 1621, a group of English settlers called Pilgrims held a celebration in Plymouth, in present-day Massachusetts."

Longest Sentence (22 words)	<i>“The Pilgrims had faced a difficult year, but with support from the Wampanoag people, they were able to gather a productive harvest.”</i>
Beat / Paragraph Count	15 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

A Harvest to Remember - Very High Stamina Report

Cluster 2 | Module 4 / Very High Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 2,034 total words; 487 unique word forms
- 161 punctuation-defined sentences; 23 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 12.6 words average sentence length; 25 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 45 sentences of 15+ words; 7 of 20+ words; 2 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 1376 (67.6%); 2 syllables: 460 (22.6%); 3+ syllables: 191 (9.4%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 6.3, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 16.9 to 20.3 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	2,034 words across 23 beats	Higher
Lexical Demand	9.4% of words carry 3+ syllables	Moderate
Sentence Complexity	12.6 words average; 45 sentences of 15+ words	Moderate
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 6.3	Moderate

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

celebration presentday Massachusetts difficult Atlantic expected
unfamiliar affected understand animals area settlement resources
together

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

settlers climate enough became winter traveled across hoping
harder simple supplies problems

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

English Pilgrims Plymouth Massachusetts Atlantic Ocean Native
Americans Wampanoag Squanto Thanksgiving

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

"In 1621, a group of English settlers called Pilgrims held a celebration in Plymouth, in present-day Massachusetts."

Longest Sentence (25 words)

“They knew how the seasons changed, where fish could be found, which plants were useful, and how to grow food in the soil near Plymouth.”

Beat / Paragraph Count

23 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.