

THE WRITING ACADEMY®, LLC
COURSE OVERVIEW · TEACHER RESOURCES

Grade 5 Cluster 5 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 5 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 Difficult Compromise	Low, Medium, High, Very High	213 to 1,500
A Visit to the Workshop	Low, Medium, High, Very High	224 to 2,716

Overall Purpose and Cluster Architecture

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

The Cluster 5 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 5 selections

SELECTION	LEVEL	WORDS	SENT.	PARA.	AVG. SENT.	3+ SYL.	F-K
A Difficult Compromise	Low	213	18	5	11.8	26 (12.2%)	7.7
A Difficult Compromise	Medium	500	36	11	13.9	69 (13.8%)	8.6

SELECTION	LEVEL	WORDS	SENT.	PARA.	AVG. SENT.	3+ SYL.	F-K
A Difficult Compromise	High	998	76	19	13.1	156 (15.6%)	8.9
A Difficult Compromise	Very High	1,500	114	28	13.2	231 (15.4%)	8.8
A Visit to the Workshop	Low	224	19	7	11.8	11 (4.9%)	4.5
A Visit to the Workshop	Medium	500	49	14	10.2	33 (6.6%)	4.6
A Visit to the Workshop	High	1,008	104	30	9.7	64 (6.3%)	4.3
A Visit to the Workshop	Very High	2,716	307	149	8.8	170 (6.3%)	4.2

What the Numbers Demonstrate

- The A Difficult Compromise sequence grows from 213 to 1,500 words, a 7.04-fold increase in reading volume, and the beat span grows from 5 to 28.
- Three-or-more-syllable density in the A Difficult Compromise set moves from 12.2% at the shortest version to 15.4% at the fullest version.
- The A Visit to the Workshop sequence grows from 224 to 2,716 words, a 12.12-fold increase in reading volume, and the beat span grows from 7 to 149.
- Three-or-more-syllable density in the A Visit to the Workshop set moves from 4.9% at the shortest version to 6.3% at the fullest version.

Per-Passage Text Complexity Profiles

One evidentiary profile per supplied passage version

A Difficult Compromise - Low Stamina Report

Cluster 5 | Module 1 / Low Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 213 total words; 132 unique word forms
- 18 punctuation-defined sentences; 5 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 11.8 words average sentence length; 25 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 3 sentences of 15+ words; 2 of 20+ words; 1 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 128 (60.1%); 2 syllables: 58 (27.2%); 3+ syllables: 26 (12.2%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 7.7, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 1.8 to 2.1 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	213 words across 5 beats	Lower
Lexical Demand	12.2% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	11.8 words average; 3 sentences of 15+ words	Moderate
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 7.7	Higher

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

Philadelphia government Constitutional Convention serious disagreement
deciding representation population representatives delegates Finally
compromise suggested

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

summer leaders countrys argued enslaved people wanted counted
debate worried meeting counting

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Philadelphia Constitutional Convention Congress ThreeFifths Compromise

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 the summer of 1787, leaders met in Philadelphia to fix the country's government."

Longest Sentence (25 words)

“At the Constitutional Convention, they argued about many things, but one issue caused serious disagreement, how to count enslaved people when deciding representation in Congress.”

Beat / Paragraph Count

5 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

A Difficult Compromise - Medium Stamina Report

Cluster 5 | Module 2 / Medium Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 500 total words; 232 unique word forms
- 36 punctuation-defined sentences; 11 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 13.9 words average sentence length; 30 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 14 sentences of 15+ words; 5 of 20+ words; 2 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 307 (61.4%); 2 syllables: 123 (24.6%); 3+ syllables: 69 (13.8%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 8.6, 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 11 beats	Moderate
Lexical Demand	13.8% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	13.9 words average; 14 sentences of 15+ words	Higher
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 8.6	Higher

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

Philadelphia government Constitutional Convention serious disagreement
deciding representation delegates influence populations Representatives
population especially

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

summer leaders countrys argued enslaved people affect larger
likely receive counted wanted

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Philadelphia Constitutional Convention Congress House Representatives
Southern ThreeFifths Compromise Americans Constitution We

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 the summer of 1787, leaders met in Philadelphia to fix the country's government."

Longest Sentence (30 words)

“For many Americans, this part of the Constitution is a reminder that important decisions should be examined not only by what they achieve, but also by whom they deeply harm.”

Beat / Paragraph Count

11 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

A Difficult Compromise - High Stamina Report

Cluster 5 | Module 3 / High Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 998 total words; 391 unique word forms
- 76 punctuation-defined sentences; 19 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 13.1 words average sentence length; 25 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 28 sentences of 15+ words; 7 of 20+ words; 2 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 566 (56.7%); 2 syllables: 272 (27.3%); 3+ syllables: 156 (15.6%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 8.9, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 8.3 to 10.0 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	998 words across 19 beats	Higher
Lexical Demand	15.6% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	13.1 words average; 28 sentences of 15+ words	Higher
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 8.9	Higher

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

Philadelphia government Constitutional Convention serious disagreement
deciding representation United Delegates anyone organized population
decision

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

summer leaders countrys argued enslaved people nation little
collect problems country survive

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Philadelphia Constitutional Convention Congress United States Island
Senate House Representatives Who Southern

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 the summer of 1787, leaders met in Philadelphia to fix the country's government."

Longest Sentence (25 words)	<i>“The Three-Fifths Compromise is important because it shows that an agreement can keep a group working together without being fair to everyone affected by it.”</i>
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Beat / Paragraph Count	19 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat
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A Difficult Compromise - Very High Stamina Report

Cluster 5 | Module 4 / Very High Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 1,500 total words; 491 unique word forms
- 114 punctuation-defined sentences; 28 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 13.2 words average sentence length; 25 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 42 sentences of 15+ words; 13 of 20+ words; 2 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 877 (58.5%); 2 syllables: 388 (25.9%); 3+ syllables: 231 (15.4%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 8.8, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 12.5 to 15.0 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	1,500 words across 28 beats	Higher
Lexical Demand	15.4% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	13.2 words average; 42 sentences of 15+ words	Higher
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 8.8	Higher

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

Philadelphia government Constitutional Convention serious disagreement
deciding representation United Revolution Articles Confederation
disagreements representatives

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

summer leaders countrys argued enslaved people nation little
national trouble settling problems

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Philadelphia Constitutional Convention Congress United States
Revolution Articles Confederation Senate House Representatives

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 the summer of 1787, leaders met in Philadelphia to fix the country's government."

Longest Sentence (25 words)	<i>“The Three-Fifths Compromise is important because it shows that an agreement can keep a group working together without being fair to everyone affected by it.”</i>
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Beat / Paragraph Count	28 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat
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A Visit to the Workshop - Low Stamina Report

Cluster 5 | Module 1 / Low Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 224 total words; 139 unique word forms
- 19 punctuation-defined sentences; 7 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 11.8 words average sentence length; 23 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 7 sentences of 15+ words; 2 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 165 (73.7%); 2 syllables: 47 (21.0%); 3+ syllables: 11 (4.9%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 4.5, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 1.9 to 2.2 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	224 words across 7 beats	Lower
Lexical Demand	4.9% of words carry 3+ syllables	Lower
Sentence Complexity	11.8 words average; 7 sentences of 15+ words	Moderate
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 4.5	Lower

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

expected activity Edison experiment another carefully adjusted
imagined easily continued

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

darker tightly brothers building brother whispered across tables
center speaking quickly inside

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Zaylen Thomas Edison

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

"The year was 1880, and the streets of the city were darker than Zaylen expected."

Longest Sentence (30
words)

"“People should have light that is safe and lasts longer.” Zaylen thought about her home, where her family used oil lamps that flickered and sometimes filled the air with smoke.”"

Beat / Paragraph Count	7 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat
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A Visit to the Workshop - Medium Stamina Report

Cluster 5 | Module 2 / Medium Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 500 total words; 268 unique word forms
- 49 punctuation-defined sentences; 14 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 10.2 words average sentence length; 23 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 11 sentences of 15+ words; 2 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 347 (69.4%); 2 syllables: 119 (23.8%); 3+ syllables: 33 (6.6%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 4.6, 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 14 beats	Moderate
Lexical Demand	6.6% of words carry 3+ syllables	Lower
Sentence Complexity	10.2 words average; 11 sentences of 15+ words	Moderate
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 4.6	Lower

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

expected Edison inventor activity experiment another directions
Everyone carefully adjusted material imagined easily experiments

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

darker tightly brothers building brother whispered people asking
questions expect across tables

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Zaylen Thomas Edison For

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

"The year was 1880, and the streets of the city were darker than Zaylen expected."

Longest Sentence (30
words)

"“People should have light that is safe and lasts longer.” Zaylen thought about her home, where her family used oil lamps that flickered and sometimes filled the air with smoke.”"

Beat / Paragraph Count	14 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat
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A Visit to the Workshop - High Stamina Report

Cluster 5 | Module 3 / High Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 1,008 total words; 405 unique word forms
- 104 punctuation-defined sentences; 30 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 9.7 words average sentence length; 23 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 18 sentences of 15+ words; 2 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 707 (70.1%); 2 syllables: 236 (23.4%); 3+ syllables: 64 (6.3%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 4.3, 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	1,008 words across 30 beats	Higher
Lexical Demand	6.3% of words carry 3+ syllables	Lower
Sentence Complexity	9.7 words average; 18 sentences of 15+ words	Lower
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 4.3	Lower

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

expected Edison inventor activity experiment another visitors
directions carefully Everyone electric materials connected quieter

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

darker tightly brothers building brother whispered people asking
questions expect opened across

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Zaylen Thomas Edison One Then I

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

"The year was 1880, and the streets of the city were darker than Zaylen expected."

Longest Sentence (30
words)

"“People should have light that is safe and lasts longer.” Zaylen thought about her home, where her family used oil lamps that flickered and sometimes filled the air with smoke.”"

Beat / Paragraph Count	30 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat
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A Visit to the Workshop - Very High Stamina Report

Cluster 5 | Module 4 / Very High Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 2,716 total words; 697 unique word forms
- 307 punctuation-defined sentences; 149 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 8.8 words average sentence length; 26 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 22 sentences of 15+ words; 2 of 20+ words; 1 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 1860 (68.5%); 2 syllables: 685 (25.2%); 3+ syllables: 170 (6.3%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 4.2, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 22.6 to 27.2 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	2,716 words across 149 beats	Higher
Lexical Demand	6.3% of words carry 3+ syllables	Lower
Sentence Complexity	8.8 words average; 22 sentences of 15+ words	Lower
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 4.2	Lower

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

expected uneven Edison inventor visited delivering experiments
another activity carefully material connections important experiment

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

darker tightly brothers sidewalk remained hidden shadow rattled
driver lantern beside hurried

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

The Zaylen Thomas Edison Some He As One In Several No
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

"The year was 1880, and the streets of the city were darker than Zaylen expected."

Longest Sentence (27 words)

““We record the material we used, how brightly it glowed, and how long it lasted.” He turned several pages and showed Zaylen a list of earlier tests.”

Beat / Paragraph Count

149 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.