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| **Selecting Text Tool**  Adapted by CRESST, UCLA 2014 | | | | |
| **Title and source:** | |  | | |
| **Author:** |  | | **Grade Level and area:** |  |

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| **Factors Affecting Text Challenge** | **Notes** |
| **Age appropriateness**  Consider:  • word recognition demands (sight words & decoding)  • age of the main character(s)  • prior knowledge assumed by the text  • maturity required to deal with the themes  • familiarity of contexts, settings, and subject matter  • likely interests, motivation, and experiences  of readers |  |
| **Complexity of ideas**  Consider:  • accessibility of the themes  • implied information or ideas (requiring readers to infer)  • irony or ambiguity  • abstract ideas  • metaphors and other figurative or connotative language  • technical information  • support from illustrations, diagrams, graphs, and so on |  |
| **Structure and coherence of the text**  Consider:  • flashbacks or time shifts  • narrative point of view  • mixed text types  • connections across the text  • examples and explanations  • competing information  • length of paragraphs  • unattributed dialogue  • use of headings and subheadings |  |
| **Syntactic structure of the text**  Consider:  • sentence length  • the balance of simple, compound, complex, or incomplete sentences  • use of passive voice or nominalization  • repetition of words or phrases  • changes in verb tense |  |
| **Vocabulary difficulty**  Consider:  • unfamiliar vocabulary  • technical and academic terms, non-English words, and proper nouns  • sentence-level and/or visual support  • contextual clues  • the use of a glossary or footnotes |  |
| **Length of Text** |  |

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| **Estimated Reading Year Level:** | Notes: |

This tool is adapted with permission from the Ministry of Education, New Zealand website, [www.nzcurriculum.tki.org.nz/Curriculum-resources/NZC-Updates/Issue-19-April-2012/Framework-for-estimating-text-difficulty](http://www.nzcurriculum.tki.org.nz/Curriculum-resources/NZC-Updates/Issue-19-April-2012/Framework-for-estimating-text-difficulty).