**Qualitative Dimension of Text Complexity**

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| **Qualitative Dimensions**  | **Low-Level Text Complexity** | **High-Level Text Complexity** |
| **Level of Meaning** (Literary) **or Purpose** (Informational) | * Single meaning
* Explicitly stated
 | * Multiple levels of meaning
* Implied purpose
 |
| **Structure** | * Simple
* Explicit
* Conventional
* Events related in chronological order
* Traits of a common genre or subgenre
* Simple graphics
* Graphic unnecessary or merely supplementary to understanding of text
 | * Complex
* Implied
* Unconventional
* Events out of chronological order
* Trait of a discipline rather than genre or subgenre
* Sophisticated Graphics
* Graphics essential to understanding text and provides additional information.
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| **Language Conventionality and Clarity**  | * Literal
* Clear
* Contemporary, familiar
* Conversational
 | * Figurative or ironic
* Ambiguous or purposefully misleading
* Archaic or unfamiliar
* General academic and domain-specific
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| **Knowledge Demands: Life Experiences** (literary text) | * Simple theme
* Single theme
* Common, everyday experiences; clearly fantastical situations
* Single perspective
* Perspective like one’s own
 | * Complex or sophisticated theme
* Multiple themes
* Experiences distinctly different from one’s own
* Multiple Perspectives
* Perspectives unlike or in opposition to one’s own
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| **Knowledge Demands: Cultural/ Literary Knowledge** (chiefly literary texts) | * Everyday knowledge and familiarity with genre conventions required
* Low intertextuality
 | * Cultural and literary knowledge useful
* High intertextuality (many references/allusions to other texts)
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| **Knowledge Demands: Content/ Discipline Knowledge** (chiefly informational texts) | * Everyday knowledge and familiarity with genre conventions required
* Low intertextuality (few if any references to/citations of other texts)
 | * Extensive, specialized discipline-specific content knowledge required
* High intertextuality (many references to /citations of other texts.
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