



**COMMON CORE GEORGIA PERFORMANCE STANDARDS  
TEXT COMPLEXITY RUBRIC**

TEXT: <u>Cry, the Beloved Country</u> by Alan Paton		GENRE: Fiction/World Literature		GRADE: 10 <sup>th</sup>
COMPLEXITY MEASURE		LOW (1-3 POINTS)	MODERATE (4-6 PTS)	HIGH (7-10 POINTS)
<b>Qualitative</b> aspects of text complexity best measured by an attentive human reader, such as levels of meaning or purpose; structure; language conventionality and clarity; and knowledge demands.				
<b>Levels of meaning.</b> K-5: Symbolism, abstract thought,/technical, academic content 6-12: Satire, allegory, pun, symbolism, or complex motif/technical, academic content				9
<b>Structure.</b> K-5: Chapters, multiple plot lines, glossaries, headings, or footnotes. 6-12: Legal documents, technical manuals, non-traditional uses of time or language K-12: Text length				8
<b>Language conventionality.</b> K-5: colloquialisms, figurative/ idiomatic language, dialects, technical and academic vocabulary 6-12: Historical language such as Elizabethan or Old English constructions; technical and academic vocabulary				9
<b>Background knowledge.</b> Content with which students might reasonably be expected to be acquainted or that will be comprehensible when introduced				10
<b>Quantitative</b> aspects of text complexity, such as word length or frequency, sentence length, and text cohesion, that are difficult for a human reader to evaluate efficiently, as measured by Lexile.				
K-1	n/a		6	
2-3	450L - 790L			
4-5	770L - 980L			
6-8	955L - 1155L			
9-10	1080L - 1305L			
11-12	1215L - 1355L			
<b>Reader and Task Considerations</b> focus on the inherent complexity of text, reader motivation, knowledge, and experience and the purpose and complexity of the task at hand. Best made by teachers employing their professional judgment.				
<b>Does this text challenge readers?</b> Readers comprehend about 75% of the text, working to make meaning of the remaining 25%				9
<b>Does this text match the interests of the students?</b> (When appropriate)				9
<b>Is this text ideal for the task?</b> For example a scientific journal for a research project versus Shakespeare for a dramatic presentation				10
<b>Mismatches for which qualitative and quantitative measures cannot easily account.</b> For example low Lexile books with adult content				7
<b>Miscellaneous</b> considerations. You may award up to 10 points for specific merits of a text not covered in the rubric domains.				
<b>Specific Merits</b>				9
Please write a brief explanation of the specific merits of this text in the box beneath the points awarded		<i>Cry, the Beloved Country</i> has been widely accepted as a classic in World Literature. It tells the complicated story of South Africa just before apartheid became legal. The novel is fundamental in a World Literature course that looks to explore various cultures. Likewise, the author, Alan Paton has been heralded as a genius for the language and stylistic devices in the book.		
TOTAL SCORE <u>  86  </u> / 100				
80 - 100 POINTS:    EXTREMELY APPROPRIATE TEXT CHOICE 50-79 POINTS:      ACCEPTABLE TEXT CHOICE 25-49 POINTS:     RECONSIDER OR CHANGE GRADE/PURPOSE OF THIS TEXT CHOICE 0 - 24 POINTS:     ELIMINATE OR CHANGE GRADE/PURPOSE OF THIS TEXT CHOICE				
EVALUATOR COMMENTS:				

