



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

TEXT: <i>The Odyssey</i>				GENRE: Literary				GRADE: 9th			
COMPLEXITY MEASURE						LOW (1-3 POINTS)		MODERATE (4-6 PTS)		HIGH (7-10 POINTS)	
Qualitative 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.											
Levels of meaning. K-5: Symbolism, abstract thought, technical, academic content 6-12: Satire, allegory, pun, symbolism, or complex motif/technical, academic content										8 Archetypes, figurative language, symbolism	
Structure. 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 Moderate length, sophisticated language, non-linear representation of time	
Language conventionality. 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										8 Advanced vocabulary; Epic structure (including Epic Simile), complex sentence structure	
Background knowledge. Content with which students might reasonably be expected to be acquainted or that will be comprehensible when introduced										8 Ancient Greece, influence of the gods and goddesses	
Quantitative 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 2-3 450L - 790L 4-5 770L - 980L 6-8 955L - 1155L 9-10 1080L - 1305L 11-12 1215L - 1355L										5 Approximate Lexile score is 1050 although Lexile scores differ based on the translation.	
Reader and Task Considerations 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.											
Does this text challenge readers? Readers comprehend about 75% of the text, working to make meaning of the remaining 25%										8 Advanced/abstract subject matter; complex sentence structure;	
Does this text match the interests of the students? (When appropriate)										9 Independence; illicit behavior; morality; triumph of good over evil	
Is this text ideal for the task? For example a scientific journal for a research project versus Shakespeare for a dramatic presentation										10 The Odyssey is an excellent, interesting, and age-appropriate example of the Hero's Journey.	
Mismatches for which qualitative and quantitative measures cannot easily account. For example low Lexile books with adult content										9 Mature themes;	
Miscellaneous considerations. You may award up to 10 points for specific merits of a text not covered in the rubric domains											
Specific Merits										10	
Please write a brief explanation of the specific merits of this text in the box beneath the points awarded						The Odyssey is a classic, with recognizable academic merit. Students benefit from exposure to historic content and the to elements of folklore that help them understand the world they live in (definition of HERO, symbolism of life as a journey, etc.) Additionally, it contains examples of complex literary elements such as archetypes, symbolism, extended metaphor, and social commentary.					
TOTAL SCORE <u>83</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: The Odyssey is one of the oldest and most recognizable examples of the classic Hero's Journey, with a likeable, very human hero.											