



LEXILES IN THE LIBRARY

- *“Lexiles” defined*

The Lexile Framework® for Reading is a scientific approach to reading and text measurement, placing both readers and texts on a common scale. The Lexile Framework includes the Lexile® measure and the Lexile scale. The Lexile measure is a reading ability or text difficulty score followed by an “L” (e.g., “850L”). The Lexile scale is a developmental scale for reading ranging from 200L for beginning readers to above 1700L for advanced text. The Lexile Framework matches reader ability and text difficulty, allowing you to more effectively guide students to appropriate reading choices.

- *Managing reader comprehension*

Lexile measures allow you to manage reader comprehension by matching students to texts that are appropriately challenging. Matching a reader’s Lexile measure to a text with the same Lexile measure leads to an expected 75 percent comprehension rate – not too difficult to be frustrating, but difficult enough to encourage reading progress. You can further adjust anticipated comprehension simply by choosing more or less difficult texts within a student’s suggested Lexile range of 50L above and 100L below their Lexile measure. (To see how changing a Lexile measure for a text affects comprehension, try the free Lexile Calculator at www.Lexile.com.)

- *Lexile text measures widely available*

Tens of thousands of books and tens of millions of articles have Lexile measures. More than 450 publishers Lexile their titles, and the nation’s largest periodical database services use Lexile measures for newspaper and magazine articles. This wide range of Lexiled material enables you to incorporate Lexiles into your school library, and provide educators with another method for differentiating classroom instruction.

- *Finding Lexiles for articles and books*

Two of the largest periodical database providers, EBSCO and ProQuest, Lexile articles. These databases give you and classroom teachers the ability to confidently guide students to supplemental texts that are within their Lexile ranges, and to ensure an appropriate level of comprehension.

For labeling books with Lexile measures, you have two options: Use the free Lexile Book Database (at www.Lexile.com) and look up your titles, or contact Follett Software Company about its easy and inexpensive service that updates MARC records with Lexile measures. Providing Lexile measures in your library records allows you to create customized reading lists for students based on their Lexile ranges, interests or reading needs.

- *Improves communication between you and the classroom*

The common scale provided by the Lexile Framework can improve communication between the classroom and the media center, making it easier for you to combine your observations with those of the classroom teacher and other reading educators. Lexiles give you the ability to more effectively collaborate with teachers to develop special collections to support class reading assignments. In addition, by indicating readability of texts, Lexiles can help make the library more accessible to students, and empower them to be more self-directed in their reading development.

● *Using Lexiles in your library*

- Labeling books with Lexile measures helps students find books of interest at their appropriate reading level.
- Comparing student Lexile levels with the Lexile levels of the books and periodicals in your library helps you analyze and develop the collection to more fully meet the needs of all students.
- Using the free Lexile Book Database (at www.Lexile.com) to support book selection and create booklists within a student's Lexile range helps you guide student reading selections.

● *The Lexile Framework for Reading*

The Lexile Framework is an indispensable part of your library, helping you help teachers and students make informed choices when choosing texts. Lexile measures give you the confidence to recommend materials that will improve student reading skills and take the guesswork out of matching readers with appropriate books and articles. If you know a student's Lexile measure, you can tell with a great deal of accuracy which materials are appropriate for their reading ability.

The Lexile Framework is supported by many products, tools and services. For a complete list, see the "Lexiles in Education" fact sheet. To find out more about The Lexile Framework for Reading, visit the Lexile Web site at www.Lexile.com.

Lexile: Matching readers to text

