# Measuring Text Complexity

## An Engagement Activity

### Part 2: Facilitator Notes

**Goal:**

Participants will use a protocol to determine text complexity grade bands for texts that are currently used in their classrooms.

**Session Preparation:**

- Participate in initial group discussion activity: *Considering Text Complexity* in order to gain background and perspective.  **OR**
- Suggested Reading:  Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy: Appendix A (pages 2-11)
- Participate in Measuring Text Complexity Engagement Activity Part 1.
- Participants will need to bring:
  - 4-6 texts that they currently use for instruction
  - Lexile levels for the texts they are bringing (suggestion: participants should only bring texts that have an available Lexile level)

**Distribute to Participants:**

- Protocol for Measuring Text Complexity (one per text)
- Qualitative Measures Rubrics (Informational and Literary)

**Directions:**

1.  All participants should spend 5 to 10 minutes reflecting upon their experience with Measuring Text Complexity Engagement Activity Part 1.
    - What did they find most helpful?
    - What was difficult?
    - What do they need to pay particular attention to when measuring levels today?
2.  In grade level groups, participants should use the Protocol for Measuring Text Complexity and Qualitative Measures Rubrics to come to consensus regarding the appropriate grade band for each of their texts.  (Minimum of 45 minutes)
    NOTE:  Participants should take note of the type of text so that they are using the appropriate Qualitative Measures Rubric (Informational or Literary).
3.  Encourage groups to engage in meaningful conversations regarding the qualitative measures and overall recommendation for grade band.  Remind participants that this activity should not be done independently or as a quick checklist.  The ideas generated from rich discussion will ensure that the activity is done correctly.