

F I C T I O N

8TH GRADE

RL. 8.5

A collage of educational materials. At the top left, a purple binder clip holds a worksheet titled 'Compare & Contrast Text Structure' with a section for 'Desperately'. Below it, a green binder clip holds another worksheet titled 'Compare & Contrast Text Structure' with a section for 'Grieving at Roanoke'. In the center, a purple worksheet titled 'Compare & Contrast Text Structure' features a section for 'The Promise' and a list of questions. To the right, a yellow worksheet titled 'Compare & Contrast Text Structure' features a section for 'The Promise'. At the bottom right, a book cover for 'Saving Serena' is visible, showing a boy and a girl. The background is a colorful, patterned surface.

COMPARE & CONTRAST TEXT STRUCTURES



WHAT'S INSIDE?

COMPARE & CONTRAST TEXT STRUCTURE

8th grade

Table of Contents

*This product includes 9 sets of Lexile® leveled stories in the 8th Grade Common Core Text Complexity Band (the range for 8th grade is 925-1185).

1. Compare & Contrast Text Structure Anchor Chart
2. Compare & Contrast Text Structure Practice Work
3. Spared (970L)/Unbound (POEM)
4. Rushing for Gold (980L)/The Right Character (1040L)
5. The Pack (1120L)/Harvest Colors (1070L)
6. Wild Space (1120L)/Onslaught (1110L)
7. The Future Isn't Bright (1010L)/The Innovator (1110L)
8. Meridia of the Forest (960L)/No Sleeping on the Streets (920L)/Brotherly Love (1020L)
9. Second Chance Summer (DRAMA)/A Perfect July Morning (960L)/Summer Love (POEM)
10. Test
 - Saving Serena (1000L)/The Promise (POEM)
 - In Hope (1120L)/Desperately (1110L)/Grieving at Roanoke (POEM)



PRINTABLE PDFs covering the 8th grade text complexity band with Certified Lexile Levels.

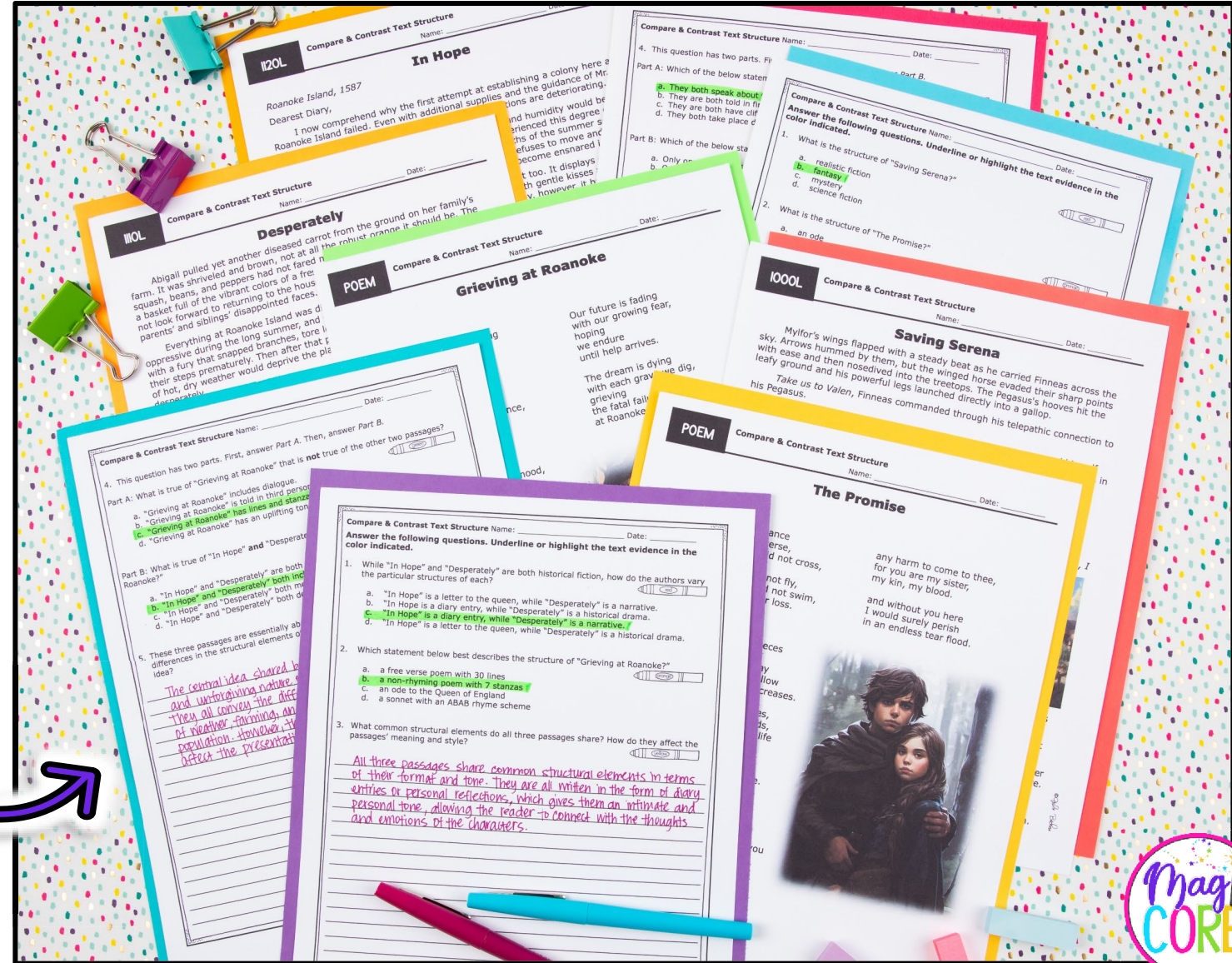
- Anchor chart and question sets
- Color coding to encourage students to use text evidence
- AND two assessments on fiction reading passages

Printable Slides Included



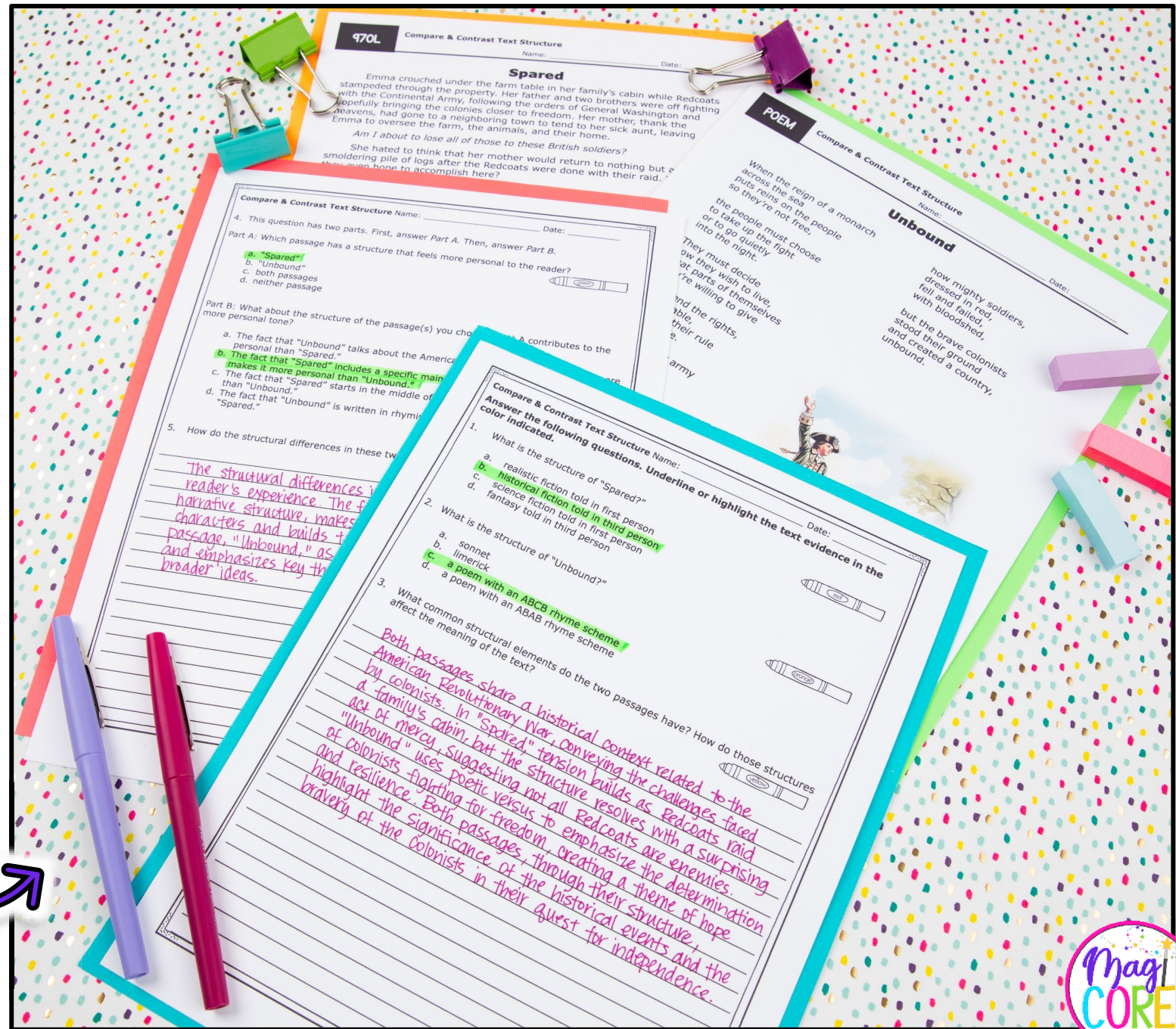
12 FICTION PASSAGES

- Learn in color! Visual cues reinforce text evidence.
- Teachers can quickly check student work.
- Variety of text structures to spark comprehension AND curiosity.
- Dive into a variety of genres and text structures.



QUESTIONS

- Skill-focused, scaffolded questions
- Multiple choice and short answer
- Preps students for state testing
- Rigorous and research-based approach to questioning



ANCHOR CHART

- Anchor chart breaking down how to compare and contrast text structures
- Practice passage and warmup activity sheet
- Use to introduce the skill
- Students reference throughout the unit
- Use in student journal as a reference

The anchor chart is a collection of overlapping worksheets and a passage, held together by colorful binder rings. The background is a light blue surface with a pattern of small, colorful dots. The worksheets are titled "Compare & Contrast Text Structure" and provide a framework for analyzing texts. One worksheet shows a flowchart for comparing three texts (TEXT #1, TEXT #2, TEXT #3) and then analyzing all texts together. Another worksheet provides a detailed breakdown of text structure, defining it as "how a story is told" and listing elements like genre, story elements, point of view, and order of events. It also defines style as "the way an author writes" and lists elements like word choice, sentence structure, tone, voice, point of view, pacing, and dialogue. A third worksheet shows a comparison of two texts, "That Spot is Mine" and "Tryout Trauma", focusing on their narrative structures. The passage "That Spot is Mine" is a short story about a cheerleader named Rhonda who is nervous about a tryout. The anchor chart is decorated with colorful binder rings (purple, blue, green, yellow) and a purple arrow pointing from the list of uses to the chart itself. In the bottom right corner, there is a circular logo for "Mag CORE" with a star and the text "Mag CORE" in a stylized font.

Compare & Contrast Text Structure
Let's Try! Read the passages "That Spot is Mine" and "Tryout Trauma" below, then answer the questions on the graphic organizer.

That Spot is Mine
Rhonda stepped onto the designated spot on the gym floor and nodded to the cheerleading captain that she was ready. Of course, she was ready, because she'd been practicing this routine for weeks now. She'd run through the steps over and over again until they'd become instinctual. She'd even dreamed of the routine over the last three nights leading up to cheerleading tryouts, so there was no way she was going to mess this up.

The music started, and Rhonda let the beat sync with her own heartbeat. Her body slid into autopilot, moving without her even thinking about it. She nailed every step right in time with the music, and her cheering voice was loud and clear, echoing throughout the gym with both power and tryouts, so there was no way she was going to mess this up.

Ever since she was a little girl and her dad took her to her first football game, Rhonda had wanted to be a cheerleader, and she'd taken the steps to learn the right skills. She'd taken dance classes as a toddler and still too today. She'd been a gymnast from fourth grade to eighth grade, and she'd learned the right skills because it conflicted with her competitive dance team.

Compare & Contrast Text Structure
Fill in the graphic organizer to compare and contrast the structure of **three** texts and analyze how structure contributes to meaning and style.

TEXT #1 TEXT #2 TEXT #3

ALL TEXTS

Compare & Contrast Text Structure
Fill in the graphic organizer to compare and contrast the structure of **two** texts and analyze how structure contributes to meaning and style.

TEXT #1 TEXT #2

Both TEXTS

STRUCTURE
Readers compare and contrast the structure of two or more texts. They analyze how the structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style.

Structure refers to how a story is told. It includes:

- Genre (fantasy, realistic fiction, historical fiction, poetry, etc.)
- Story elements (characters, setting, plot, conflict, resolution, theme)
- Point of view (1st person, 2nd person, 3rd person)
- Order of events (chronological, linear, non-linear, flashback, foreshadowing, circular, in medias res [in the midst of the action], etc.)
- Use of chapters, scene breaks, paragraphs, stanzas, lines.

STYLE
Style refers to the way an author writes. It includes:

- Word choice
- Sentence structure
- Tone
- Voice
- Point of view
- Pacing
- Dialogue

MEANING
Meaning refers to the message conveyed by the text. It includes:

- Surface meaning (basic and obvious meanings)
- Deeper meaning (richer, hidden meanings)

Both TEXTS

Both texts use a first-person perspective to convey the thoughts and emotions of the main characters.

Both texts have a clear introduction, conflict, and resolution, but "That Spot is Mine" has a more traditional and linear narrative structure, while "Tryout Trauma" incorporates more introspection and background information.

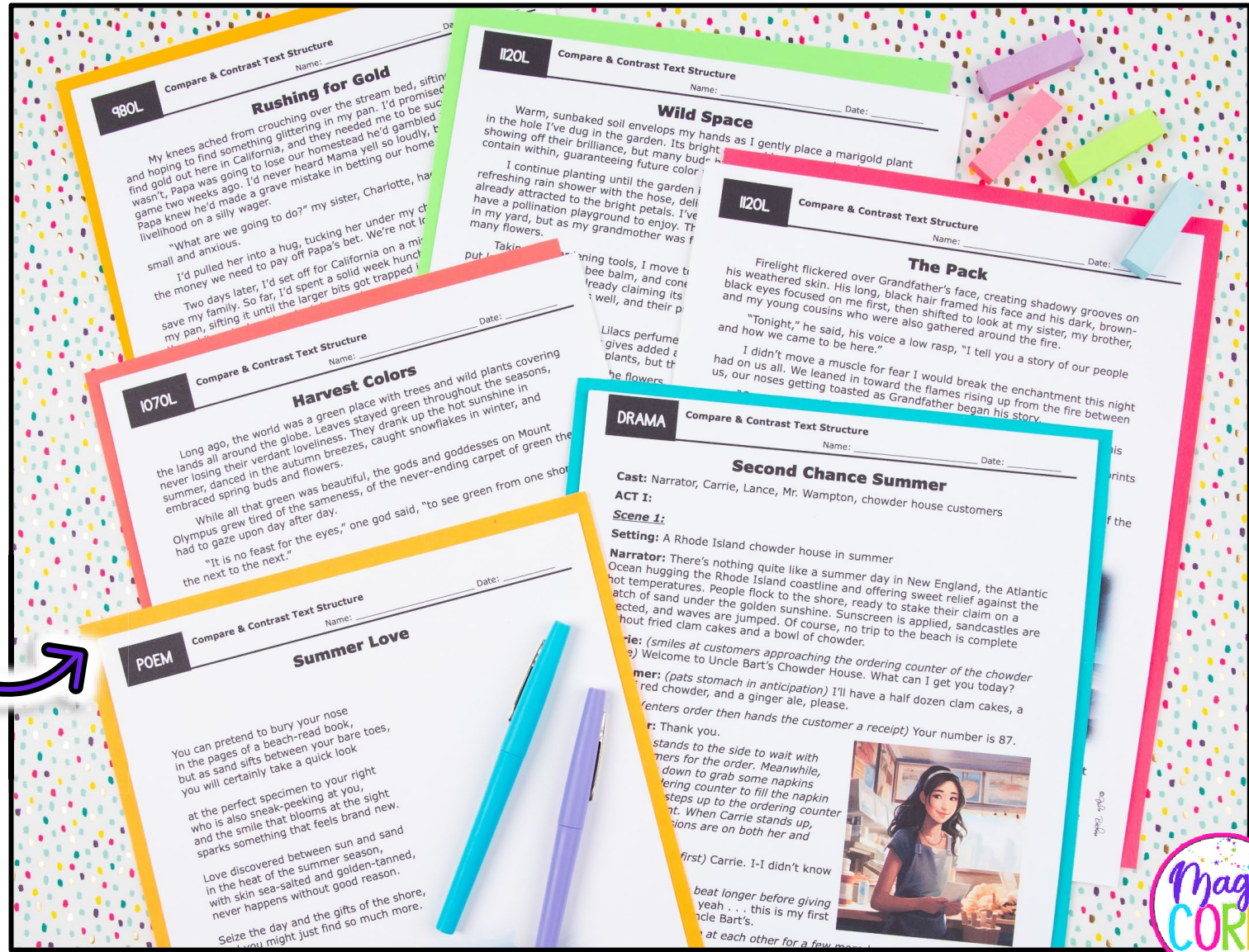
Both texts affect the meaning of the text by using the chronological structure to build suspense and anticipation, contributing to the sense of achievement and hope at the end.

Both texts affect the style of the texts by using a non-linear structure and incorporating the narrator's internal struggle of their family history. The abrupt ending has a strong emotional impact, highlighting the narrator's ability and determination.

Mag CORE

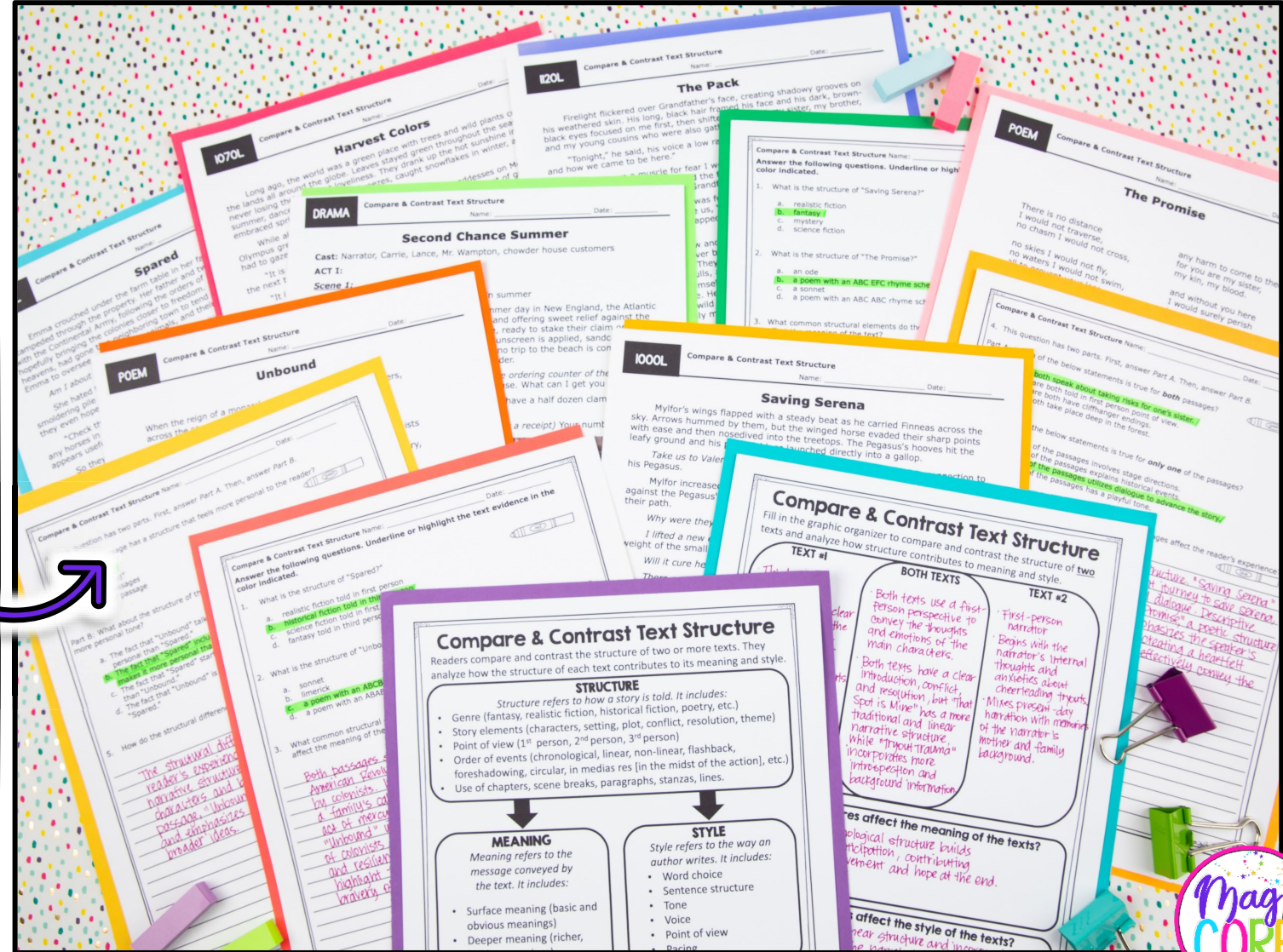
ASSESSMENTS

- Same format as practice
- Two tests with different Lexile levels
- Color-coding
- Follows best practices for standardized assessments



WHY IT WORKS

- Certified Lexile measures
- High - interest texts to motivate readers
- Cross - curricular topics
- Scaffold approach will help your students meet grade level expectations
- Classroom tested! Trusted by over 1,000 teachers... and counting!... To help students grow their reading skills



ALIGNS TO SCIENCE OF READING

Research shows that wide reading has the biggest impact on student reading progress.

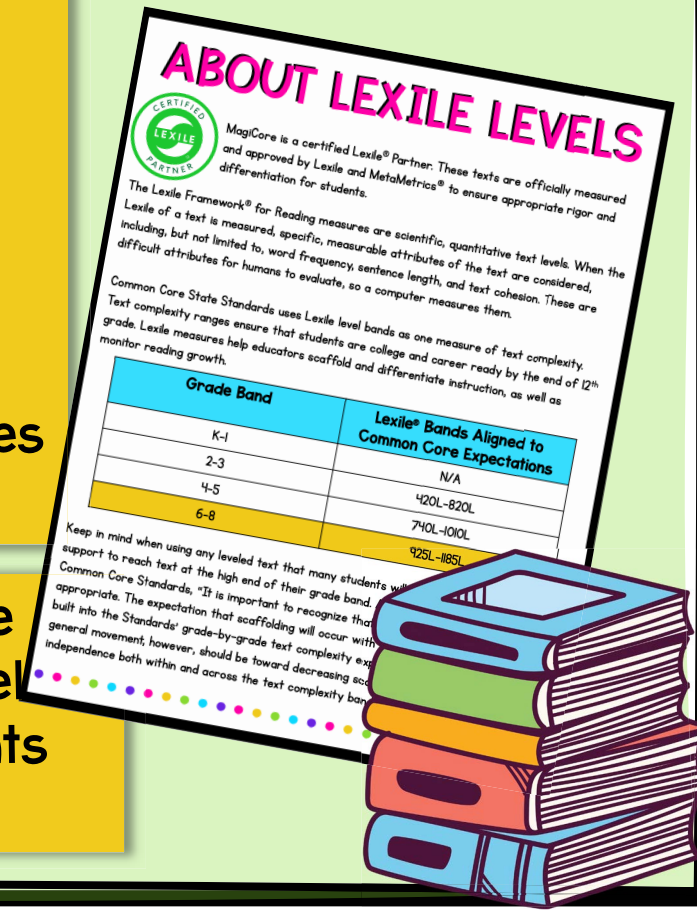
Our passages provide that essential variety of fiction structures and topics.

Students need scaffolded instruction to access grade level texts. Without it, students are not exposure to linguistic and textural features, putting them further behind.

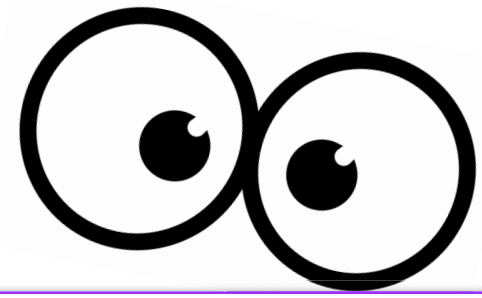
Our texts help students grow full-steam ahead. With certified Lexile levels in the Common Core text complexity band, students will 100% engage with appropriate text and sentence structures, vocabulary, and more. Plus, every passage provides teachers with opportunities to scaffold instruction.

Fun fact! From 2nd grade on, students make greater reading gains when taught from texts that are as much as two grade levels above their "instructional" reading level.

Lead the way! Our texts are leveled to master grade-level expectations and set students up for success.



TAKE A PEEK



Compare & Contrast Text Structure

Readers compare and contrast the structure of two or more texts. They analyze how the structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style.

STRUCTURE

Structure refers to how a story is told. It includes:

- Genre (fantasy, realistic fiction, historical fiction, poetry, etc.)
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Meaning refers to the message conveyed by the text. It includes:

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STYLE

Style refers to the way an author writes. It includes:

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- Tone
- Voice
- Point of view
- Pacing
- Dialogue

To compare/contrast structure and analyze how it contributes to meaning and style:

1. Carefully read all the texts, noting details about their structures such as genre and point of view.
2. Consider the similarities and differences in the structures of each text.
3. Ask:
 - What are the structures of the texts?
 - How are the structures of the texts similar/different?
 - What is the meaning of each text?
 - What is the author's style in each text?
 - How does the structure contribute to each text's meaning and style?
4. Summarize your thoughts about how text structure contributes to meaning and style.

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Compare & Contrast Text Structure

Fill in the graphic organizer to compare and contrast the structure of two texts and analyze how structure contributes to meaning and style.

TEXT #1	BOTH TEXTS	TEXT #2

How do the structures affect the meaning of the texts?

How do the structures affect the style of the texts?

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Compare & Contrast Text Structure

Fill in the graphic organizer to compare and contrast the structure of three texts and analyze how structure contributes to meaning and style.

TEXT #1	TEXT #2	TEXT #3
ALL TEXTS		

How do the structures affect the meaning of the texts?

How do the structures affect the style of the texts?

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© John Deane

Compare & Contrast Text Structure Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer the following questions. Underline or highlight the text evidence in the color indicated.

1. What structure does the author use to tell the story in "Rushing for Gold?"

a. realistic fiction
b. fantasy
c. historical fiction
d. science fiction

2. What structure does the author use to tell the story in "The Boy Who Swam with Piranhas?"

a. realistic fiction
b. fantasy
c. historical fiction
d. science fiction

3. What theme do "Rushing for Gold" and "The Boy Who Swam with Piranhas" have in common?
a. Both stories are about adventure.
b. Both stories are about survival.
c. Both stories are about friendship.
d. Both stories are about family.

4. This question has two parts. First, answer Part A: From which point of view are both stories told?
a. first
b. second
c. third omniscient
d. third limited

Part B: How does the point of view choice for each story affect the reader's experience?
a. It keeps the reader at a distance and makes the story feel less personal.
b. It creates a more personal tone that allows the reader to track the feelings of the characters more effectively.
c. It makes the pace of both stories feel quick and exciting.
d. It allows the reader to track the feelings of the characters more effectively.

5. Aside from genre, what other differences exist between the two stories?
a. "Rushing for Gold" is set in the past, while "The Boy Who Swam with Piranhas" is set in the present.
b. "Rushing for Gold" is a historical fiction, while "The Boy Who Swam with Piranhas" is a realistic fiction.
c. "Rushing for Gold" is a first-person narrative, while "The Boy Who Swam with Piranhas" is a third-person narrative.
d. "Rushing for Gold" is a short story, while "The Boy Who Swam with Piranhas" is a novel.

Compare & Contrast Text Structure Name: _____ Date: _____

4. This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A: From which point of view are both stories told?

- a. first
- b. second
- c. third omniscient
- d. third limited

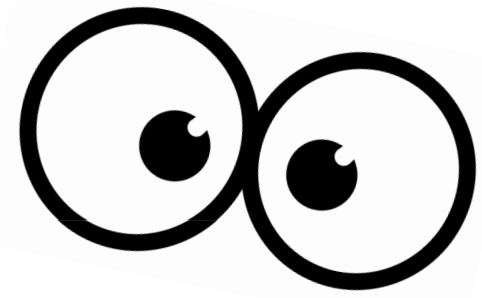
Part B: How does the point of view choice from Part A affect the style of the text?

- a. It keeps the reader at a distance and gives both stories a more formal tone.
- b. It creates a more personal tone that allows the reader to be in the main characters' shoes more effectively in both stories.
- c. It makes the pace of both stories feel quick and the events seem less serious.
- d. It allows the reader to track the feelings and emotions of all the characters in both stories.

5. Aside from genre, what other differences exist between these two stories? How do those differences affect meaning?

MagiCORE

CHECK THIS OUT TOO!



DRAMA

Compare & Contrast Text Structure
Name: _____ Date: _____

Second Chance Summer

Cast: Narrator, Carrie, Lance, Mr. Wamptton, chowder house customers

ACT I:

Scene 1:

Setting: A Rhode Island beach

Narrator: The ocean hugging hot temperature patch of sand erected, and without friends.

Carrie: (sitting in the chowder house) We have a bowl of rhubarb.

Customer: (Customer) other Carrie below hold what she said.

Customer: (Customer) other Carrie below hold what she said.

A Perfect July Morning

My board was tucked under my arm as I walked along the warm Pacific Ocean lapping at my ankles. The waves today, and I was glad I'd decided to go surfing on this beach.

As soon as my feet hit the sand, I padded over to the blanket, surprised to see my chair occupied.

By Melissa Wenscott.

"Hey, Donovan."

I shivered, which was weird because it was nearly perfect today with zero breeze, but my reaction, however, had steamy temperature and everything to do with the sound from Melissa's mouth again.

I had so many questions I wanted to ask her.

Where had she run off to?

Why hadn't she texted, emailed, or called me?

What had I done wrong after we'd spent a glorious summer year on this very beach?

"Why are you here?" was the question that finally came.

"Nice to see you too." She grinned up at me as she shaded her eyes with her hand to her brow.

It was definitely nice to see her, but what was she doing here on my beach?

"Sit." She pointed to the blanket I had stretched out in front of the beach chair.

I stuck my board in the sand to dry off and lowered to the blanket, grabbing a towel and running it through my hair a few times before leveling my gaze on Melissa. I didn't say anything but I didn't have to.

POEM

Compare & Contrast Text Structure
Name: _____ Date: _____

Summer Love

You can pretend to bury your nose in the pages of a beach-read book, but as sand sifts between your bare toes, you will certainly take a quick look at the perfect specimen to your right who is also sneak-peeking at you, and the smile that blooms at the sight sparks something that feels brand new.

Love discovered between sun and sand in the heat of the summer season, with skin sea-salted and golden-tanned, never happens without good reason.

Seize the day and the gifts of the shore, and you might just find so much more.

Compare & Contrast Text Structure Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer the following questions. Underline or highlight the text evidence in the color indicated.

1. What poetic structure is used in "Summer Love?"

a. ode
b. ballad
c. sonnet
d. limerick

2. How are "Second Chance Summer" and "Summer Love" different genres?

a. They both are told in third person point of view.
b. They both have characters.
c. They both have a melancholy tone.
d. They both have stage directions.

3. Discuss how the structural elements of the passages affect the meaning.

4. This question has two parts. First, answer *Part A*. Then, answer *Part B*.

Part A: What is true of "Summer Love" that is **not** true of the other two passages?

a. "Summer Love" describes the beach at night.
b. "Summer Love" is told in first person point of view.
c. "Summer Love" includes dialogue.
d. "Summer Love" isn't about a specific couple.

Part B: What is true of "A Perfect July Morning" and "Summer Love" that is **not** true of "Second Chance Summer?"

a. "A Perfect July Morning" and "Summer Love" both involve the characters bonding again over seafood.
b. "A Perfect July Morning" and "Summer Love" both are told in third person point of view.
c. "A Perfect July Morning" and "Summer Love" both are organized into stanzas.
d. "A Perfect July Morning" and "Summer Love" both take place on the actual beach.

5. These three passages are essentially about the same idea. What is that idea? How do differences in the structural elements of the passages affect the presentation of that idea?



UPGRADE THEIR SKILLS!

The THEME AND CENTRAL IDEA Unit
Contains:

- 12 Printable Lexile Leveled Reading Comprehension Passages
- Anchor Charts
- Rigorous comprehension questions for each passage
- Assessment Passages and Question
- Prepares students to determine a theme or central idea of a text

Love this unit but
want to more
literary practice?
Try the THEME &
CENTRAL IDEA unit!

