

fiction

8th Grade

# COMPREHENSION

bundle

FICTION 7TH & 8TH GRADE RL. 7.1/8.1

LEXILE INFERRING & ANALYZING EXPLICIT

FICTION 7TH & 8TH GRADE RL.

LEXILE MEANING OF WORDS & PHRASES

FICTION 8TH GRADE RL. 8.5

LEXILE COMPARE & CONTRAST TEXT STRUCTURE

FICTION 7TH & 8TH GRADE RL. 7.2/8.2

LEXILE THEME & CENTRAL IDEA

FICTION 8TH GRADE RL. 8.6

LEXILE ANALYZING POINT OF VIEW

FICTION 8TH GRADE RL. 8.3

LEXILE ANALYZE THE IMPACT OF DIALOGUE & INCIDENTS

FICTION 8TH GRADE RL. 8.9

LEXILE ANALYZE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN FICTION & TRADITIONAL LITERATURE

PRINTABLE VERSION



# 7 Units Covering Fiction Standards for 8th Grade



Meaning of Words & Phrases Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

1. What impact does the phrase "they felt like rare treasures" have on how you feel about the misses in the shop?

a. Alex finds the misses disappointing.  
**b. Alex views the misses as special possessions.**  
 c. Alex thinks the misses are ordinary.  
 d. Alex considers the misses useless objects.

960L Meaning of Words & Phrase Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Caught Between

Koda glided across the valley, the rocky mountaintops below pointing easterly. He swooped down lower when he reached a patchwork quilt of farmland, but the corn wasn't quite ready yet. Soon he'd be able to stop and rest when he passed this area on his daily jaunts across the sky.

He spread his black wings as far as they would stretch, coasting on cool breezes and making large spirals in the air. Up here, nothing could reach him. He tried to alienate him, nothing made sense to him. It felt like when his feet touched Earth.

When he looked down at the valley, he could be who he was trying to be. He spoke harshly. He didn't have to pretend. He was delighted in the absolute freedom he felt. He climbed even higher, making the valley look smaller.

Meaning of Words & Phrases Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Part A: What types of figurative language are used in the sentence "Alex pushed the little screw on the side in and the pocket watch whispered a quick tick-tick-tick."

a. personification and onomatopoeia  
**b. simile and metaphor**  
 c. onomatopoeia and hyperbole  
 d. alliteration and personification

Part B: What does the author's use of the word "scrambled" to describe how Alex leaves the room add to the story's tone?

a. The word "scrambled" helps convey a sense of urgency and chaos.  
 b. The word "scrambled" helps convey a sense of confusion and disorder.  
 c. The word "scrambled" helps convey a sense of mystery and magic.  
 d. The word "scrambled" helps convey a sense of calm and reflection.

Meaning of Words & Phrases Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Wendy's Warning

Like a sailor gripping the mast during a tumultuous storm, Wendy clung to each other through it all. She and her parents clung to each other through it all. Nothing went silent aside from the rain falling through the trees. The wind whistled through the branches, creating a symphony of wails and howls.

1010L Meaning of Words & Phrase Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Puppy Love

I loved dogs. If a sketchy van full of puppies pulled up next to me on the street, I'd totally get in because dogs are my kryptonite.

Dogs are just better than people so, of course, I was delighted when someone from the shelter called me about the volunteer application I'd filled out.

"What's the deal?" the director asked.

"I'm looking for a dog, a T-shirt, my sneakers that have rained out, a pair of leggings that have little holes, and a hat that I lost."

160L Meaning of Words & Phrase Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Timekeeper

Alex browsed the shelves of the bookstore like he did almost every day. His dad owned the shop that sold rare books and odd trinkets to collectors and sometimes his father let him have an item that was "special." They were items he'd stocked but had failed to sell at home, and they felt like rare treasures that were almost gone.

A pocket watch had caught his attention, but it was a new item that would qualify as a miss yet. The chain was long with intricate engravings on it that looked like a piece of art.

"How much, did you?" His father took the pocket watch and looked at it. "That all the gears inside could be seen. 'She's a beauty, isn't she?' 'It'll probably sell quickly.'"

"How much, did you?" His father took the pocket watch and set it back on the shelf. "The chain was long with a little knob on the end, and the case had engravings on it that looked mystical. 'What does the word 'mystical' suggest to you?' 'The engravings on the case? They were boring and dull. The engravings were plain and simple. The engravings were shiny and reflective.'"

"How much, did you?" His father took the pocket watch and set it back on the shelf. "The chain was long with a little knob on the end, and the case had engravings on it that looked mystical. 'What does the word 'mystical' suggest to you?' 'The engravings on the case? They were boring and dull. The engravings were plain and simple. The engravings were shiny and reflective.'"

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Meaning of Words & Phrases Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Gone

When seconds stand still and synapses sizzle as they once did, memories are erased. Pictures in the sand get washed away as the tide rolls in. Memories erased.

I tell you my name a million plus a million times. Your eyes brighten like candle flickers of hope.

Meaning of Words & Phrases Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Real-life RPG

Cast: Rajesh, Malia, Sun God, mummies, undead pharaohs

Scene 1:  
 Setting: A family room in a suburban home.

(Rajesh and Malia sit on the floor, both have gaming headsets on, and their favorite RPG video game is playing on a large screen television. They are playing close to their hands as they play.)

Rajesh: Watch out, Malia!

Malia: I see 'em, but they're evasive maneuvering. Making her avatar invisible.

Rajesh: I think you're overreacting, Malia. We're almost winning.

Malia: It's taking forever, we're not the winners.

Rajesh: How come? You're really built for this. You're the grass in the field.

(The two friends continue to play.)

Malia: (to Rajesh) I'm at her! I'm at her! I'm at her!

Rajesh: Malia! We're almost winning!

Malia: (to Rajesh) I'm at her! I'm at her! I'm at her!

Meaning of Words & Phrases Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Fill in the graphic organizer to analyze how word choice impacts the meaning and tone of the text.

Title of Text: \_\_\_\_\_

Quote from the Text	Type of Word Choice	Impact on Meaning	Impact on Tone
"I glanced at the time on my phone, knowing I only had 10 minutes to get to swim practice."	Context clues	How do these words convey specific ideas?	What feelings or atmosphere do these words create for the reader?
"I rubbed the back of my neck. 'I didn't have time this week, but I'll try to them this weekend and hear from you on Monday.'"	Repetitive Language		
"I had my textbook on my backpack. My backpack was so heavy that it shook the ground as I walked to school."	Analogies		

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### Meaning of Words and Phrases

Readers analyze how word choice impacts the meaning and tone of the text to deepen comprehension.

#### Types of Word Choice

<b>Context Clues</b> Use the surrounding text to make sense of unfamiliar words.	
<b>Connotations</b> Consider the cultural/emotional associations of words.	
<b>Figurative Language</b> Identify metaphors, similes, hyperbole, personification, onomatopoeia, and idioms.	
<b>Repetitive Language</b> Note rhyming schemes, repetition, alliteration, and assonance.	
<b>Analogies</b> Recognize comparisons to explain ideas.	
<b>Allusions</b> Identify references to other texts or famous works.	

**Meaning and Tone of the Text**

- To analyze how word choice impacts the meaning and tone of a text:
- Carefully read the text.
  - Consider the types of word choice the author uses to convey their ideas.
  - Ask:
    - How does this specific word choice contribute to the reader's perception and understanding of a character, setting, or event?
    - How does the author's word choice contribute to the tone of a particular scene, an entire story, or a poem?
    - How does word choice emphasize certain ideas or feelings?

Meaning of Words & Phrases Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

1. In the sentence "He swooped down lower when he reached a patchwork quilt of farmland, but the corn wasn't quite ready yet," what does the author compare the approaching tornado to?

a. It gives Koda a reason to fly over the farmland.  
**b. It gives the reader a clear picture of what Koda is seeing.**  
 c. It gives the reader a clue about the story's main conflict.  
 d. It gives Koda's family a reason to get into the valley.

2. What type of figurative language is in the sentence "He spread his black wings as far as they would stretch, coasting on cool breezes and making large spirals in the air"?

a. onomatopoeia  
 b. assonance  
**c. alliteration**  
 d. personification

3. How does the author's use of hyperbole in the sentence "I tell you my name a million plus a million times" help you understand Koda's character?

The author uses hyperbole to show Koda's strong desire to be in the valley. It helps us see Koda's passion and how much he wants to be there.

Meaning of Words & Phrases Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Drama

Cast: Rajesh, Malia, Sun God, mummies, undead pharaohs

Scene 1:  
 Setting: A family room in a suburban home.

(Rajesh and Malia sit on the floor, both have gaming headsets on, and their favorite RPG video game is playing on a large screen television. They are playing close to their hands as they play.)

Rajesh: Watch out, Malia!

Malia: I see 'em, but they're evasive maneuvering. Making her avatar invisible.

Rajesh: I think you're overreacting, Malia. We're almost winning.

Malia: It's taking forever, we're not the winners.

Rajesh: How come? You're really built for this. You're the grass in the field.

(The two friends continue to play.)

Malia: (to Rajesh) I'm at her! I'm at her! I'm at her!

Rajesh: Malia! We're almost winning!

Malia: (to Rajesh) I'm at her! I'm at her! I'm at her!

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# Anchor Charts and Graphic Organizers Included for all 7 Units

**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 pep.

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 took them today. She'd been a gymnast from fourth grade to eighth grade, and that activity because it conflicted with her competitive dance classes at the time.



**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
<p>Third-person narrator</p> <p>Begins with a clear introduction of the main character, Rhonda, and her preparation for cheerleading tryouts</p> <p>Shows a chronological structure as Rhonda prepares her routine and waits for results.</p>	<p>Both texts use a first-person perspective to convey the thoughts and emotions of the main characters.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>First-person narrator</p> <p>Begins with the narrator's internal thoughts and anxieties about cheerleading tryouts.</p> <p>Mixes present-day narration with memories of the narrator's mother and family background.</p>

**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.)
- Story elements (characters, setting, plot, conflict, resolution, theme)
- Point of view (1<sup>st</sup> person, 2<sup>nd</sup> person, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**MEANING**

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

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

**STYLE**

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

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

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

- Carefully read all the texts, noting details about their structures such as genre and point of view.
- Consider the similarities and differences in the structures of each text.

How are the structures of the texts similar/different?

**How do the structures affect the meaning of the texts?**

The chronological structure builds suspense and anticipation, contributing to the sense of achievement and hope at the end.

**How do the structures affect the style of the texts?**

The non-linear structure and incorporation of the narrator's internal struggle convey the narrator's internal struggle of their family history. The abrupt ending has a strong emotional impact, highlighting the narrator's resilience and determination.

# Passages & Questions Mimic State Testing Requirements

Traditional Literature

Analyze Connections Between Fiction & Traditional Literature

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Parable of the Good Samaritan A Bible Story From Luke 10: 25-37

25 Behold, a certain lawyer stood up and test shall I do  
26 J in the la  
27 H Lord you  
your sou  
all your  
yourself.  
28 H correctly  
29 E neighbor  
30 J Jericho, and dep

Traditional Literature

Analyze Connections Between Fiction & Traditional Literature

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Fox and the Crow An Aesop's Fable

One bright morning as the Fox was following his sharp nose through the wood in search of a bite to eat, he saw a Crow on the limb of a tree overhead. This was by no means the first Crow the Fox had ever seen. What caught his attention this time and made him stop for a second look, was that the lucky Crow held a bit of cheese in her beak.



950

Analyze Connections Between Fiction & Traditional Literature

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Last Loaf

"You remembered to pick up the Italian bread for dinner, didn't you?" my aunt Louise asked. Luckily, I was on the phone with her, and she couldn't see me smack my forehead because, *of course*, I didn't remember the bread.

"Yup," I said instead, trying to keep my voice neutral. "All set, and I'll see you in a bit, Aunt Louise."

I ended the call and struggled into my jacket because if I had any hope of getting that Italian bread and still being on time for the big family Sunday dinner, I had to move like lightning. The only thing Aunt Louise hated more than not having Italian bread at dinner was people being late.

I raced to the bakery and hopped out of my car almost before I'd even put the vehicle in park. There was only one other car in the lot, and I thanked the heavens that I wouldn't have to wait in a long line.

930L

Analyze Connections Between Fiction & Traditional Literature

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## A Little Help

Marcus pedaled faster, hoping to dodge the raindrops, but the rain had picked up its pace, and the back of his sweatshirt was soaked. Had he known the sky was about to unleash this monsoon, he would have left his friend Josh's house sooner to avoid an unwanted drenching. While Josh didn't live too far away, it was a long enough distance to make bike riding in

onal  
ture

Analyze Connections Between Fiction & Traditional Literature

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Yorimasa A Japanese Legend

A long time ago a certain Emperor became seriously ill. He was unable to sleep at night owing to a most horrible and unaccountable noise he heard proceeding from the roof of the palace, called the Purple Hall of the North Star. A number of his courtiers decided to lie in wait for his strange nocturnal visitor. As soon as the sun set they noticed that a dark cloud crept from the eastern horizon, and alighted on the roof of the august palace. Those who waited in the imperial red-chamber heard extraordinary scratching sounds, as if what had at first appeared to be a cloud had suddenly changed into a beast with gigantic and powerful claws.

Night after night this terrible visitant came, and night after night the Emperor grew worse. He at last became so ill that it was obvious to all those in a room that unless something could be done to destroy this monster the Emperor would certainly die.

At last it was decided that Yorimasa was the one knight valiant enough to relieve his Majesty of these terrible haunts. Accordingly made elaborate preparations for the fray. He took steel-headed arrows, donned his armor, over which he wore a ceremonial cap instead of his usual helmet.

At sunset he lay in concealment outside the palace. When a sudden thunder crashed overhead, lightning blazed in the sky, and he shrieked like a pack of wild demons. But Yorimasa was a brave man, and the fury of the elements in no way daunted him. When midnight came a black cloud rush through the sky and rest upon the roof of the north-east corner it stopped. Once more the lightning flashed, and this time he saw the gleaming eyes of a large animal. Noticing the position of this strange monster, he pulled at his bow till it was as full moon. In another moment his steel-headed arrow struck the monster rolled from the palace roof to the ground.



1140L

Analyze Connections Between Fiction & Traditional Literature

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

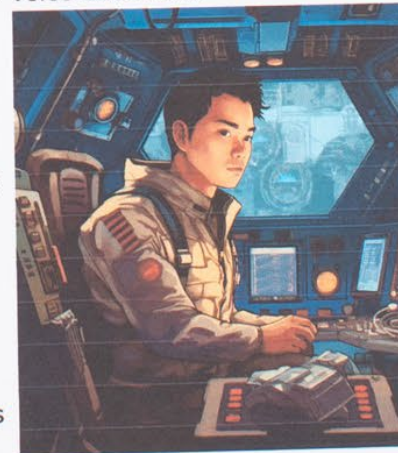
## The Space Adventures of a Computer Nerd

Makato kept a sharp eye on all the monitors in the control room of the *Galaxy V* spaceship. Each one had a view of the areas inside and outside the ship, and it was his job to be the lookout for this shift. His eyes were tired at the end of the day, but it was an honor to have been chosen to aboard this state-of-the-art space lab, and he'd do whatever tasks were asked of him. Makato had worked hard in school to become an expert at all the latest tech. He liked to think there wasn't a situation he couldn't use his coding skills to tackle. He was proud to be an official computer nerd in space.

"Space junk, Sector 5," he said into his headset. "Engaging flexi-net to capture it." Makato tapped on the keyboard in front of him, entering the code to unfurl a large net designed to catch debris floating in space and keep it from damaging the spaceship's exterior.

"Flexi-net engaged," a female computer voice confirmed. Makato went back to scanning the

monitors, one of which had information about all the experiments going on in the labs onboard the *Galaxy V*. Several of them had data about humans traveling in stasis as part of a project to explore ways to be able to journey between Earth. Makato's job required a great deal of bravery to work in space. These people were willing to submit their bodies to groundbreaking, especially life-saving science in the name of allowing humans to reach the edges of the universe. That kind of courage amazed Makato, and he paid special attention to the vital signs even though the spaceship's doctors no doubt had it covered.



With the space junk safely collected and no other threats detected, Makato returned to his quarters. He worked on coding a

g all over his legs and  
week. If his mom and dad  
d never buy him  
primands now.



the epic gaming system  
the right now where he  
shortcut home.

of water over Marcus.  
ok to have him swerving  
rant with a metallic  
en bed. His head hit a  
the painful spot, his

shirt to wipe at the blood  
le as a gush of dizziness

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