Text Complexity Analysis Template

Text complexity analysis

Created by:	Tricia Lance	Event/Date:	TeachFest Connecticut: Summer Academy, July 29,2014
Text and Author	Whooping Cranes in Danger by Susan Goodman	Where to Access Text	Check out from library or order at http://www.susangoodmanbooks.com/

Text Description

This informational text informs readers the reasons why whooping cranes are having difficulties surviving, while sequentially explaining how scientists helped whooping crane flocks migrate and reproduce. The text structure is in cause and effect format which includes the author's point of view about the problems facing the whooping cranes.

Quantitative

Lexile/ Grade Level	580L, Grade 3	Text Length	700 words

Qualitative

Meaning/Central Ideas	Text Structure/Organization
The author's purpose is to inform the reader about problems facing whopping crane flocks and how people can help in their survival. The reader learns what dangers the whooping cranes are facing in their habitat, how scientists are helping whooping cranes survive, and the result of the scientists' efforts.	The text is organized in cause and effect structure with the connection of the different section's ideas in sequence. The text is an informational text that has many text features (maps, photographs and captions) that enhances student understanding of the scientists' efforts. The author's use of headings will guide readers to the main idea of each section that will led to the theme of survival.

Prior Knowledge Demands	Language Features
The text assumes prior knowledge about physical and behavior characteristics of whooping cranes as well as the reasons why birds are becoming endangered. The concept of migration is explored and readers would need an understanding of the geographical locations mentioned.	The language is largely academic with the author's tone coming through in the introduction and conclusion about scientists as "heroes." There are many content-specific, Tier 2 vocabulary that are defined in the text. The sentence structure is primarily simple with some complex word parts (suffixes such as: -full and -ness). The author uses signal words (but, although, unless) to show a change in the information presented (cause and effect).

Potential Reader/Task Challenges

This text is an informational text set-up in a cause/effect text structure so it may challenge readers not familiar with reading this type of structure. Additionally the concept of migration is explored and readers would need an understanding of the mentioned geographical locations.

Big Takeaway
Readers will be able to analyze the text to determine the main ideas of each section and key details that lead to the message. Readers should understand the author's message that humans help animals survive by understanding their physical and behavioral needs. RI 3.2

Vocabulary Analysis Template

	Words that demand less teaching time (i.e. the definition is singular and concrete)	Words that demand more teaching time (i.e. words with multiple meanings and/or that are part of a word family)
Words that can be determined in context	Migrate p. 175 Whoopers p. 175 Bound p.181	Population p. 174 Flock p. 175 Caretakers p. 176 Relatives p. 182
Words that cannot be determined in context	Refuge p. 182	