

## Text Complexity Analysis Template

Text complexity analysis			
<b>Created by:</b>	Erica E. Watson Science Educator	<b>Event/Date:</b>	7/29/2014
<b>Text and Author</b>	“Grand Canyon’s views could be altered by development” Los Angeles Times	<b>Where to Access Text</b>	newsela.com
Text Description			
<p><b>Land developers are planning to build commercial properties and homes that will interrupt the flow of the Colorado River in Arizona. Locals, Native-Americans from the area, and small Earth-friendly businesses are strongly opposed to the developments. The local ecosystems, waterways, and humans’ everyday lives will be greatly negatively impacted by the implementation of these properties and their systems.</b></p>			
Quantitative			
<b>Lexile and Grade Level</b>	700, 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	<b>Text Length</b>	924 Words
Qualitative			
Meaning/Central Ideas		Text Structure/Organization	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- architectural structures will disrupt flow of the Colorado River in Arizona</li> <li>- many strongly opposed to the development</li> <li>- environmental application</li> <li>- awareness of effects on environment and people</li> <li>- very complex quantitative: (subplots, time shifts, complex characters)</li> </ul>		<p>Short article is broken down visually into small sections (one to three sentences per idea, comment, or experience)</p> <p>Text is structured as many science texts are structured</p> <p>Bold letters signify a change in topic or focus</p>	
Prior Knowledge Demands		Language Features	
<p>Historical background of the effects of human architecture on Earth’s environments</p> <p>Native-American cultural background (especially Navajo)</p> <p>Waterways and erosion</p> <p>Environmental effects of altering waterways</p>		<p>Very complex: contains some abstract language; fairly complex language (some); complex sentences</p> <p>Interesting language sets the tone AND setting at the same time. This makes for a more engaging read.</p>	
Potential Reader/Task Challenges			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- sophisticated or abstract themes (environmental awareness and sensitivity, and a call to make change); cultural knowledge: references to cultural elements reader &amp; task</li> <li>- multiple levels of meaning that may be difficult to identify or separate (differing perspectives from various sources including Navajo and government officials)</li> </ul>			
Big Takeaway			
<p>Human architectural developments disrupt natural processes. The buildings and homes introduced in this article would destroy the flow of the mighty Colorado River in a significant area of Arizona. The structures would destroy the beauty of the canyon, and put at risk the waterway and ecology of the area. Native-Americans (Navajo tribal members) and other pro-Earth supporters continue to seek a resolution to this potentially-deadly (for the environment) situation.</p>			

### 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)
<b>Words that can be determined in context</b>	Rim Gondola Navajo ** Tribes Ecology Canyon Vista (make connection with students who speak Spanish)	Confluence Navajo ** Fragile Average Venturing
<b>Words that cannot be determined in context</b>	Jostled Hive Mesa	Impact Ecology Scarcity