Text Complexity Analysis Template

Text complexity analysis			
Created by:	JoAnn Frank	**Event/Date:**	Teachfest CT: Summer Academy July, 2014
Text and Author	*Thanks to a Spire, New York's New Skyscraper Is Now Nation's Tallest* by LA Times	**Where to Access Text**	https://newsela.com/articles/tallest-building/id/1808/

Text Description
This text is a non-fiction news article that discusses how One World Trade Center was decided to be the tallest building in the United States. The article tells who made the decision and the criteria they used.

Quantitative			
Lexile and Grade Level	780L	**Text Length**	440 words

Qualitative	
Meaning/Central Ideas	**Text Structure/Organization**
The main idea of this article is to explain how the building was designated as the tallest building in the U.S. Although the author gives the criteria for the choice, the students can also use the information to form their own opinion. There is also the potential for Point of View. How does the author feel about the building? Is there more to the choice than numbers?	This is a newspaper non-fiction article. The language is moderately complex. The use of non-fiction text features such as: photo, caption, sub-headings and diagrams help the children understand the information. The inclusion of the diagram provides children an opportunity to decide if they agree with the designation.
Prior Knowledge Demands	**Language Features**
The children may need to understand the significance of Sept. 11th to the American people when reading the article. They also need to understand how to interpret the information presented in a diagram.	The language in the article is contemporary and should not be a problem for the children. There are a few new words that should be clarified before reading.

Potential Reader/Task Challenges
Potentially the children may not have an understanding of the significance of Sept. 11th and so do not understand the significance the author puts on the event. They also may not understand that they can form their own opinion about a subject. They do not have to agree with the Council's choice.

Big Takeaway
RI3.5: Using the text, children will review non-fiction text features and exploring author's bias in an informational text. Question: Choose a non-fiction text feature from the article and tell how it helped you understand the text.
RI3.6: The children will determine their opinion on a subject using information in the text to support their opinion. Question: Would you choose the World Trade Center Tower as the tallest building? Use information from the text to support your answer.

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	Spire (2) Height (1) Antennae (1)	Council (1) Equipment (1)
Words that cannot be determined in context	Urban (2) Habitat (2) Overall (2) Patriotic (2) Terror (1) Skyscraper (1)	