

Grade 8: All Modules Recommended Texts



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FEducation

The list below includes both literary and informational texts with a range of Lexile® text measures about Vietnam and the fall of Saigon. This provides appropriate independent reading for each student to help build content knowledge about this topic. Note that districts and schools should consider their own community standards when reviewing this list. Some texts in particular units or modules address emotionally difficult content.

It is imperative that students read a high volume of texts at their reading level in order to continue to build the academic vocabulary and fluency that the Common Core Learning Standards (CCSS) demand.

Where possible, texts in languages other than English also are provided. Texts for the Grade 8 modules are categorized into four Lexile measures that correspond to Common Core Bands: Grade 4–5 band, Grade 6 band, Grade 6–8 band, and above 8th Grade. Note, however, that Lexile(R) measures are just one indicator of text complexity, and teachers must use their professional judgment and consider qualitative factors as well. For more information, see Appendix 1 of the Common Core State Standards.

Common Core Band Level Text Difficulty Ranges:

(As provided in the NYSED Passage Selection Guidelines for Assessing CCSS ELA) • Grades 2–3: 420–820L

- Grades 4–5: 740–1010L
- Grades 6–8: 925–1185L

Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures in Grade 4–5 l	oand level (740L-925L)		
Last Airlift: A Vietnamese Orphan's Rescue from War	Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch (author)	Informational	670
All the Broken Pieces	Ann E. Burg (author)	Literature	680
A Million Shades of Gray	Cynthia Kadohota (author)	Literature	700
Cracker! The Best Dog in Vietnam	Cynthia Kadohata (author)	Literature	730
Why Vietnamese Immigrants Came to America	Lewis K. Parker (author)	Informational	750*
Noodle Pie	Ruth Starke (author)	Informational	770
Goodbye, Vietnam	Gloria Whelan (author)	Literature	810

Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure		
Lexile text measures in Grade 4–5 b	oand level (740–925L)				
Goodbye, Vietnam	Gloria Whelan (author)	Literature	810		
Year of Impossible Goodbyes	Sook Nyul Choi (author)	Literature	840		
Echoes of the White Giraffe	Sook Nyul Choi (author)	Literature	870		
The Lotus Seed	Sherry Garland (author)	Literature	880		
Lexile text measures within Grade 6	6 band level (925L–1185L)				
Escape from Saigon: How a Vietnam War Orphan Became an American Boy	Andrea Warren (author)	Biography	930		
Hearts of Sorrow: Vietnamese- American Lives	James Freeman (author)	Informational	930		
Vietnam Veterans Memorial	Natalie M. Rosinsky (author)	Informational	940		
The Fall of Saigon	Mary Englar (author)	Informational	940		
Vietnamese in America	Lori Coleman (author)	Informational	940		
Refugees & Asylum Seekers	Dave Dalton (author)	Informational	940		
Vietnam	Charlotte Guillain (author)	Informational	950*		
Lexile text measures within grade 6	Lexile text measures within grade 6–8 band level (925L–1185L)				
The Land I Lost: Adventures of a Boy in Vietnam	Quang Nhuong Huynh (author)	Biography/Literature	1090		
Migration and Refugees	Quang Nhuong Huynh (author)	Biography/Literature	1090		
Vietnamese American	John F. Grabowski (author)	Informational	1100		

Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
When Heaven and Earth Changed Places: A Vietnamese Woman's Journey from War to Peace	Le Ly Hayslip with Jay Wurts (authors)	Historical Biography	1100
The Vietnam War	Cath Senker (author)	Informational	1110*
Water Buffalo Days: Growing up in Vietnam	Quang Nhuong Huynh (author)	Literature	1120
Refugees	Clarissa Aykroyd (author)	Informational	1150
Lexile text measures above band lev	vel (over 1185L)		
10,000 Days of Thunder: A History of the Vietnam War	Philip Caputo (author)	Informational	1210
The Vietnamese Americans	Hien Duc Do (author)	Informational	1340
The Vietnamese Boat People: 1954 and 1975-1992	Nghia M Vo (author)	Informational	NoLXL
Boat People: Personal Stories from the Vietnamese Exodus 1975-1996	Carina Hoang (editor)	Informational	NoLXL
Strangers from a Different Shore: A History of Asian Americans	Ronald Takaki (author)	Informational	No LXL (AD)
Voices of Vietnamese Boat People: Nineteen Narratives of Escape and Survival	Mary Terrell Cargill and Jade Quang Huynh (editors)	Biography	NoLXL (AD)
The Vietnamese	Michelle Houle (author)	Informational	NoLXL (YA)
Weeping Under This Same Moon	Jana Laiz (author)	Literature	NoLXL (YA)

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* This book must be ordered through this website: http://waterforsudan.squarespace.com/wfss-childrens-book/

Education

GRADE 8: MODULE 2A: RECOMMENDED TEXTS

The list below includes texts with a range of Lexile® text measures about taking a stand. Note that districts and schools should consider their own community standards when reviewing this list. Some texts in particular units or modules address emotionally difficult content.

It is imperative that students read a high volume of texts at their reading level in order to continue to build the academic vocabulary and fluency demanded by the CCSS.

Where possible, texts in languages other than English are also provided. Texts are categorized into three Lexile measures that correspond to Common Core Bands: below grade band, within band, and above band. Note, however, that Lexile measures are just one indicator of text complexity, and teachers must use their professional judgment and consider qualitative factors as well. For more information, see Appendix 1 of the Common Core State Standards.

Common Core Band Level Text Difficulty Ranges

(As provided in the NYSED Passage Selection Guidelines for Assessing CCSS ELA)

- Grade 4–5: 740–1010L
- Grade 6–8: 925–1185L

Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures in grade 4–5	band level (<740L–925L)		
The Little Rock Nine Stand Up for Their Rights	Eileen Lucas (author)	Informational	590
The Road to Memphis	Mildred D. Taylor (author)	Literature	670
A Lesson Before Dying	Ernest J. Gaines (author)	Literature	750 [‡]
The Outsiders	S.E. Hinton (Author)	Literature	750
Mississippi Trial, 1955	Chris Crowe (Author)	Literature	760‡
Clover	Dory Sanders (author)	Literature	820
Let the Circle Be Unbroken	Mildred D. Taylor (author)	Literature	850
I Capture the Castle	Dodie Smith (author)	Literature	920

*Book content may have higher maturity level text

Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure		
Lexile text measures within grade 6	Lexile text measures within grade 6 band level (925L–1070L)				
Taking a Stand: Being a Leader & Helping Others	M.K. Ehrman (author)	Informational	925*		
Cold Sassy Tree	Olive Ann Burns (author)	Literature	930‡		
The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963	Christopher Paul Curtis (author)	Literature	1000		
Miles to Go for Freedom: Segregation & Civil Rights in the Jim Crow Years	Linda Barrett Osborne (author)	Informational	1060*		
Lexile text measures within grade 6	–8 band level (925L–1185L)				
Birmingham 1963: How a Photograph Rallied Civil Rights Support‡	Mildred D. Taylor (author)	Literature	920		
Warriors Don't Cry: A Searing Memoir of the Battle to Integrate Little Rock's Central High	Melba Pattillo Beals (author)	Autobiography	1000		
Tell All the Children Our Story: Memoirs and Mementos of Being Young and Black in America	Tonya Bolden (author)	Informational	1130		
Lexile text measures above band level (over 1185L)					
Cry, the Beloved Country	Alan Paton (author)	Literature	NoLXL‡		
A Time to Kill	John Grisham (author)	Literature	NoLXL [‡]		

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*Book content may have higher maturity level text

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GRADE 8: MODULE 2B: RECOMMENDED TEXTS

The list below includes texts with a range of Lexile® text measures about *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and the universal appeal of Shakespeare. This provides appropriate independent reading for each student to help build content knowledge about the topic. Note that districts and schools should consider their own community standards when reviewing this list. Some texts in particular units or modules address emotionally difficult content.

It is imperative that students read a high volume of texts at their reading level in order to continue to build the academic vocabulary and fluency demanded by the CCSS.

Where possible, texts in languages other than English are also provided. Texts are categorized into three Lexile measures that correspond to Common Core Bands: below grade band, within band, and above band. Note, however, that Lexile® measures are just one indicator of text complexity, and teachers must use their professional judgment and consider qualitative factors as well. For more information, see Appendix 1 of the Common Core State Standards.

Common Core Band Level Text Difficulty Ranges:

(As provided in the NYSED Passage Selection Guidelines for Assessing CCSS ELA)

- Grades 2–3: 420–820L
- Grades 4–5: 740–1010L
- Grades 6-8: 925-1185L

Title	Author and Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures in below band	level (under 740L)		
Come Fall	A.C.E. Bauer (author)	Literature	550
Eight Keys	Suzanne LaFleur (author)	Literature	590
Lords and Ladies: A Novel of Discworld	Terry Pratchett (author)	Literature	680
William Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream	Dan Conner (author)	Literature	700*
William Shakespeare's As You Like It	Vincent Goodwin (author) Rod Espinosa (illustrator)	Literature	725*GN

Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile measures within grades 4–5	band level (740–925L)		
Magic Street	Orson Scott Card (author)	Literature	800
William Shakespeare & the Globe	Aliki (author)	Informational	850
Shakespeare: A Life	Wendy Greenhill (author)	Biography	920
Lexile measures within grades 6–8	band level (925–1185L)		
The Teen's Guide to World Domination: Advice on Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Awesomeness	Josh Shipp (author)	Informational	950*
The Wednesday Wars	Gary D. Schmidt (author)	Literature	990
The Bard of Avon: The Story of William Shakespeare	Diane Stanley (author)	Informational	1030
Lexile measures above band level (o	over 1185L)		
The Plays of Shakespeare; A Thematic Guide	Victor L. Cahn (author)	Informational	1220
Symposium and Phaedrus	Plato (author)	Literature	1430
A Midsummer Night's Dream: A Graphic Novel: Original Text Version	John McDonald (adapter) Jason Cardy and Kat Nicholson (illustrators)	Literature	No LXL GN
A Theatergoer's Guide to Shakespeare's Themes	Robert Fallon (author)	Informational	No LXL

Title	Author and Illustrator	Text Туре	Lexile Measure
Four Great Comedies: The Taming of the Shrew; A Midsummer Night's Dream; Twelfth Night; The Tempest	William Shakespeare (author)	Literature	No LXL
Living with Shakespeare	Susannah Carson (author)	Informational	No LXL
Shakespeare A to Z: The Essential Reference to His Plays, His Poems, His Life and Times, and More	Charles Boyce (author)	Informational	No LXL
Shakespeare: The World as Stage	Bill Bryson (author)	Informational	No LXL
Understanding a Midsummer Night's Dream: A Student Casebook to Issues, Sources, and Historical Documents	Faith Nostbakken Claudia Durst Johnson (series editor)	Informational	No LXL

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GRADE 8: MODULE 3A: RECOMMENDED TEXTS

The list below includes texts with a range of Lexile® text measures about the Japanese American relations in World War II. It is imperative that students read a high volume of texts at their reading level in order to continue to build the academic vocabulary and fluency demanded by the CCSS. Note that districts and schools should consider their own community standards when reviewing this list. Some texts in particular units or modules address emotionally difficult content.

It is imperative that students read a high volume of texts at their reading level in order to continue to build the academic vocabulary and fluency demanded by the CCSS.

Where possible, texts in languages other than English are also provided. Texts are categorized into three Lexile levels that correspond to Common Core Bands: below grade band, within band, and above band. Note however that Lexile® measures are just one indicator of text complexity, and teachers must use their professional judgment and consider qualitative factors as well. For more information, see Appendix 1 of the Common Core State Standards.

Common Core Band Level Text Difficulty Ranges:

(As provided in the NYSED Passage Selection Guidelines for Assessing CCSS ELA)

- Grade 4–5: 740–1010L
- Grade 6-8: 925-1185L

Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures in Grade 4–5 b	and level (<740L–925L)		
A Boy at War: A Novel of Pearl Harbor	Harry Mazer (author)	Literature	530
Citizen 13660	Miné Okubo (author)	Biography	920
Remember Pearl Harbor: American and Japanese Survivors Tell Their Stories	Thomas Allen (author)	Collective Biography	820
Pearl Harbor: The U.S. Enters World War II	Steve Dougherty (author)	Informational	900

Title	Author And Illustrator	Техt Туре	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures within Grade 6	6 band level (925L–1070L)		
The War at Home: Japan During World War II	Linda Spencer (author)	Informational	930*
Up from the Ashes: Rebuilding Japan After World War II	Pat Ohlenroth (author)	Informational	1020*
Dear Miss Breed: True Stories of the Japanese American Incarceration During World War II and a Librarian Who Made a Difference	Joanne Oppenheim (author)	Informational	1040
Why Did Hiroshima Happen?	R.G. Grant (author)	Informational	1170*
Lexile text measures within Grade 6	5–8 band level (925–1185L)		
Farewell to Manzanar: A True Story of Japanese American Experience During and After the World War II Internment	Jeanne Houston (author)	Informational	1040
Air Raid—Pearl Harbor! The Story of December 7, 1941	Theodore Taylor (author)	Informational	1070

Title	Author And Illustrator	Техt Туре	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures above band lev	vel (over 1185L)		
A Battle History of the Imperial Japanese Navy (1941–1945)	Paul Dull (author)	Informational	No LXL ‡
World War II	R.G. Grant (author)	Informational	No LXL ‡
Impounded: Dorothea Lange and the Censored Images of Japanese American Internment	Linda Gordon (editor)	Informational	No LXL ‡
Dr. Seuss Goes to War: The World War II Editorial Cartoons of Theodore Seuss Geisel	Richard Minear (author)	Informational	No LXL ‡
Desert Exile: The Uprooting of a Japanese American Family	Yoshiko Uchida (author)	Informational	1280

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Education

The list below includes texts with a range of Lexile® text measures about the civil rights movement and the Little Rock Nine. This provides appropriate independent reading for each student to help build content knowledge about the topic. Note that districts and schools should consider their own community standards when reviewing this list. Some texts in particular units or modules address emotionally difficult content.

It is imperative that students read a high volume of texts at their reading level in order to continue to build the academic vocabulary and fluency demanded by the CCSS.

Where possible, texts in languages other than English are also provided. Texts are categorized into three Lexile measures that correspond to Common Core Bands: below grade band, within band, and above band. Note, however, that Lexile® measures are just one indicator of text complexity, and teachers must use their professional judgment and consider qualitative factors as well. For more information, see Appendix 1 of the Common Core State Standards.

Common Core Band Level Text Difficulty Ranges:

(As provided in the NYSED Passage Selection Guidelines for Assessing CCSS ELA)

- Grades 2–3: 420–820L
- Grades 4–5: 740–1010L
- Grades 6-8: 925-1185L

Title	Author and Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures in Grades 4–5	band level (740–925L)		
Cracking the Wall: The Struggles of the Little Rock Nine	Eileen Lucas (author); Mark Anthony (illustrator)	Informational	540
The Little Rock Nine Stand Up for Their Rights	Eileen Lucas (author); Adam Gustavson (illustrator)	Informational	540
The Lions of Little Rock	Kristin Levine (author)	Literature	630
The Little Rock Nine and the Fight for Equal Education	Gary Jeffrey (author)	Informational	725

Title	Author and Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure	
Lexile text measures within Grades 6–8 band level (925–1185L)				
Freedom's Children: Young Civil Rights Activists Tell Their Own Stories	Ellen S. Levine (author)	Informational	900*	
Marching for Freedom: Walk Together, Children, and Don't You Grow Weary	Elizabeth Partridge (author)	Informational	960	
Warriors Don't Cry: The Searing Memoir of the Battle to Integrate Little Rock's Central High	Melba Pattillo Beals (author)	Literature	1000	
Students on Strike: Jim Crow, Civil Rights, Brown and Me: A Memoir	JohnA. Stokes (author)	Informational	1030	
Miles to go for Freedom: Segregation & Civil Rights in the Jim Crow Years	Linda Osborne (author)	Informational	1075*	
The Little Rock Nine: Struggle for Integration	Stephanie Fitzgerald (author)	Informational	1010	
Today the World Is Watching You: The Little Rock Nine and the Fight for School Integration, 1957	Kekla Magoon (author)	Informational	1110	
Lexile text measures above band level (over 1185L)				
Words of Protest, Words of Freedom: Poetry of the American Civil Rights Movement and Era	Jeffrey Lamar Coleman (editor)	Poetry	NP‡	

*Book content may have higher-maturity-level text *Lexile based on a conversion from Accelerated Reading level.

Title	Author and Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Simple Justice: The History of Brown v. Board of Education and Black America's Struggle for Equality	Richard Kluger (author)	Informational	Nolxl AD
Plessy v. Ferguson: A Brief History with Documents	Brook Thomas (editor)	Informational	Nolxl AD
A Life Is More Than a Moment: The Desegregation of Little Rock's Central High	Wilmer Counts (author)	Informational	Nolxl AD
Beyond Central, toward Acceptance: A Collection of Oral Histories from Students of Little Rock Central High	Mackie O'Hara and Alex Richardson (editors)	Informational	Nolxl AD

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Research and Web Sites for Unit 3

Minnijean Brown

http://www.lrsd.org/centralhigh50th/LR9.htm

http://www.thirteen.org/unsungheroines/uncategorized/minnijean-brown-trickey-environmental-and-civil-rights-activist/

http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/09/06/AR2010090603672.html

Elizabeth Eckford

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2007/09/24/elizabeth-eckford-of-the-_n_65689.html

http://www.encyclopedia of arkans as.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?entryID=721

Research and Web Sites for Unit 3
Jefferson Thomas
http://www.cnn.com/2010/US/09/06/obit.thomas.little.rock.9/index.html
http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/09/06/AR2010090603672.html
Gloria Ray
http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?entryID=726
http://iipdigital.usembassy.gov/st/english/article/2007/08/20070822141713berehellek1.449221e-02.html#axzz2nmOhbALQ
Thelma Mothershed
http://iipdigital.usembassy.gov/st/english/article/2007/08/20070823150405berehellek0.5942652.html#axzz2n5vusH2R
http://lrculturevulture.com/tag/thelma-mothershed/
Ernest Green
http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?entryid=722
http://www.thehistorymakers.com/biography/ernest-green-39
Terrence Roberts
http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/social_issues/july-dec07/littlerock_09-25.html
http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?entryID=727
http://www.facinghistory.org/about/who/profiles/dr-terrence-roberts

Research and Web Sites for Unit 3
Melba Pattillo
http://littlerock9.com/MelbaPatillo.aspx
http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?entryID=725
http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/article/melba-pattillo-beals
General
http://www.npr.org/series/14158264/segregation-showdown-at-little-rock
http://www.nps.gov/chsc/index.htm
Joiner, Lottie L. "Nive Lives." Crisis (15591573) 114.5 (2007): 30-33.
Jacoway, Elizabeth. "Not Anger But Sorrow: Minnijean Brown Trickey Remembers The Little Rock Crisis." Arkansas Historical Quarterly 64.1 (2005): 1-26.
Olson, Tod. "A Crack In The Wall." Scholastic Update 127.6 (1994):
Cabral, Elena. "A Scary First Day. (Cover Story)." Scholastic News Edition 5/6 76.3 (2007):
Kirk, John A. "Crisis At Central High." History Today 57.9 (2007): 23-30.

Education

The list below includes texts with a range of Lexile® text measures about food sustainability. It is imperative that students read a high volume of texts at their reading level in order to continue to build the academic vocabulary and fluency demanded by the CCSS. Note that districts and schools should consider their own community standards when reviewing this list. Some texts in particular units or modules address emotionally difficult content.

It is imperative that students read a high volume of texts at their reading level in order to continue to build the academic vocabulary and fluency demanded by the CCSS.

Where possible, texts in languages other than English are also provided. Texts are categorized into three Lexile measures that correspond to Common Core Bands: below grade band, within band, and above band. Note, however, that Lexile measures are just one indicator of text complexity, and teachers must use their professional judgment and consider qualitative factors as well. For more information, see Appendix 1 of the Common Core State Standards.

Common Core Band Level Text Difficulty Ranges:

(As provided in the NYSED Passage Selection Guidelines for Assessing CCSS ELA)

- Grade 4–5: 740–1010L
- Grade 6-8: 925-1185L

Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures in Grade 4–5 band level (<740L-925L)			
Food	Alexandra Fix (author)	Informational	630*
Avoiding Hunger and Finding Water	Andrew Langley (author)	Informational	720
Seeds of Change	Jen Cullerton Johnson (author)	Informational	820
Feeding the World	Sarah Levete (author)	Informational	890

Title	Author And Illustrator	Техt Туре	Lexile Measure	
Lexile text measures within Grade 6 band level (925L-1070L)				
Word of Mouth: The Food You Eat	Nancy Rogers Bontempo (author)	Informational	960	
Food	Paul Mason (author)	Informational	970*	
Do you Know Where Your Food Comes From?	Neil Morris (author)	Informational	980*	
Dairy: From the Farm to Your Table	Brian Hanson Harding (author)	Informational	1060*	
Lexile text measures within Grade 6–8 ba	Lexile text measures within Grade 6–8 band level (925L–1185L)			
Feeding Relationships	Ann Fullick (author)	Informational	930*	
From Farm to Table	Richard Spilsbury (author)	Informational	1120*	
What's Cooking? The History of American Food	Silvia Whitman (author)	Informational	1120	
Feeding the World	Anne Rooney (author)	Informational	1120*	

Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures above band lev	vel (over 1185L)		
Food: Ethical Debates in What We Eat	Jim Kerr (author)	Informational	1190*
Food and Farming	Jen Green (author)	Informational	1240

Suggested Web Sites for Research
http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/117568/icode/
http://www.amnh.org/exhibitions/past-exhibitions/water-h20-life
http://www.challengebasedlearning.org/challenge/view/13
http://www.ted.com/talks/mark_bittman_on_what_s_wrong_with_what_we_eat.html
http://www.gracelinks.org/264/genetic-engineering
http://www.un.org/en/sustainablefuture/food.shtml
http://www.un.org/en/sustainablefuture/sustainability.shtml

Suggested Articles for Research
Stephen Ornes, "For Kids: Greener Diet," in Science News for Kids, Feb. 23, 2009.
Gretchen Noyes, "Global Groceries," in Faces (Vol. 23, Issue 2), Oct. 2006.
"Food around the World," In Junior Scholastic (Vol. 113, Issue 15), May 9, 2011.
"The Critical Role of Global Food Consumption Patterns in Achieving Sustainable Food Systems and Food for All," United Nations Environment
Programme, 2012.

Jan J. Ferrara, **"Wangari Maathai: Trees for Peace,"** in *Faces* (Vol. 27, Issue 5), Feb. 2011.

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*Lexile based on a conversion from Accelerated Reading level

*Book content may have higher-maturity-level text