



EXPEDITIONARY
LEARNING

Grade 5: Module 1: Unit 3

Recommended Texts



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Unit 3 builds students' knowledge about the genre of Readers Theater. Students will write and perform Readers Theater scenes from *Esperanza Rising*, which is set during the Depression, with scenes in both the United States and Mexico. The list below contains works with a range of Lexile® text measures on this topic, including other engaging Readers Theater scripts as well as poetry related to human rights issues. This provides appropriate independent reading for each student to help build content knowledge. 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 to continue to build the academic vocabulary and fluency that the CCLS demands.

Where possible, works in languages other than English are also provided. Texts are categorized into three Lexile ranges that correspond to Common Core Bands: below-grade band, within band, and above-grade 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 band level (below 740L)			
<i>Climbing Out of the Great Depression</i>	Sean Price (author)	Informational text	620
<i>Ida Early Comes over the Mountain</i>	Robert Burch (author)	Literature	720
Lexile text measures band level (740 - 1010L)			
<i>Giant Steps to Change the World</i>	Spike Lee and Tonya Lewis Lee (authors), Sean Qualls (illustrator)	Informational text	870
<i>Dancing Home</i>	Alma Flor Ada and Gabriel M. Zubizarreta (authors)	Literature	960
<i>Words to My Life's Songs</i>	Ashley Bryan (author/illustrator), Bill McGuinness (photographer)	Literature	970



Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures above band level (over 1010L)			
<i>César: ¡Sí, se puede!/Yes, We Can!</i>	Carmen T. Bernier-Grand (author), David Diaz (illustrator)	Poetry	Not provided
<i>Elegy on the Death of César Chávez</i>	Rudolfo Anaya (author), Gaspar Enriquez (illustrator)	Poetry	Not provided
<i>If You Could Wear My Sneakers!</i>	Sheree Fitch (author), Darcia Labrosse (illustrator)	Poetry	Not provided
<i>Hour of Freedom: American History in Poetry</i>	Milton Meltzer (compiler), Marc Nadel (illustrator)	Poetry	Not provided
<i>Poetry for Young People: Maya Angelou</i>	Edwin Graves Wilson, Ph.D. (editor), Jerome Lagarrigue (illustrator)	Poetry	Not provided
<i>Out of the Dust</i>	Karen Hesse (author)	Prose	Not provided

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