



EXPEDITIONARY  
LEARNING

## Grade 8: Module 2A: Recommended Texts



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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 CCLS.

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

‡Book content may have higher maturity level text



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

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\*Lexile based on a conversion from Accelerated Reading level