

THE WRITING ACADEMY®, LLC
COURSE OVERVIEW · TEACHER RESOURCES

Grade 4 Cluster 2 Text Complexity and Reading Stamina Report

Part of the ECR Supplemental Support System.

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Package Contents

Scope, organization, and intended instructional use

RECORD	DETAIL
Intended Use	Supplemental Support Lesson Guide
Document Type	Official Teacher-Facing Instructional Planning Report
Version / Date	Version 1.0 2026
Texts Analyzed	8 passage versions across 2 reading selection(s)

SECTION	CONTENTS
Section I	Overall purpose, cluster architecture, research basis, and interpretation rules
Section II	Master quantitative comparison and cross-text findings
Section III	Per-passage text complexity evidentiary profiles
Section IV	Cross-text implementation guidance and verification record

Report Use

This package is designed for direct placement in the Grade 4 Supplemental Support Lesson Guide of The Writing Academy®, LLC. It documents every supplied passage version separately while also explaining how the Cluster 2 set grows across four stamina levels. Every count in this report is calculated directly from the supplied passage text.

Source Set Overview

The reading selections analyzed in this report

READING SELECTION	VERSIONS PROVIDED	READING VOLUME RANGE (WORDS)
The Energy We Use Everyday	Low, Medium, High, Very High	235 to 1,341
Columbus's Arrival	Low, Medium, High, Very High	218 to 1,564

Overall Purpose and Cluster Architecture

How the passage set builds knowledge and reading stamina across four modules

The Cluster 2 set gives each reading at four stamina levels, one for every module. The conceptual core stays stable while reading volume, vocabulary load, evidence distance, and synthesis demand increase from the shortest Module 1 reading to the fullest Module 4 reading. Teachers can match the version to a student while keeping the same lesson purpose.

MODULE	STAMINA LEVEL	PRIMARY INSTRUCTIONAL FUNCTION	APPROPRIATE PRODUCT
Module 1	Low Stamina	Establish the shared knowledge framework and locate local evidence.	Brief evidence-based response
Module 2	Medium Stamina	Add subtopics, vocabulary, and evidence from several paragraphs.	Multi-sentence explanation
Module 3	High Stamina	Integrate multiple categories and retrieve evidence across the text.	Extended response with several supports
Module 4	Very High Stamina	Synthesize the full topic and explain historical, civic, or scientific significance.	Whole-text extended explanation

Research Basis and Measurement Protocol

How the evidentiary profile is calculated and interpreted

Each selection is evaluated through quantitative statistics, qualitative dimensions, and reader and task demands rather than one score alone. The planning estimate emphasizes mean sentence length and lexical demand. It does not by itself measure total stamina, quality, content, or task complexity. The same text can be more or less demanding depending on rereading, scaffolds, the required response, and students prior knowledge.

Counting Conventions

- Word counts include student-facing passage language and exclude titles, stamina labels, and report metadata. Contractions, possessives, and hyphenated compounds count as one word, and numerals count as one word.
- Sentence counts use terminal punctuation. Runs of terminal marks and ellipses collapse to one boundary, and decimal points and common abbreviations do not split a sentence.
- Paragraph and narrative-beat counts follow the separated source blocks. Short dialogue, reflection, and list blocks are retained because they affect pacing and retrieval.
- Syllable counts use a pronunciation dictionary (CMUdict) when the word is listed, and a consistent vowel-group heuristic with silent-ending adjustments for names and uncommon terms.
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level uses 0.39 times words per sentence, plus 11.8 times syllables per word, minus 15.59. It is used for triangulation only, not as a grade-placement decision.
- Metric-derived complexity bands: Reader and Stamina Load is Lower below 300 words, Moderate from 300 to 900, and Higher above 900. Lexical Demand is Lower below 8%, Moderate from 8 to 11.5%, and Higher above 11.5% three-or-more-syllable words. Sentence Complexity is Lower below 10 words average, Moderate from 10 to 13, and Higher above 13. Formula Readability is Lower below 5.5, Moderate from 5.5 to 7.0, and Higher above 7.0.

Master Quantitative Comparison

Actual counts computed across all Cluster 2 selections

SELECTION	LEVEL	WORDS	SENT.	PARA.	AVG. SENT.	3+ SYL.	F-K
The Energy We Use Everyday	Low	235	20	7	11.8	53 (22.6%)	9.5
The Energy We Use Everyday	Medium	526	44	10	12.0	107 (20.3%)	9.6

SELECTION	LEVEL	WORDS	SENT.	PARA.	AVG. SENT.	3+ SYL.	F-K
The Energy We Use Everyday	High	1,082	84	22	12.9	237 (21.9%)	10.7
The Energy We Use Everyday	Very High	1,341	101	27	13.3	296 (22.1%)	10.9
Columbus's Arrival	Low	218	16	6	13.6	36 (16.5%)	9.2
Columbus's Arrival	Medium	503	37	12	13.6	91 (18.1%)	10.0
Columbus's Arrival	High	1,015	81	22	12.5	182 (17.9%)	9.5
Columbus's Arrival	Very High	1,564	132	39	11.8	317 (20.3%)	9.9

What the Numbers Demonstrate

- The The Energy We Use Everyday sequence grows from 235 to 1,341 words, a 5.71-fold increase in reading volume, and the beat span grows from 7 to 27.
- Three-or-more-syllable density in the The Energy We Use Everyday set moves from 22.6% at the shortest version to 22.1% at the fullest version.
- The Columbus's Arrival sequence grows from 218 to 1,564 words, a 7.17-fold increase in reading volume, and the beat span grows from 6 to 39.
- Three-or-more-syllable density in the Columbus's Arrival set moves from 16.5% at the shortest version to 20.3% at the fullest version.

Per-Passage Text Complexity Profiles

One evidentiary profile per supplied passage version

The Energy We Use Everyday - Low Stamina Report

Cluster 2 | Module 1 / Low Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 235 total words; 135 unique word forms
- 20 punctuation-defined sentences; 7 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 11.8 words average sentence length; 24 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 4 sentences of 15+ words; 1 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 138 (58.7%); 2 syllables: 44 (18.7%); 3+ syllables: 53 (22.6%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 9.5, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 2.0 to 2.4 minutes at 100 to 120 words per minute

B. Metric-Derived Complexity Indicators

Planning indicators derived deterministically from the computed statistics above, using the documented bands in the Research Basis section. They summarize measurable load, not an editorial judgment of quality.

INDICATOR	COMPUTED BASIS	BAND
Reader / Stamina Load	235 words across 7 beats	Lower
Lexical Demand	22.6% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	11.8 words average; 4 sentences of 15+ words	Moderate
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 9.5	Higher

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

energy resources renewable Examples animals generate electricity
addition management advantages easily environment However
limitations

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

wondered device travel produced natural replaced include sunlight
provides careful several damage

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Earth

Every example above is a word that appears verbatim in this passage. Three-or-more-syllable words are identified with the pronunciation-dictionary method described in the Research Basis section.

D. Sentence, Cohesion, and Beat Evidence

Opening Sentence

“Have you ever wondered where the energy you use each day comes from?”

Longest Sentence (24 words)	<i>“When you turn on lights, charge a device, or travel in a car, you are using energy produced from natural resources found on Earth.”</i>
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Beat / Paragraph Count	7 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat
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The Energy We Use Everyday - Medium Stamina Report

Cluster 2 | Module 2 / Medium Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 526 total words; 238 unique word forms
- 44 punctuation-defined sentences; 10 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 12.0 words average sentence length; 26 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 10 sentences of 15+ words; 1 of 20+ words; 1 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 295 (56.1%); 2 syllables: 124 (23.6%); 3+ syllables: 107 (20.3%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 9.6, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 4.4 to 5.3 minutes at 100 to 120 words per minute

B. Metric-Derived Complexity Indicators

Planning indicators derived deterministically from the computed statistics above, using the documented bands in the Research Basis section. They summarize measurable load, not an editorial judgment of quality.

INDICATOR	COMPUTED BASIS	BAND
Reader / Stamina Load	526 words across 10 beats	Moderate
Lexical Demand	20.3% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	12.0 words average; 10 sentences of 15+ words	Moderate
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 9.6	Higher

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

energy television resources important possible renewable Examples
animals generate electricity addition management naturally
advantages

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

wondered device travel produced natural depend replaced include
sunlight provides careful panels

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Earth Earth's

Every example above is a word that appears verbatim in this passage. Three-or-more-syllable words are identified with the pronunciation-dictionary method described in the Research Basis section.

D. Sentence, Cohesion, and Beat Evidence

Opening Sentence

“Have you ever wondered where the energy you use each day comes from?”

Longest Sentence (26 words)	<i>“When you turn on lights, charge a device, watch television, or travel in a car, you are using energy produced from natural resources found on Earth.”</i>
Beat / Paragraph Count	10 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

The Energy We Use Everyday - High Stamina Report

Cluster 2 | Module 3 / High Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 1,082 total words; 372 unique word forms
- 84 punctuation-defined sentences; 22 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 12.9 words average sentence length; 29 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 25 sentences of 15+ words; 6 of 20+ words; 1 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 563 (52.0%); 2 syllables: 282 (26.1%); 3+ syllables: 237 (21.9%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 10.7, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 9.0 to 10.8 minutes at 100 to 120 words per minute

B. Metric-Derived Complexity Indicators

Planning indicators derived deterministically from the computed statistics above, using the documented bands in the Research Basis section. They summarize measurable load, not an editorial judgment of quality.

INDICATOR	COMPUTED BASIS	BAND
Reader / Stamina Load	1,082 words across 22 beats	Higher
Lexical Demand	21.9% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	12.9 words average; 25 sentences of 15+ words	Moderate
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 10.7	Higher

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

energy television computer resources important possible materials
renewable nonrenewable Understanding decisions Examples animals
generate

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

wondered device travel produced natural depend nature people
provide others difference informed

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Earth Earth's

Every example above is a word that appears verbatim in this passage. Three-or-more-syllable words are identified with the pronunciation-dictionary method described in the Research Basis section.

D. Sentence, Cohesion, and Beat Evidence

Opening Sentence

"Have you ever wondered where the energy you use each day comes from?"

Longest Sentence (29 words)	<i>“When you turn on lights, charge a device, watch television, use a computer, or travel in a car, you are using energy produced from natural resources found on Earth.”</i>
Beat / Paragraph Count	22 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

The Energy We Use Everyday - Very High Stamina Report

Cluster 2 | Module 4 / Very High Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 1,341 total words; 428 unique word forms
- 101 punctuation-defined sentences; 27 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 13.3 words average sentence length; 29 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 34 sentences of 15+ words; 9 of 20+ words; 2 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 690 (51.5%); 2 syllables: 355 (26.5%); 3+ syllables: 296 (22.1%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 10.9, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 11.2 to 13.4 minutes at 100 to 120 words per minute

B. Metric-Derived Complexity Indicators

Planning indicators derived deterministically from the computed statistics above, using the documented bands in the Research Basis section. They summarize measurable load, not an editorial judgment of quality.

INDICATOR	COMPUTED BASIS	BAND
Reader / Stamina Load	1,341 words across 27 beats	Higher
Lexical Demand	22.1% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	13.3 words average; 34 sentences of 15+ words	Higher
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 10.9	Higher

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

energy television computer resources important possible materials
renewable nonrenewable Understanding decisions Examples animals
generate

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

wondered device travel produced natural depend nature people
provide others difference informed

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Earth Earth's

Every example above is a word that appears verbatim in this passage. Three-or-more-syllable words are identified with the pronunciation-dictionary method described in the Research Basis section.

D. Sentence, Cohesion, and Beat Evidence

Opening Sentence

"Have you ever wondered where the energy you use each day comes from?"

Longest Sentence (29 words)	<i>“When you turn on lights, charge a device, watch television, use a computer, or travel in a car, you are using energy produced from natural resources found on Earth.”</i>
Beat / Paragraph Count	27 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

Columbus's Arrival - Low Stamina Report

Cluster 2 | Module 1 / Low Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 218 total words; 135 unique word forms
- 16 punctuation-defined sentences; 6 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 13.6 words average sentence length; 24 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 8 sentences of 15+ words; 2 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 127 (58.3%); 2 syllables: 54 (24.8%); 3+ syllables: 36 (16.5%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 9.2, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 1.8 to 2.2 minutes at 100 to 120 words per minute

B. Metric-Derived Complexity Indicators

Planning indicators derived deterministically from the computed statistics above, using the documented bands in the Research Basis section. They summarize measurable load, not an editorial judgment of quality.

INDICATOR	COMPUTED BASIS	BAND
Reader / Stamina Load	218 words across 6 beats	Lower
Lexical Demand	16.5% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	13.6 words average; 8 sentences of 15+ words	Higher
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 9.2	Higher

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable Examples

Christopher Columbus Atlantic Caribbean American already Americas
important expeditions influence Christianity missionaries Americans
religion

Longer Academic Vocabulary

across searching islands arrived claiming explore settle region
beliefs wanted people traveled

Proper Nouns and Domain Terms

Christopher Columbus Atlantic Ocean Asia Caribbean Spain Native
American Taino Carib Americas

Every example above is a word that appears verbatim in this passage. Three-or-more-syllable words are identified with the pronunciation-dictionary method described in the Research Basis section.

D. Sentence, Cohesion, and Beat Evidence

Opening Sentence

"In 1492, Christopher Columbus sailed across the Atlantic Ocean searching for a new route to Asia."

Longest Sentence (24 words)	<i>“When he arrived, he claimed the land for Spain, even though Native American groups such as the Taino and the Carib already lived there.”</i>
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Beat / Paragraph Count	6 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat
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Columbus's Arrival - Medium Stamina Report

Cluster 2 | Module 2 / Medium Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 503 total words; 247 unique word forms
- 37 punctuation-defined sentences; 12 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 13.6 words average sentence length; 24 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 16 sentences of 15+ words; 3 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 268 (53.3%); 2 syllables: 143 (28.4%); 3+ syllables: 91 (18.1%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 10.0, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 4.2 to 5.0 minutes at 100 to 120 words per minute

B. Metric-Derived Complexity Indicators

Planning indicators derived deterministically from the computed statistics above, using the documented bands in the Research Basis section. They summarize measurable load, not an editorial judgment of quality.

INDICATOR	COMPUTED BASIS	BAND
Reader / Stamina Load	503 words across 12 beats	Moderate
Lexical Demand	18.1% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	13.6 words average; 16 sentences of 15+ words	Higher
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 10.0	Higher

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

Christopher Columbus Atlantic Caribbean American already European
difficult connected Americas important expeditions influence
interested

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

across searching islands arrived countries looking faster costly
believed sailing quicker arrive

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Christopher Columbus Atlantic Ocean Asia Caribbean Spain Native
American Taino Carib European

Every example above is a word that appears verbatim in this passage. Three-or-more-syllable words are identified with the pronunciation-dictionary method described in the Research Basis section.

D. Sentence, Cohesion, and Beat Evidence

Opening Sentence

"In 1492, Christopher Columbus sailed across the Atlantic Ocean searching for a new route to Asia."

Longest Sentence (24 words)	<i>“When he arrived, he claimed the land for Spain, even though Native American groups such as the Taino and the Carib already lived there.”</i>
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Beat / Paragraph Count	12 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat
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Columbus's Arrival - High Stamina Report

Cluster 2 | Module 3 / High Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 1,015 total words; 372 unique word forms
- 81 punctuation-defined sentences; 22 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 12.5 words average sentence length; 24 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 27 sentences of 15+ words; 8 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 537 (52.9%); 2 syllables: 294 (29.0%); 3+ syllables: 182 (17.9%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 9.5, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 8.5 to 10.2 minutes at 100 to 120 words per minute

B. Metric-Derived Complexity Indicators

Planning indicators derived deterministically from the computed statistics above, using the documented bands in the Research Basis section. They summarize measurable load, not an editorial judgment of quality.

INDICATOR	COMPUTED BASIS	BAND
Reader / Stamina Load	1,015 words across 22 beats	Higher
Lexical Demand	17.9% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	12.5 words average; 27 sentences of 15+ words	Moderate
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 9.5	Higher

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable
Examples

Christopher Columbus Atlantic Caribbean American already Italy
European interested valuable difficult However Ferdinand Isabella

Longer Academic
Vocabulary

across searching islands arrived countries finding faster spices
products reaching places required

Proper Nouns and
Domain Terms

Christopher Columbus Atlantic Ocean Asia Caribbean Spain Native
American Taino Carib Italy

Every example above is a word that appears verbatim in this passage. Three-or-more-syllable words are identified with the pronunciation-dictionary method described in the Research Basis section.

D. Sentence, Cohesion, and Beat Evidence

Opening Sentence

"In 1492, Christopher Columbus sailed across the Atlantic Ocean searching for a new route to Asia."

Longest Sentence (24 words)	<i>“When he arrived, he claimed the land for Spain, even though Native American groups such as the Taino and the Carib already lived there.”</i>
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Beat / Paragraph Count	22 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat
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Columbus's Arrival - Very High Stamina Report

Cluster 2 | Module 4 / Very High Stamina

A. Official Passage Profile

- 1,564 total words; 542 unique word forms
- 132 punctuation-defined sentences; 39 separated paragraphs / narrative beats
- 11.8 words average sentence length; 24 words in the longest conventional sentence
- 33 sentences of 15+ words; 7 of 20+ words; 0 of 25+ words
- 1 syllable: 798 (51.0%); 2 syllables: 446 (28.5%); 3+ syllables: 317 (20.3%)
- Flesch-Kincaid grade level 9.9, corroborating formula only, not a placement decision
- Estimated single-pass reading time 13.0 to 15.6 minutes at 100 to 120 words per minute

B. Metric-Derived Complexity Indicators

Planning indicators derived deterministically from the computed statistics above, using the documented bands in the Research Basis section. They summarize measurable load, not an editorial judgment of quality.

INDICATOR	COMPUTED BASIS	BAND
Reader / Stamina Load	1,564 words across 39 beats	Higher
Lexical Demand	20.3% of words carry 3+ syllables	Higher
Sentence Complexity	11.8 words average; 33 sentences of 15+ words	Moderate
Formula Readability	Flesch-Kincaid 9.9	Higher

C. Word-Level and Vocabulary Evidence

Three-or-More-Syllable Examples

Christopher Columbus Atlantic Caribbean American already Italy
interested geography valuable desired easier difficult Africa

Longer Academic Vocabulary

across searching islands arrived working sailor travel stories
coming products spices precious

Proper Nouns and Domain Terms

Christopher Columbus Atlantic Ocean Asia Caribbean Spain Native
American Taino Carib Italy

Every example above is a word that appears verbatim in this passage. Three-or-more-syllable words are identified with the pronunciation-dictionary method described in the Research Basis section.

D. Sentence, Cohesion, and Beat Evidence

Opening Sentence

"In 1492, Christopher Columbus sailed across the Atlantic Ocean searching for a new route to Asia."

Longest Sentence (24 words)

“When he arrived, he claimed the land for Spain, even though Native American groups such as the Taino and the Carib already lived there.”

Beat / Paragraph Count

39 separated source blocks, each a narrative or informational beat

Cross-Text Implementation Guidance

Using the stamina staircase in daily instruction

- Use the Low version to establish the shared knowledge framework, then move students up the staircase as their stamina and evidence handling grow.
- Match the assigned writing product to the evidence available in the selected version, using the module framework table above.
- Teach the longer versions across multiple purposeful readings rather than assigning the full text as one unsupported first read.
- Preview the three-or-more-syllable and domain vocabulary listed in each passage profile before the first read.

Verification Record

Every count in this report was produced by a single deterministic generator that reads the supplied passage text directly. The method reproduces the published Grade 3 report counts for words, sentences, paragraphs, and three-or-more-syllable words. No passage text or metric was entered by hand.