



Text Complexity Analysis of

...Leptospirosis by Any Name Is a Serious Disease (title)

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Recommended Complexity Band: 9-10

Qualitative Measures

Meaning/Purpose: (Briefly explain the levels of meaning (Literary Text) or purpose (Informational Text.) The purpose of the text is not revealed immediately, and the reader must make connections based on the supplied information. The article describes how Leptospirosis is transmitted and describes factors that affect the transmission of the disease.

Text Structure: (Briefly describe the structure, organization, and other features of the text.) The text uses mostly a descriptive text structure. Organization of the text is separated by headings to help readers navigate the article easily. The pictures are helpful but not necessary for readers to understand the article.

Language Features: (Briefly describe the conventions and clarity of the language used in the text, including the complexity of the vocabulary and sentence structures.) The text uses many complex sentences throughout the article. The domain-specific vocabulary includes terms like *transmission*, *epidemiology*, and *bacterial*. Academic vocabulary includes terms like *urban*, *rural*, *prevalent*, and *herald*.

Knowledge Demands: (Briefly describe the knowledge demands the text requires of students.) Students should have a basic understanding of the role social factors have in the spread of disease in order to understand why scientists are looking into different socioeconomic and environmental factors as part of their research. Students should have a general understanding of bacteria to allow them to understand some of the information better.

Text Description

Briefly describe the text: This informational text is intended to support reading in the content area. The text describes current research into the factors that increase the rate of transmission of the bacterial disease Leptospirosis. Scientists are using research to provide tools to prevent future transmission. Scientists are studying three communities in Chile and determining what factors in each setting are contributing to the spread of the disease.

Quantitative Measures

Complexity Band Level (provide range): 9-10, 11-12

The text falls into the above grade bands according to a quantitative reading measure. It falls at the higher end of the 9-10 and in the midrange of the 11-12 band.

Considerations for Reader and Task

Below are factors to consider with respect to the reader and task.

Potential Challenges this Text Poses:

The domain-specific vocabulary might cause some students problems if they have not had any type of instruction on basic microbiology or pathogenic agents.

Recommended Placement

Briefly explain the recommended placement of the text in a particular grade band: The recommended grade level is 9-10. The quantitative score and qualitative elements are within range for those students. Students do not have to have a grasp of all of the scientific concepts to understand and appreciate the article.