

# LEXILE LEVELS

**READABILITY + COMPLEXITY**

SHAUNTA PAYTON, PROFESSIONAL LEARNING LIAISON AREA 2



# WHAT IS A LEXILE MEASURE?

- Matching Readers with Text
- The Lexile Framework assesses both sides of reading development—the reader and the material being read.

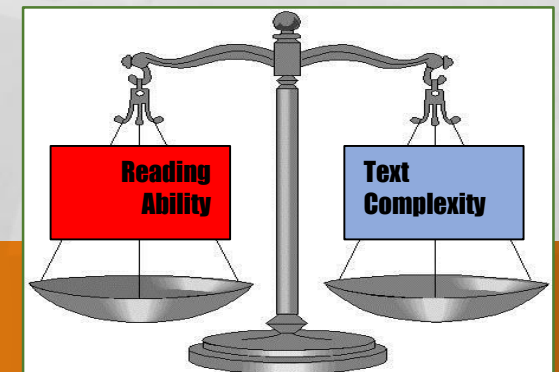


# ACCORDING TO...



Richard Woods, Georgia's School Superintendent  
"Educating Georgia's Future"  
[gaDOE.org](http://gaDOE.org)

- A Lexile is a standard score developed by MetaMetrics
- Matches a student's reading ability with difficulty of text material
- Interpreted as the level of book that a student can read with 75% comprehension



The Lexile level will always be shown  
as a number with an “L” after it.

**770L = 770 LEXILE**

The higher the Lexile measure, the  
higher the student’s reading level.



- Intervals of five with 5L being the lowest.
- The highest possible measure is 2000L.
- Anything below 5L is assessed as a **BR** (Beginning Reader).

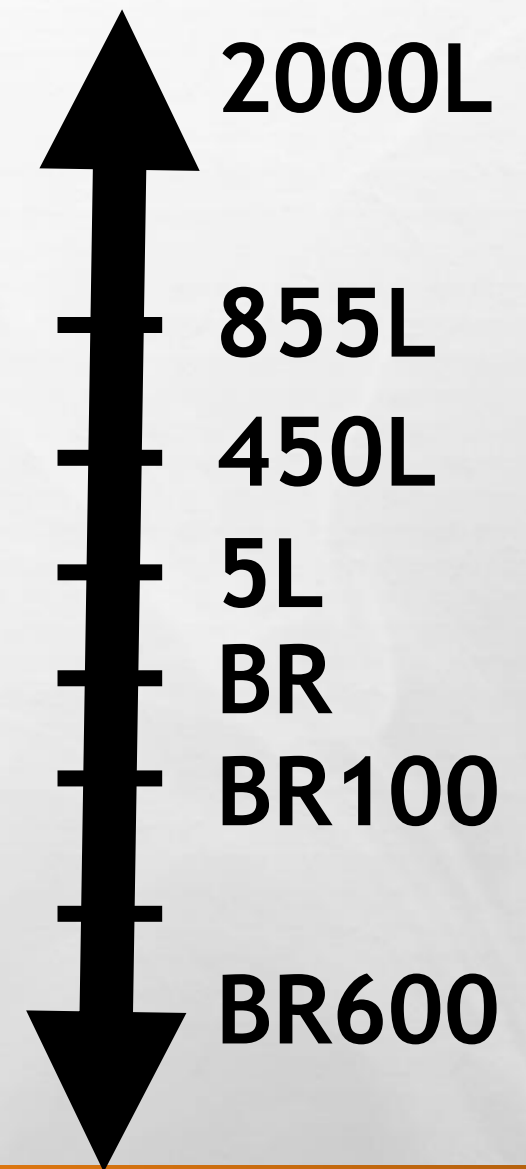
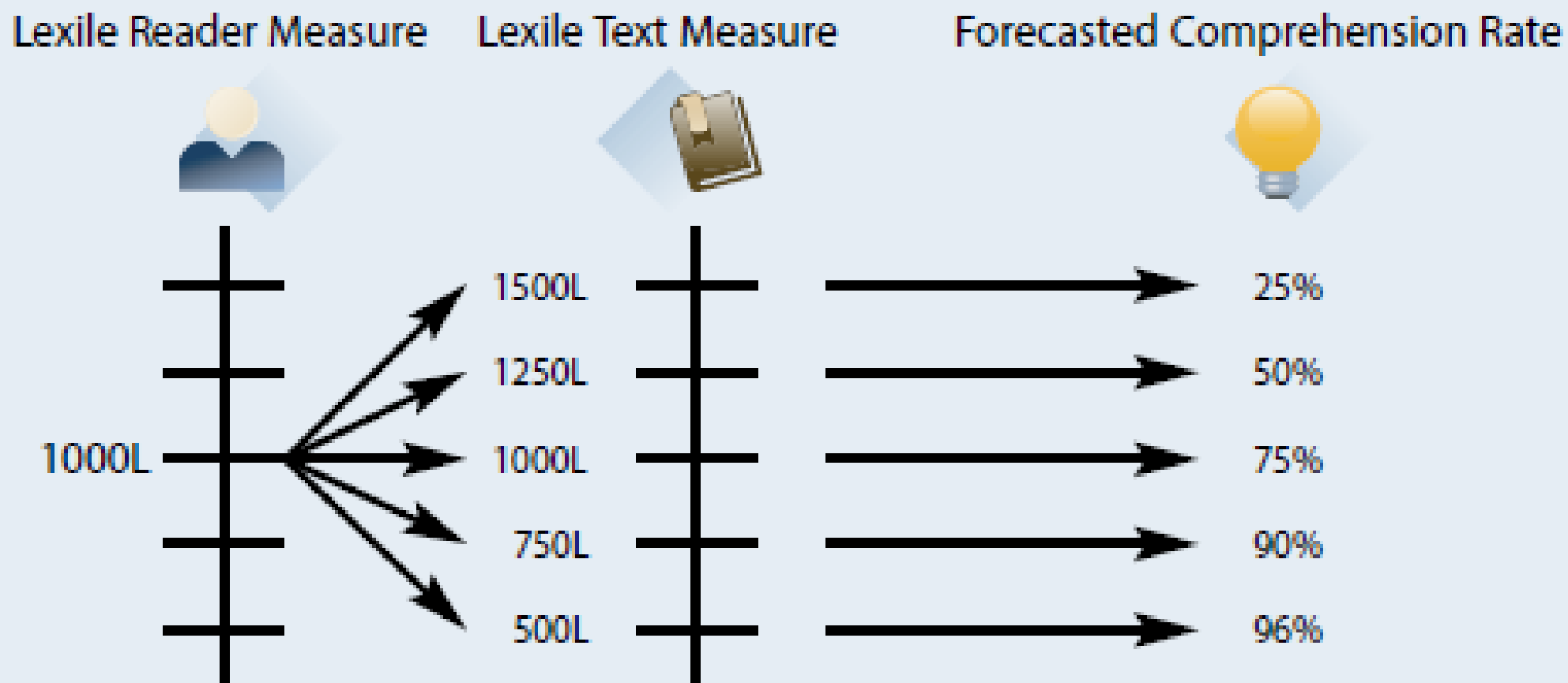


FIGURE 2: Forecasted comprehension of books with various Lexile measures



# LEXILE ANALYZER



The Lexile® Framework for Reading  
Matching readers with texts

## Quick Book Search

[About Lexile Measures](#)[Use Lexile Measures](#)[Become a Lexile Partner](#)[Sign in](#)[Register](#)

## What is a Lexile Measure?

### About Lexile® Measures

[Lexile Infographic](#)[Lexile Overview Video](#)[Lexile measures and grade levels](#)[Lexile Codes](#)[Lexile Glossary](#)[Fact Sheets](#)

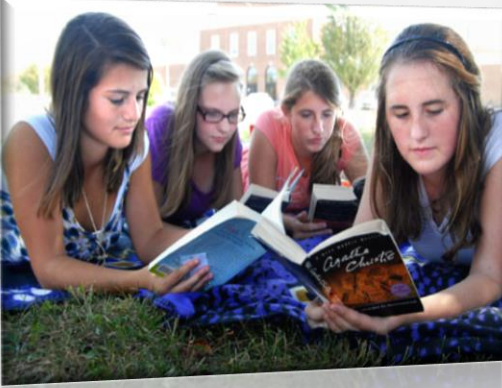
500L

1000L

1300L

# LEXILES: THE “SWEET SPOT”

Where reading comprehension should be at roughly 75%  
without frustration



For a student with a Lexile Measure of:

850L

50 points above = 900L

100 points below = 750L

\*Sweet Spot = 750L – 900L

# STRUGGLING & RELUCTANT READERS

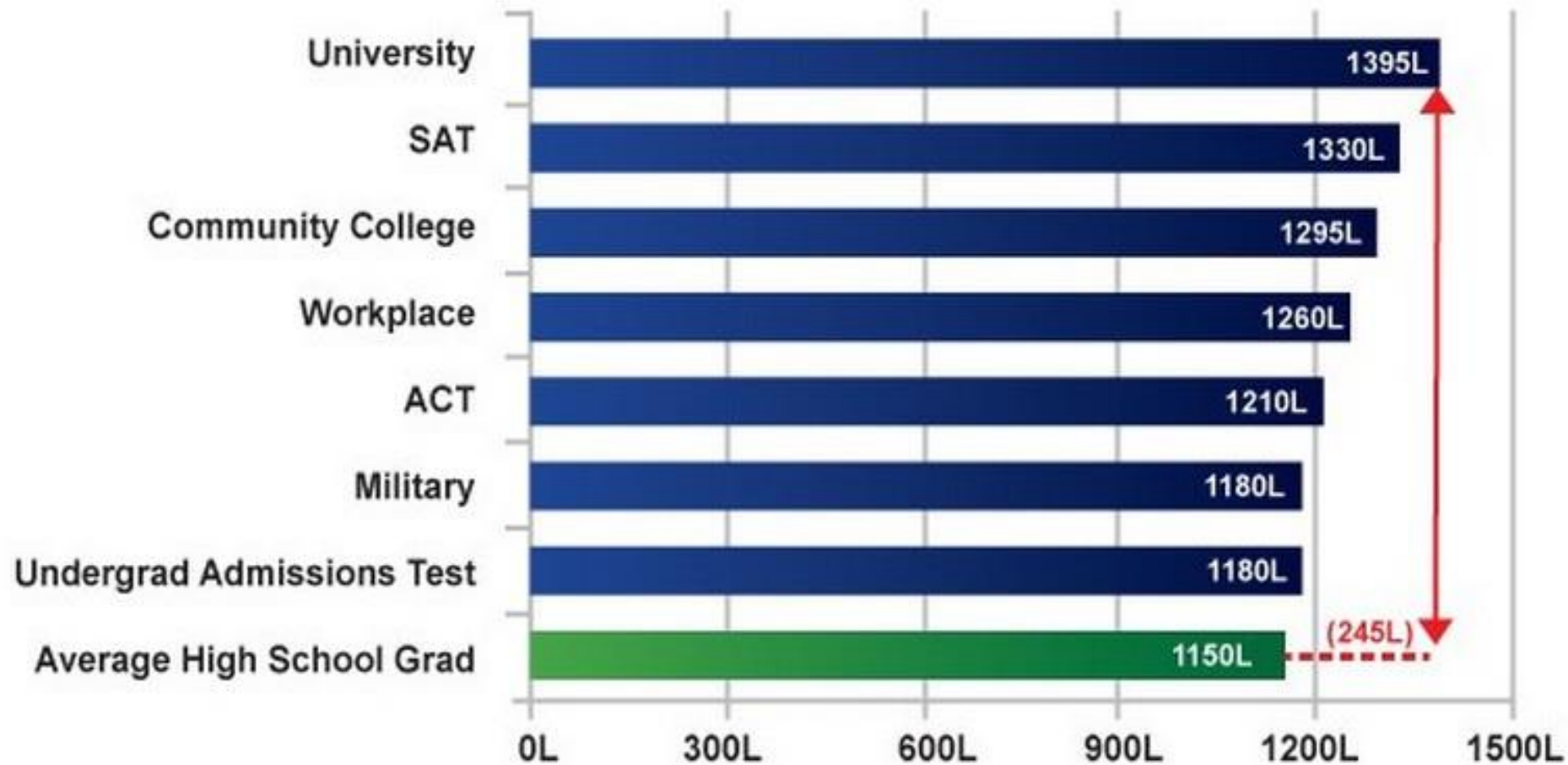
## HL : High-Low

High interest + Low Readability

<http://www.schoolonwheels.org/pdfs/3328/Hi-Lo-Book-List.pdf>



# LEXILES: MILESTONES & GAPS



**SHAUNTA PAYTON, PROFESSIONAL  
LEARNING LIAISON AREA 2**

# LEXILE BANDS

Grade Band	“Stretch” Lexile Band
<b>K-1</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>2-3</b>	<b>420L-820L</b>
<b>4-5</b>	<b>740L-1010L</b>
<b>6-8</b>	<b>925L-1185L</b>
<b>9-10</b>	<b>1050L-1335L</b>
<b>11-CCR</b>	<b>1185L-1385L</b>

These “stretch” Lexile bands are the basis for determining at what text complexity level students should be reading—and at which grades—to make sure they are ultimately prepared for the reading demands of college and careers.

# LEXILE: GATEWAY



- 3rd grade students = 520 or above

must pass Reading Lexile component under the Language Arts section of test

- 5th grade students = 830 or above

must pass the Reading Lexile component under the Language Arts section of test

# HOW DO LEXILES HELP TEACHERS?

- Adjusting materials to the purpose of reading
- Differentiating texts
- Differentiating access to texts
- Building classroom libraries
- Building reading lists





# HELPING STRUGGLING READERS

- Level the comprehension playing field with "just right" books
- Solicit “at home” support from your parents
  - Show parents Lexile tools online
- Allow students to select text
- High-Low Books and Graphic Novels
  - High interest
  - Low readability





# LEXILE ANALYZER

- <https://lexile.com/analyzer/>
- Software program that evaluates the reading demand—or readability—of books, articles and other materials
- Free for registered users
- Find level teacher created material
  - ✓ save material as a text file
  - ✓ log in to the Lexile Analyzer (free registration)
  - ✓ submits file
  - ✓ receive a Lexile measure

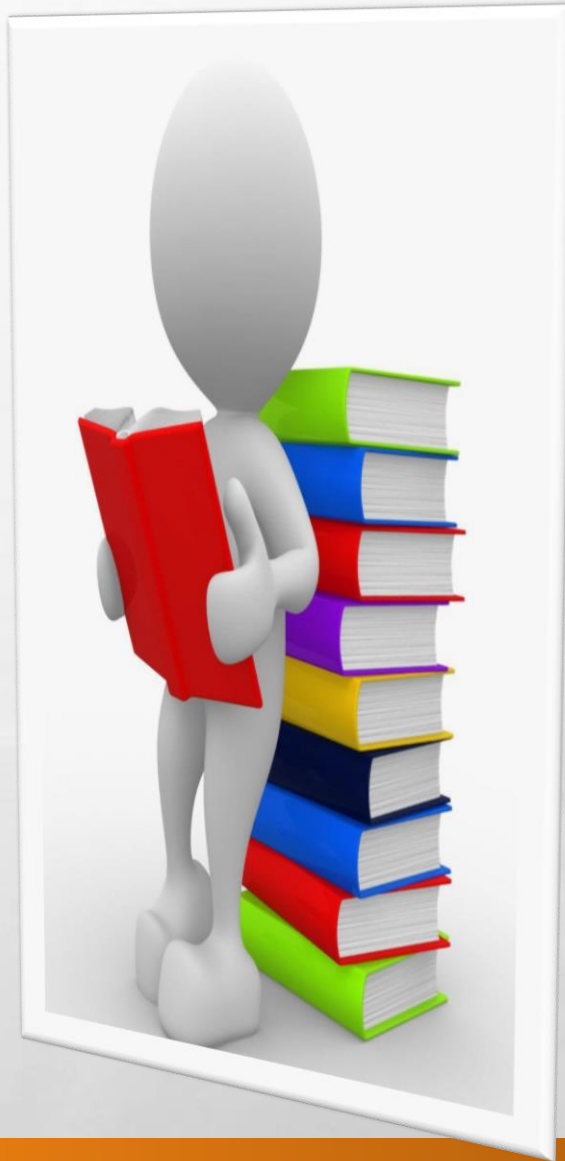


## **DIFFERENTIATING**

Lexile measures provide more than a way to pick the right book for a student to read

- Lexiles- powerful tools for targeting instruction and improving achievement
  - across grade levels and content areas
- Teachers connect students with instructional resources that match their reading abilities

# **STRATEGIES:** Using Lexile levels in the classroom



- Develop individualized reading lists
- Enhance thematic teaching
  - ❖ Build a bank of titles at varying Lexile levels
- Develop a reading folder
  - ❖ Individualized (returned for weekly review)
  - ❖ The folder can contain
    - ✓ a reading list of books within the student's Lexile range
    - ✓ reports of recent assessments
    - ✓ a parent form to record reading that occurs at home.



- Choose texts lower in the student's Lexile range  
when factors make the reading situation more challenging, threatening  
or unfamiliar.
- Select texts at or above the student's range  
to stimulate growth when a topic is of extreme interest to the student,  
or when you will be adding additional support such as background  
teaching or discussion.



- Use the free **Lexile Book Database** (at [www.Lexile.com](http://www.Lexile.com))



- **“Find a Book” Web site** (at [www.Lexile.com/findabook](http://www.Lexile.com/findabook))

- to support book selection and
- create booklists within a student’s Lexile range

- Use the free **Lexile calculator** (at [www.Lexile.com](http://www.Lexile.com))

- to gauge expected reading comprehension at different Lexile measures for readers and texts.

# This research still stands.....

Student "A"  
reads **20 minutes**  
each day

3600 minutes in  
a school year

**1,800,000 words**



*90<sup>th</sup> percentile*

Student "B"  
reads **5 minutes**  
each day

900 minutes in  
a school year

**282,000 words**



*50<sup>th</sup> percentile*

Student "C"  
reads **1 minute**  
each day

180 minutes in  
a school year

**8,000 words**



*10<sup>th</sup> percentile*

By the end of 6<sup>th</sup> grade Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?

(Nagy & Herman, 1987)

# RESOURCES

- GA Department of Education has Lexile information at:
  - <http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/Lexile-Framework.aspx>
  - <https://www.georgiastandards.org/Resources/Pages/Tools/LexileFrameworkforReading.aspx>
- GaDOE Contact:
  - Assessment Research and Development Division
  - Georgia Department of Education
  - Phone: 404-656-2668
- MetaMetrics' website:
  - <http://lexile.com>
- Georgia Milestones Video:
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vgtvKTbBP8E>



*Thank  
you*

