Text Complexity Analysis Template

Text complexity analysis

Created by:	Cathy Emerick	Event/Date:	TeachFest Connecticut July 2014
Text and Author	"Eleven" Sandra Cisneros	Where to Access Text	On-Line- website

Text Description

It is Rachel's birthday. She thinks she will feel older, more mature, yet she is still feeling all the previous years still (10,9,8,7,6,…..). At school, Mrs. Price, Rachel's teacher, insists that an ugly, smelly red sweater is Rachel's sweater. Rachel tries to say it is not hers, but cannot get the words out. Even a classmate says she thinks the awful red sweater belongs to Rachel. After many attempts of trying to show the sweater is not hers, Mrs. Prices tells Rachel to stop being ridiculous and put the sweater on. Rachel cannot hold back her frustration and bursts into tears, letting her previous ages show. After Rachel shows her emotion, another student realizes that the sweater belongs to her not Rachel. Rachel is embarrassed and wishes she wasn't eleven and could just fly away like a balloon.

Quantitative

Lexile and Grade Level	989L or 6.6 grade equivalent	Text Length	1194 words

Qualitative

Meaning/Central Ideas	Text Structure/Organization
Meaning or theme of text (Even if you are grown-up, sometimes you may react to situations as a child) is revealed through the main character's actions throughout the text.	No graphics- has a title- follows basic story format- chronological order of events.

Prior Knowledge Demands	Language Features
Students should have knowledge of being excited for a day, but their expectations not meeting the reality of the situation. There is a mix of abstract and concrete ideas throughout the text. Overall experiences displayed in text should be common to the reader.	Largely explicit and easy to understand with some figurative language. ("Because when you grow old is kind of like an onion or like rings inside a tree trunk or like my little wooden dolls that fit one inside the other, each year inside the next one.") Dialogue and description will help students to grasp the tone of the piece.

Potential Reader/Task Challenges

This short story is very engaging for students because they will be able to connect to conflict presented, which assist them in providing character traits that would describe Rachel and Mrs. Price. Students may have difficulty explaining why the author included certain figurative language or description and how it adds to the meaning of the text.

Big Takeaway

Students will be able to identify the sequence of events in the story and explain how the main character responds to the events (especially the main conflict).

Vocabulary Analysis Template

	Words that demand less teaching time (i.e. the definition is singular and concrete)	Words that demand more teaching time (i.e. words with multiple meanings and/or that are part of a word family)
Words that can be determined in context	Raggedy Clown-sweater arms Parking Meter Coatroom	Invisible (Word Family-can teach prefix, suffix, root/base word)
Words that cannot be determined in context		