Glory Be Text Complexity

QUALITATIVE MEASURES

Levels of Meaning

There are multiple themes throughout the book, increasing the complexity of the text. Themes include human rights, freedom, peace, love vs. hate, and right vs. wrong. The central theme students will focus on throughout the book is that it is right to stand up against injustices.

Structure

This historical fiction story is told chronologically. What makes the novel's structure complex is the genre itself, which requires a great deal of background knowledge, in this case about U.S. history and the civil rights movement. Readers will have to separate fact from fiction as they read.

Language Conventionality and Clarity

Much of the vocabulary in this text is inferred. This vocabulary is both high level and domain specific. Figurative as well as historical language and dialect adds depth to the text.

Knowledge Demands

Students will need to have a great deal of background knowledge about the time period.

QUANTITATIVE MEASURES

The Lexile level for *Glory Be* is 680 based on word frequency and sentence length. This is in the middle range of the complexity band for 2nd-3rd grade according to the Common Core State Standards.

READER TASK CONSIDERATIONS

These should be determined locally with reference to motivation, knowledge, and experiences as well as to purpose and the complexity of the tasks assigned and the questions posed.