

Children of the Dust Bowl Text Complexity

QUALITATIVE MEASURES	QUANTITATIVE MEASURES
<p>Levels of Meaning Multiple themes throughout the book increase the challenge for readers of this text. Themes include but are not limited to culture, overcoming hardships, the spirit of optimism, and the historical importance of how a group of people lived in past times.</p> <p>Structure The narrative of this informational text is told in sequential order, with a detailed focus on Leo Hart’s involvement with the Okies. Photos, maps, and interviews that the author showcases in the book add depth to the story. Cause and effect relationships contribute to the overall structure of this text.</p> <p>Language Conventionalilty and Clarity Historical language adds depth to the language of this text. In addition, vocabulary used throughout the text is advanced vocabulary for sixth-grade students.</p> <p>Knowledge Demands Students will need to have a great deal of background knowledge about American history in the time period around the Great Depression.</p>	<p>The Lexile level for <i>Children of the Dust Bowl</i> is 1120, based on word frequency and sentence length. This is in the high range of the complexity band for 6th–8th grade according to the Common Core State Standards.</p> <p>READER TASK CONSIDERATIONS</p> <p>These should be determined locally with reference to motivation, knowledge, and experiences as well as to the purpose and complexity of the tasks assigned and the questions posed.</p>