



LEXILES:

Making Sense of a Reading Measure



Updated August 7, 2017

Overview of Lexile Framework & Lexiles

What is the Lexile Framework?

- An educational tool that links text and readers under a common metric known as Lexiles.
- Allows educators to forecast the level of comprehension a reader is expected to experience with a particular text
- Most commonly used reading measure
 - Over 19 million students receive Lexile scores through commercial and state assessments
 - Over 100,000 books and tens of millions of articles have Lexile measures

What is the Lexile Framework?

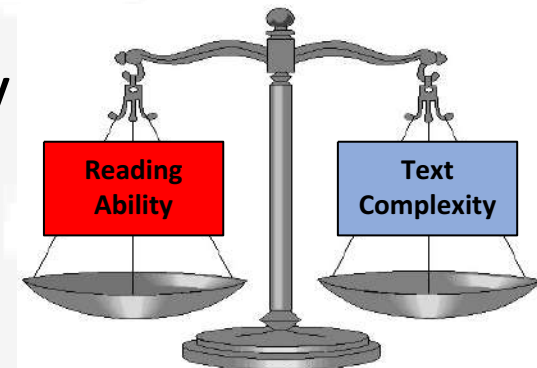
- **Developed by MetaMetrics**
- **Based on research funded by National Institute for Child Health Development (NICHD)**
- **Combined the work of reading experts Chall, Flesch, Carroll, and Bormuth, with measurement expert, Rasch**

Lexile Measures Defined



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- 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
- 75% comprehension is the level identified by experts as offering the reader a certain amount of comfort and yet still offering a challenge



How are Lexiles calculated?

Lexiles take into account the following:

- Semantic Difficulty
 - Word Frequency
- Syntactic Complexity
 - Sentence Length

Georgia Department of Education

Lexiles and the Georgia Standards for Excellence (GSE)



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- The GSE promote that students should be ready for college and career after high school.
- The most important factor for readiness is a student's ability to read and understand texts of steadily increasing complexity as they progress through school.
- The Lexile[®] Framework provides valuable insights into student readiness by measuring both the complexity of reading materials, including college and career texts, and a student's ability to comprehend these texts.

Lexiles, Stretch Bands & College and Career Readiness

- The Lexile Framework is aligned to match the college and career ready text complexity grade bands.

The “stretch” bands of the Lexile Framework show an upward trajectory of reading comprehension development through the grades to indicate that all students should be reading at the college- and career-readiness level by no later than the end of high school.

Lexile Bands



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

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.

Georgia Milestones and Lexiles

Georgia Milestones and Lexiles



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- GaDOE issues Lexile measures for



- Students receive a Lexile measure along with their regular scale score for a Georgia Milestones End-of-Grade (EOG) or End-of-Course (EOC) English Language Arts (ELA) assessment.
- A student's Lexile measure is a tool
 - for teachers to use in targeting reading material for students.
 - for parents to use in selecting reading material for their children.
- GSE promotes literacy in ELA and Math as well as other subject areas.
 - Teachers in such areas as social studies and science must also help students develop literacy.

How are Lexiles reported?



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SAMPLE STUDENT NAME

BIRTH DATE: MM/DD/YYYY **CLASS NAME:** ANY CLASS

GTID: 1234567890

TEST DATE: 04/04/16

SCHOOL NAME: ANY SCHOOL

FORM: B10

SYSTEM NAME: ANY SYSTEM

English Language Arts

Grade 7



| Achievement Level | | Domain | Performance |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ✓ Level 3: Proficient Learner | Scale Score | Reading and Vocabulary | Monitor Learning |
| Proficient Learners demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia's content standards. The students are prepared for the next grade level or course and are on track for college and career readiness. | 540 CA* | Writing and Language* | Monitor Learning |
| | | | Accelerate Learning |

Standard Error of Measurement (SEM): A scale score of 540 CA* indicates your student's achievement on the day of testing. If your student were to take the same test again, it is likely that his or her score would be within the standard error of measurement range of 522-558.

| Comparison to the School, System, and State | | | | |
|--|---------|--------|--------|-------|
| The school, system, and state bar graphs reflect the mean scale score for groups of 10 or more students. | | | | |
| Achievement Levels | Student | School | System | State |
| Level 4: Distinguished Learner Scale Score Range: 592-785 | | | 580 | 575 |
| Level 3: Proficient Learner Scale Score Range: 525-591 | 540 CA* | 515 | | |
| Level 2: Developing Learner Scale Score Range: 475-524 | | | | |
| Level 1: Beginning Learner Scale Score Range: 165-474 | | | | |

| Comparison to a National Sample of Students | | |
|---|---------------------------|--|
| National Percentile | National Percentile Range | |
| Your student's performance can be compared to other students nationally in Reading. A subset of items in the End-of-Grade assessment is from TerraNova, a nationally normed achievement test. | 60 | A national percentile of 60 means that your student performed as well as or better than 60 percent of the national norming group. If the student were to take the test again, he or she would be expected to obtain a national percentile rank within the National Percentile Range. |
| | | 52-68 |

| Your Student's Lexile Information | |
|--|--|
| Lexile Measure: 830L | Leisure Reading: 730L-830L |
| Lexile Range: 730L-880L | Suggested Titles |
| The Lexile Framework® for Reading matches a student's reading ability with the difficulty of text material. When selecting books, it is important to consider that Lexiles do not address age-appropriateness, student interest, or text quality. Suggested titles are not necessarily endorsed by the Georgia Department of Education. Books within the student's Lexile range can be found at the local library or by using the First-Book database at www.firstbook.org . For more information, visit www.lexile.com/lexile . | Author |
| | Lexile |
| | Motivating Challenge: 830L-880L |
| | Suggested Titles |
| | Author |
| | Lexile |

Condition Codes for Writing

A = Blank, B = Copied, C = Too Limited to Score, D = Non-English/Foreign Language, E = Off Topic, F = Offensive, G = Illegible/Incomprehensible

*CA - shows that your student took the test with a Conditional Administration. A test score resulting from a conditional administration must be interpreted in light of the specific accommodations provided the student during testing.

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Individual Student Report provides:

- Lexile information in parent-friendly format.
- Lexile score and Lexile range.
- An explanation of how to use the information.
- Sample book titles individualized for each student based on their Lexile range. These are categorized into a Leisure reading range and a Motivating Challenge reading range.
- Lexile information is also provided on district summary reports and in the district data files.

The Lexile Scale



- Lexiles typically range from 200 for beginning readers to 1700 for advanced readers.
- Lexile text below 200L represents beginning-reading material.
 - A student's Lexile score may have a number in the 100s or the code of BR (for Beginning Reader).
- Applies to both reader ability and text difficulty
 - When reader and text measures are the same, the student is expected to read with 75% comprehension.
- Can be used to track reading growth over time

Lexile Resources From MetaMetrics

MetaMetrics Resources



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- MetaMetrics, the developer of the Lexile Framework, provides several tools and resources for educators, parents, students, and other stakeholders.
 - Find A Book
 - Lexile Analyzer
 - White Papers
 - Teacher Resources
 - Parent Resources
 - And many more –
- Check out <https://www.lexile.com/>



Accessing the Find A Book Tool

<http://lexile.com/fab/GA>



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The Lexile® Framework for Reading
Matching readers with texts

Quick Book Search

Title, Author or ISBN

Search

Advanced ▾

[About Lexile Measures](#)

[Use Lexile Measures](#)

[Become a Lexile Partner](#)

[Sign In](#)

[Register](#)

Find the Right Book for You!

Step 1: Enter Your Lexile

Tell us your Lexile measure, and find books you'd like to read!

[Buscando libros en español?](#)

[Looking for Primary Sources?](#)



My Lexile measure is

Lexile

L

Lexile Range

L

L

Submit

I don't know my Lexile measure

Or

My Current Grade is:

- ☐ I find the books I read for school difficult.
- ☐ I find the books I read for school just right.
- ☐ I find the books I read for school easy.

Books Measured

209,011

Books updated this month

265,428

Total books measured

Current Filters

Lexile Range

What if a book or document isn't in the Lexile database?



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- Use the Lexile Analyzer – it's free, but you must register.
- Create a text document (file extension is .txt) with multiple 175-word slices from the book or document.
- Submit via the Lexile Analyzer.

<http://lexile.com/analyzer/>



- Also can approximate the Lexile by seeing other books by the same author or in same series. At least a good place to begin with to determine if book is close to a student's Lexile range.

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Lexile Analyzer



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Txt file

Betsy's Busy Summer

By the time school closed in the last week of June, everyone had decided that the hot weather had come to stay. All the fathers and mothers still complained about the heat, but never the children. Now that they did not have to go to school, they didn't seem to know that it was hot. The air was filled with their shouts as they raced and ran and played.

There was almost always a crowd of them playing in Betsy's yard. Betsy had a big yard to play in. It was all around the house, but the biggest part was in the back, where Betsy's mother had a garden. A path ran through the garden to the far end, where Betsy's father had made a pool. It was not very big and it was not very deep, but the night goldfish that lived in it seemed to find it a pleasant place. At the end of Betsy's yard a stone wall ran between it and the Jackson's place.

It was soon very noticeable that Betsy's summer house was going to be the favorite spot for all the neighborhood children during their summer vacation. It was shaded by the trees, and Betsy's father had fastened a big old-fashioned electric fan in the center of the ceiling. It twirled away by the hour, sending a cooling breeze down on the head of the children when they played there.

One warm day, Betsy and her best friend Ellen were sitting in the summerhouse, sewing new dresses for their dolls. Betsy was making her doll a plaid school dress, and Ellen was making hers a party dress of pink silk.

Betsy's mother had taken the car and gone to the market. Betsy's little sister Star and Ellen's little sister Linda were in the garden, playing dress-up ladies. Star was blue with pink roses. It wrapped around her six times and was held on by a wide sash tied in a large bow in the back. She looked like a little sausage.

Linda had on a black satin dress that had once belonged to Star's grandmother. It was held on and held up with many safety pins. Underneath the dress she had on a pink-and-white-checked sun suit. The whole back of the tight little pants was covered with rows of ruffles, which gave the black satin dress a bubble in the rear. The dress had a fishtail train, which Linda twisted as she walked up and down the garden path. She was also wearing a black lace scarf over her head.

"I'm a Duckess," said Linda to Star, as she stopped in the walk beside the pool.

"What's a Duckess?" asked Star, who was younger than Linda and didn't know much.

"Goodness!" said Linda. "Don't you know what a Duckess is?" Star shook her head.

Lexile Analyzer

Secure | <https://lexile.com/analyzer/>

Apps Georgia Department Testing/Assessment Dorobantus Custom Events Calendar | Geo Worldwide Airport 893.3 The 80's to To Standards, Assessment

LEXILE The Lexile® Framework for Reading
Matching readers with texts

Quick Book Search
Title, Author or ISBN Search Advanced

About Lexile Measures Use Lexile Measures Become a Lexile Partner My Account Logout

Lexile® Analyzer

Lexile® Analyzer

Step 1: What kinds of texts can be measured.

Step 2: Prepare your text for measurement.

Step 3: Type or scan your text.

Step 4: Convert your text into a plain text file.

Step 5: Analyze your text and get results.

Using the Professional Lexile Analyzer.

Lexile Analyzer Video Tutorial

Lexile Analyzer Terms

Get a Lexile Text Measure

You can use our online tools to determine the estimated Lexile® measure of edited, conventional prose text. Just follow our guidelines for preparing a text, upload it, and the Lexile® measure will be displayed.

Looking for the [Spanish Lexile Analyzer?](#)

Online help and user guides

The help links to the left detail how to use either the [English Lexile Analyzer](#) or [Spanish Lexile Analyzer](#) to get an instructionally useful estimated Lexile measure. You may also view the user guide [here](#).

Submit a file

File to Analyze^A
[Choose File](#) No file chosen

By clicking the **Submit** button below you agree to the following terms for use of the free Lexile Analyzer:

- You may not publish or distribute the Lexile measure.
- You may not enter the measure into a library or media center database or catalog.
- Your measure is not a certified Lexile measure. It should be considered an "estimated Lexile measure."
- A Lexile measure is only as good as the preparation of the text. Only certified measures done at MetaMetrics are guaranteed to be accurate estimates of the reading demand of a text.
- Your estimated measure likely differs from the certified Lexile measure of the complete book or text.

[Request access to the professional Lexile Analyzer.](#)

Submit

Result

Lexile Measure

950L

Mean Sentence Length

15.26

Mean Log Word Frequency

3.62

Word Count

473



LIBRARY

Using Lexiles to Build Partnerships



HOME



SCHOOL

The Lexile Framework is a tool for teachers, media specialists, librarians, and parents to use in conjunction with existing reading programs and is not a replacement for existing reading programs.

How to Use Lexiles



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- It is recommended that readers choose texts within their Lexile range.
 - A Lexile range is 50L above and 100L below a student's reported Lexile measure.
- Selection for pleasure reading should also be based on student's interests.
- Practice with a variety of texts.
- Use Lexiles to set goals.

Using Lexiles in the Classroom



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Teachers can use Lexiles to help them:

- Develop individualized or classroom reading lists tailored to provide appropriately challenging reading.
- Enhance thematic teaching by building a bank of titles at varying levels that support the theme, but also allows all students to participate successfully in the theme with material at their own reading level.
- Sequence materials, for example by increasing the difficulty of read-aloud books throughout the year.

Source: https://d1jt5u2s0h3gkt.cloudfront.net/m/cms_page_media/123/Lexiles-in-the-Classroom.pdf

Using Lexiles in the Classroom



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Teachers can use Lexiles to help them:

- Develop a reading folder that goes home with students and comes back for weekly review. Folder might contain:
 - a reading list of books within the student's Lexile range
 - reports of recent assessments
 - a form for parents to record reading that occurs at home.
- Vary reading difficulty of material to the situation:
 - 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 a student, or when you will be giving additional support such as background teaching or discussion.

Source: https://d1jt5u2s0h3gkt.cloudfront.net/m/cms_page_media/123/Lexiles-in-the-Classroom.pdf

More Instructional Uses of Lexiles



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Teachers can use Lexiles to:

- Set measurable goals for instruction and special intervention programs
- Monitor progress of various reading programs
- Engage parents as “partners to the classroom” by giving them a tool for selecting appropriate reading material for their children (e.g., Summer Reading Lists, visiting library, etc.)
- Help students set goals for themselves and use annual GA Milestones results to see if they have progressed towards their goals.



Source: https://d1jt5u2s0h3gkt.cloudfront.net/m/cms_page_media/123/Lexiles-in-the-Classroom.pdf

More Instructional Uses of Lexiles



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Lexiles can help teachers:

- Adjust materials to the purpose of reading.
 - For increased fluency and automaticity, teacher selects text that measures well below reader ability.
 - As a strategy for teaching students how to attack “hard” text, the teacher selects text that measures above reader ability.

Source: https://d1jt5u2s0h3gkt.cloudfront.net/m/cms_page_media/123/Lexiles-in-the-Classroom.pdf

More Instructional Uses of Lexiles



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- Teachers can use Lexiles to target fiction and non-fiction material to students' abilities and thus promote learning of all subjects.
 - Avoids student frustration when reading text is too difficult.
 - Avoids undermining student self-confidence.
 - Avoids the fostering of bad work habits and unrealistic self-expectations when a student is always presented with too easy material.
 - Learning occurs best when the text material can be comprehended at a 75% rate.



Source: https://d1jt5u2s0h3gkt.cloudfront.net/m/cms_page_media/123/Lexiles-in-the-Classroom.pdf

Using Lexiles to Promote Reading



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- Improve students' reading fluency and increase enjoyment of reading.
 - Students who spend a minimum of 3 hrs/week reading at their own level for their own purposes develop reading fluency which leads to improved mastery. Even 15 minutes a day is helpful.
- It is recommended that readers choose texts within their Lexile range.
 - A Lexile range is 50L above and 100L below a student's reported Lexile measure.
- Use Lexiles to set goals.
- Practice with a variety of texts.
- Challenge the BEST readers.
- Success breeds enjoyment.

Using Lexiles in Media Centers and Public Libraries



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Media specialists and librarians can assist classroom instruction by

- Helping to develop individualized or classroom reading lists tailored to provide appropriately challenging reading.
- Guiding teachers in selecting a bank of titles at varying levels that support an instructional thematic unit. This allows all students to participate successfully in the theme with material at their own reading level.
- Locating and sequencing materials for classroom use. For example, increasing the difficulty of books throughout the year.

Source: <https://www.lexile.com/using-lexile/lexile-at-library/>

Georgia's Lexile Results

The next few slides provide a brief overview of students' Lexile measures from the 2016–2017 academic year.

During the 2016-2017 school year, **1,055,369** students took an ELA Milestones assessment and those with a valid scale score also received a Lexile score.

Lexile Results for Georgia Students: Spring 2009 – Spring 2017



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Median Lexile for Georgia Students by Grade Level/Course

| Grade Level/ Course | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015* | 2016 | 2017 | Suggested Text Demand: Lower Limit | Suggested Text Demand: Upper Limit |
|------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 3 | 645 | 685 | 720 | 740 | 790 | 755 | 650 | 645 | 655 | 520 | 820 |
| 4 | 790 | 810 | 805 | 840 | 860 | 915 | 790 | 795 | 810 | 740 | 940 |
| 5 | 840 | 885 | 925 | 935 | 940 | 965 | 920 | 940 | 940 | 830 | 1010 |
| 6 | 980 | 980 | 1000 | 1025 | 1070 | 1075 | 975 | 980 | 990 | 925 | 1070 |
| 7 | 1020 | 1020 | 1040 | 1065 | 1095 | 1120 | 1095 | 1115 | 1100 | 970 | 1120 |
| 8 | 1110 | 1150 | 1170 | 1180 | 1210 | 1265 | 1130 | 1175 | 1170 | 1010 | 1185 |
| 9 th Lit | | | | 1205 | 1215 | 1225 | 1205 | 1230 | 1265 | 1050 | 1260 |
| Am. Lit | | | | 1220 | 1240 | 1270 | 1305 | 1345 | 1370 | 1185 | 1385 |

* Based on available preliminary spring data. The median Lexiles obtained from the Georgia Milestones Assessments are not really comparable to prior years because the new test is more rigorous with different performance standards than its predecessors.

Lexile Distribution by Grade/Course



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| Grade/ Course | Measure | Below the Stretch Band | Within the Stretch Band | Above the Stretch Band |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 3 | Lexile | Below 520L | 520L – 820L | Above 820L |
| | Percentage of Students | 29% | 48% | 23% |
| 4 | Lexile | Below 740L | 740L – 940L | Above 940L |
| | Percentage of Students | 40% | 29% | 30% |
| 5 | Lexile | Below 830L | 830L – 1010L | Above 1010L |
| | Percentage of Students | 30% | 33% | 38% |
| 6 | Lexile | Below 925L | 925L – 1070L | Above 1070L |
| | Percentage of Students | 37% | 27% | 36% |
| 7 | Lexile | Below 970L | 970L – 1120L | Above 1120L |
| | Percentage of Students | 28% | 27% | 45% |
| 8 | Lexile | Below 1010L | 1010L – 1185L | Above 1185L |
| | Percentage of Students | 22% | 32% | 46% |
| Ninth Grade Literature and Composition | Lexile | Below 1050L | 1050L – 1260L | Above 1260L |
| | Percentage of Students | 18% | 29% | 53% |
| American Literature and Composition | Lexile | Below 1185L | 1185L – 1385L | Above 1385L |
| | Percentage of Students | 25% | 27% | 48% |

Spring 2017 Georgia Milestones Results

Lexiles by Grade

- Column 1 shows grade.
- Column 2 shows the range of Lexiles in which the middle 50% of readers fall at a grade level. 25% of students fall below this range and 25% above.
- Column 3 shows the "stretch" text measures (defined in 2010 through studies related to the development of the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts) and represents the demand of text that students should be reading to be college and career ready by the end of Grade 12.

| Grade | Reader Measures, Mid-Year 25th percentile to 75th percentile (IQR) | "Stretch" Text Measures |
|-----------|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | Up to 300L | 190L to 530L |
| 2 | 140L to 500L | 420L to 650L |
| 3 | 330L to 700L | 520L to 820L |
| 4 | 445L to 810L | 740L to 940L |
| 5 | 565L to 910L | 830L to 1010L |
| 6 | 665L to 1000L | 925L to 1070L |
| 7 | 735L to 1065L | 970L to 1120L |
| 8 | 805L to 1100L | 1010L to 1185L |
| 9 | 855L to 1165L | 1050L to 1260L |
| 10 | 905L to 1195L | 1080L to 1335L |
| 11 and 12 | 940L to 1210L | 1185L to 1385L |



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Lexiles and CCRPI

- Percent of students in **grade 3** achieving a Lexile measure equal to or greater than **650L** on the Georgia Milestones English Language Arts EOG assessment.
- Percent of students in **grade 5** achieving a Lexile measure equal to or greater than **850L** on the Georgia Milestones English Language Arts EOG assessment.
- Percent of students in **grade 8** achieving a Lexile measure equal to or greater than **1050L** on the Georgia Milestones English Language Arts EOG assessment.
- Percent of students achieving a Lexile measure equal to or greater than **1275L** on the Georgia Milestones **American Literature and Composition EOC assessment.**

Lexiles and CCRPI

- Targets for the Lexile indicators in CCRPI were based on the Lexile "stretch" bands and longitudinal data from state tests.
- Targets represent student reading ability within the college and career ready stretch bands for their grade level.

| Grade | Stretch Text Band Lower Limit | Stretch Text Band Upper Limit | CCRPI Target |
|-------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 3 | 520L | 820L | 650L |
| 5 | 830L | 1010L | 850L |
| 8 | 1010L | 1185L | 1050L |
| 11 | 1185L | 1385L | 1275L |

Relating Lexiles to Other Measures

GaDOE often receives questions on how to relate Lexiles to other measures.

The next few slides show correspondence of Lexiles to other reading level models.

Lexiles by Grade

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| 11 and 12 | 940L to 1210L | 1185L to 1385L |



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Want to Know More . . .



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- 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/>

Read Every Day!

