

# How to Differentiate Using Levelled Texts

According to the Common Core State Standards (2010), all students need to learn to read and discuss concepts across the content areas to be prepared for college and beyond. This leveled text lesson helps teachers differentiate content for their students to allow all students access to the concepts being explored.

Each text is written at four different reading levels. Below is a chart for all the topics within the original book for this eLesson. While these texts are written at a variety of reading levels, all the levels remain strong in presenting the content and vocabulary. Teachers can focus on the same content standard or objective for the whole class, but individual students can access the content at their individual instructional reading levels rather than at their frustration levels.

Teachers can also use the texts to scaffold the content for their students. At the beginning of the year, students at the lowest reading levels may need focused teacher guidance. As the year progresses, teachers can begin giving students multiple levels of the same text to allow them to work independently to improve their comprehension. This means that students would have copies of the texts at their independent reading levels and instructional reading levels. As students read the instructional-level texts, they can use the lower texts to better understand the difficult vocabulary. By scaffolding the content in this way, teachers can support students as they move up through the reading levels. This will encourage students to work with texts that are closer to the grade level at which they will be tested.

## Creating Text-Dependent Discussions

The generic, open-ended stems listed below can be adapted to any topic. Use questions or statements like the ones shown here to develop discussion prompts for the leveled texts.

- In what ways did...
- Give evidence from the text to support . . .
- Justify your thinking using text evidence about . . .
- Find evidence to support your conclusions about . . .
- What text evidence helps the reader understand \_\_\_\_?
- How can you use the text and related texts to support \_\_\_\_?
- Use the book to tell why \_\_\_\_ happened.
- Based on events in the story, . . . ?
- Show me the part in the text that supports . . .
- Use text evidence to tell why . . .

## Readability Chart

Title of the Text	 Star	 Circle	 Square	 Triangle
Exploring the New World	1.7	3.2	5.2	6.8
Explorers	1.5	3.1	5.1	6.9
American Indian Tribes of the East	1.7	3.2	5.0	7.0
American Indian Tribes of the Plains	1.8	3.1	5.0	6.9
American Indian Tribes of the West	1.7	3.1	5.1	7.0
The New England Colonies	2.0	3.4	5.2	7.1
The Middle Colonies	1.9	3.3	5.1	6.7
The Southern Colonies	1.6	3.5	5.1	6.8
Slavery in the New World	1.8	3.3	5.0	7.0
Causes of the American Revolution	1.9	3.2	5.1	6.9
The American Revolution	2.2	3.3	5.0	6.9
The Declaration of Independence	1.6	3.0	4.9	6.8
Early Congresses	1.9	3.1	5.0	7.0
The Constitution of the United States	2.1	3.3	4.9	6.5
The Bill of Rights	2.1	3.3	5.0	7.1

# The American Revolution

It was April 1775. British General Thomas Gage went to Boston. He planned to find and take the guns that belonged to the colonists. He also wanted their gunpowder. The Sons of Liberty found out about this plan. Three men got on horses. Paul Revere was one of these men. The men rode in the dark. They told colonists that the British were coming. Some colonists got ready to fight in a few minutes. These men were called “minutemen.”

The British soldiers met the colonists in Lexington, Massachusetts. No one knows who shot first. But it is called the “shot heard ’round the world.” This shot began the American Revolution. Eight colonists died. One British soldier was hurt.



## Important Battles

The British made General George Washington's leave from New York. Washington's army went to Pennsylvania. Washington wanted to catch the British off guard. He set out with 2,500 troops. It was Christmas Day 1776. They went across the river at night. The British soldiers did not know this. They were shocked when Washington's army showed up in Trenton, New Jersey. The colonists quickly took the town.



The Battle of Saratoga was very important. It changed the war. British General John Burgoyne crossed Lake Champlain. Then, he went down the Hudson River. He met the colonists in Saratoga, New York. The British troops fought hard. They fought for a month. Yet, the Americans won this battle.

France saw that the colonists could win. France and Great Britain did not like each other. So, France chose to help the Americans. They sent men to fight. They sent cash, too.



## The War Ends

The last battle was at Yorktown, Virginia. General George Washington and the French navy blocked off the area. Then British General Charles Cornwallis was trapped. He could not get the things he needed. His men did not have enough food. His men did not have enough gunpowder. On October 11, 1781, the British gave up. The war ended. The colonists had done it. They were free!

British and American leaders went to France. They agreed to stop fighting. They made an agreement. It was called the Treaty of Paris. They signed it on September 3, 1783.

## Comprehension Question

Why did France decide to help in the war?

# The American Revolution

In April 1775, British General Thomas Gage went to Boston. He was to find and take the colonists' guns. He also wanted their gunpowder. The Sons of Liberty found out about his plan. Three men, including Paul Revere, got on horses and rode through the dark. They told the people that the British were coming. Colonists called "minutemen" got ready to fight. It took them just minutes to get ready.

The British soldiers and the colonists met in Lexington, Massachusetts. No one knows who fired the first shot. It is called the "shot heard 'round the world" because this battle started the American Revolution. Eight colonists were killed. Just one British soldier was hurt.



## Important Battles

General George Washington decided to catch the British soldiers, or redcoats, off guard. The British had pushed his army back from New York to Pennsylvania. Washington set out with 2,500 troops. On Christmas Day 1776, they crossed the Delaware River at night. The British did not expect this. Washington's army landed in Trenton, New Jersey. They soon took over the city.



The Battle of Saratoga was the turning point of the war. British General John Burgoyne wanted to take Albany, New York. So, he crossed Lake Champlain. Then he went down the Hudson River. He met colonial fighters in Saratoga, New York. The British fought for a whole month. Still, they lost the fight. This showed France that the colonists could win. France and Britain had long been enemies. France chose to help the colonists. They sent money and soldiers.

## The War Ends

The last big battle of the war was at Yorktown, Virginia. General George Washington and the French navy set up a blockade at Yorktown. This meant they closed off the area. British General Charles Cornwallis could not get supplies for his troops. The troops were running out of food. They were running out of gunpowder. On October 11, 1781, the British gave up. The war was over.

Later, a treaty was made. British and American leaders met in France. They signed the Treaty of Paris on September 3, 1783.



## Comprehension Question

How did the French help the colonists in the war?

# The American Revolution

In April 1775, British General Thomas Gage went to Boston. He was to find and take the colonists' guns and gunpowder. Paul Revere and the other Sons of Liberty found out his plan. Revere, William Dawes, and Samuel Prescott got on their horses and rode through the night. They told the colonists that the British were coming. Colonists called "minutemen" were ready to fight within minutes of getting these warnings.

The British soldiers and the colonial militia met in Lexington, Massachusetts. No one knows who fired the first shot. This is called the "shot heard 'round the world" because this battle started the American Revolution. Eight colonists were killed. Only one British soldier was hurt.



## Important Battles

On Christmas Day 1776, General George Washington decided to catch the redcoats off guard. The British had pushed the Continental (kon-tuh-NEN-tuhl) Army back from New York to Pennsylvania. Washington set out with 2,500 troops. They crossed the Delaware River in the dark. The British did not expect them. When Washington's army landed in Trenton, New Jersey, they quickly took over the city.



Most people think of the Battle of Saratoga as the war's turning point. British General John Burgoyne wanted to take Albany, New York. So, he crossed Lake Champlain and traveled down the Hudson River. He met colonial fighters in Saratoga, New York. The British fought for an entire month, but they lost the battle. This victory by the colonial army showed France that the colonists could win. The British had long been enemies of the French. France decided to help the colonists. The French sent money and soldiers to help the Americans.

## The War Ends

The last major battle of the war was at Yorktown, Virginia. General Washington and the French created a trap for British General Charles Cornwallis. The colonists and the French navy set up a blockade at Yorktown. This meant that Cornwallis was unable to get supplies. On October 11, 1781, he surrendered (suh-REN-duhrd) his armies. The war was over.

Later, a treaty was made between Britain and the colonists. The Treaty of Paris was signed in France on September 3, 1783.



## Comprehension Question

How did France affect the outcome of the war?

# The American Revolution

In April 1775, British General Thomas Gage was sent to Boston to locate and take possession of the colonists' stockpile of guns and gunpowder. Paul Revere and the other Sons of Liberty discovered his plan. Revere, William Dawes, and Samuel Prescott jumped on their horses. They rode through the night to warn the colonists that the British were coming. Colonists called "minutemen" were ready to fight within minutes of getting these warnings.

The British soldiers and the colonial militia met in Lexington, Massachusetts. Nobody knows who fired the first shot. This is called the "shot heard 'round the world" because this battle started the American Revolution. Eight colonists were killed, while only one British soldier was injured.



## Important Battles

On Christmas Day 1776, General George Washington made a major move to catch the redcoats off guard. The British had pushed the Continental (kon-tuh-NEN-tuhl) Army back from New York to Pennsylvania. Washington set out with 2,500 troops. They crossed the Delaware River under cover of darkness. The British were not expecting them. When Washington's army landed in Trenton, New Jersey, they quickly captured the city.



Most people think of the Battle of Saratoga as the war's turning point. British General John Burgoyne wanted to capture Albany, New York, so he crossed Lake Champlain and traveled down the Hudson River. He met colonial fighters in Saratoga, New York. The British fought for an entire month but lost the battle. This important victory by the colonial army showed France that the colonists could win the war. The British had long been enemies of the French. France decided to help the colonists. The French sent money and soldiers to assist the Americans.

## The War Ends

The last major battle of the war was at Yorktown, Virginia, on October 11, 1781. General Washington and the French decided to create a trap for British General Charles Cornwallis. The colonists and the French navy set up a blockade at Yorktown, and Cornwallis was unable to get necessary supplies. He surrendered (suh-REN-duhrd) his armies. The war was over.



Afterwards, a treaty was made between Great Britain and the colonists. The Treaty of Paris was signed in France on September 3, 1783.

## Comprehension Question

In what ways did France change the course of the war?