Standards-Based CLOSE READING LITERATURE

50 FICTION READING PASSAGES 5 PASSAGES FOR EACH 4th GRADE FICTION LEARNING TARGET/STANDARD

BY: Teaching and Tapas
WHAT is in this resource?

50 original reading passages included. Each close reading passage falls within the range of 770-980 Lexile Level. The Lexile Level and word count is marked at the top of each passage.

Each learning target has 5 passages specifically dedicated to it. The learning targets for POINT OF VIEW and COMPARE AND CONTRAST are extra special because they each have a total of 10 passages so that your students can compare away!

Each passage has 2 pages of carefully written and consistent close reading tasks or text dependent questions. The first page of close reading tasks is specifically aligned to the learning target identified at the top of the page.

The second page of tasks is a SPIRAL REVIEW of all the informational learning targets for the grade level. This is perfect for holding those kids accountable for everything they have already learned! No skill slipping on your watch!

WHAT standards is this aligned to?

This product is most closely aligned to the Common Core standards. However, everything is referenced as “learning targets” so that it is applicable within any 4th grade classroom. The learning targets in this product are:

- TEXT EVIDENCE (Common Core Standard RL.4.1)
- THEME (Common Core Standard RL.4.2)
- CHARACTERS & SETTING (Common Core Standard RL.4.3)
- VOCABULARY (Common Core Standard RL.4.4)
- POETRY AND DRAMAS (Common Core Standard RL.4.5)
- POINT OF VIEW (Common Core Standard RL.4.6)
- ILLUSTRATIONS ADD MEANING (Common Core Standard RL.4.7)
- COMPARE AND CONTRAST (Common Core Standard RL.4.9)

WHY are there two file options?

There are two options in this download. You can choose to either use a version that makes references to Common Core or a version that does NOT make references to Common Core. The content is the same in both files, but this option gives Common Core schools a specific reference to the corresponding standard, which may be helpful.
Every question is aligned to a clearly marked learning target.

QUESTION PAGE 1
Questions specifically focused on one learning target

QUESTION PAGE 2
Spiral of all grade level learning targets

There are 5 activities just like this for each learning target.
# TABLE of contents...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEARNING TARGET</th>
<th>TEXT TITLE</th>
<th>LEXILE LEVEL</th>
<th>WORD COUNT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TEXT EVIDENCE</strong></td>
<td>The Family Champ</td>
<td>770</td>
<td>668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chloe the Ballerina</td>
<td>770</td>
<td>607</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Heat</td>
<td>770</td>
<td>613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I Drive Fast</td>
<td>820</td>
<td>584</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thick Like Sap</td>
<td>920</td>
<td>686</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>THEME &amp; SUMMARY</strong></td>
<td>An Extraordinary Day</td>
<td>770</td>
<td>505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Averi's New School</td>
<td>770</td>
<td>595</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jumping Tigers</td>
<td>770</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ice Chunks</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>776</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Scared Kelly</td>
<td>850</td>
<td>711</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CHARACTERS &amp; SETTING</strong></td>
<td>The Kitten</td>
<td>770</td>
<td>756</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steel City Spelling</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Henry Hockinghill</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Big City</td>
<td>860</td>
<td>770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>425 Morrison St.</td>
<td>920</td>
<td>640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>VOCABULARY</strong></td>
<td>The Climb</td>
<td>790</td>
<td>650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Faith in Fate</td>
<td>880</td>
<td>746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Writer With Nothing to Say</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The City Streets</td>
<td>940</td>
<td>659</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Practice Makes Perfect</td>
<td>980</td>
<td>718</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>POETRY AND DRAMAS</strong></td>
<td>Annie's Kitchen</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>519</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Prince Who Questioned Everything</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>748</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>My Shadow</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Little White Lily</td>
<td>740</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>How the Leaves Came Down</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PASSAGES ARE ALL WITHIN THE LEXILE RANGE OF 770-980
### Table of Contents (continued)

#### Learning Target

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Point of View</th>
<th>Text Title</th>
<th>Lexile Level</th>
<th>Word Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Compare and contrast the point of view from which different stories are narrated, including the difference between first- and third-person narrations. (CCSS RL.4.6)</td>
<td>The Extra Passenger</td>
<td>770</td>
<td>874</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Mini Explorer</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>585</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Problem</td>
<td>770</td>
<td>596</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Right Thing</td>
<td>770</td>
<td>550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Guardians of the Deep</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>749</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Deep</td>
<td>790</td>
<td>826</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>820</td>
<td>765</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>685</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>810</td>
<td>753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>900</td>
<td>724</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Illustration

Make connections between the text of a story or drama and a visual or oral presentation, identifying where each version represents specific descriptions and directions in the text. (CCSS RL.4.7)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Passages are organized in order of Lexile level difficulty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Unbreakable Betty Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Wishes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Big One</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Invader</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What Ella Saw</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Compare and Contrast

Compare and contrast the treatment of similar themes and topics (e.g., opposition of good and evil) and patterns of events (e.g., the quest) in stories, myths, and traditional literature from different cultures. (CCSS RL.4.9)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Passages are organized in order of Lexile level difficulty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Bulldogs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Miss Hope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Cactus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dynamite Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Marshmallow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Coolest Kid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Nut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Legend of the Goop Monster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Big Birch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Jewelry Box</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Family Champ

Aito and Kimiko were playing ping pong in the basement. Their game was becoming very intense because they both wanted to win. Aito’s younger sister, Kimiko, was usually slow. In the past couple of weeks, however, she had started to keep an eye on the ball. Aito used to just hit it hard and fast to her, but she never could hit it back. When he did this, the game would end. However, now he couldn’t just whack the ball off the green table like usual because she could hit it back. Now he had competition.

Aito stuck out his tongue at her. He knew this made her really mad. He chuckled the ball up, and then gave it a nice whack. The small white ball shot across the green table. To Aito’s surprise, Kimiko was more than ready on her side. She stepped back and swung with full force at the white ball coming toward her. The ball shot back to Aito and hit him right in the face. He got mad.

“You’re gonna pay for that one,” he told her.

Kimiko huffed a deep breath. Her straight black hair was in her eyes now. She was starting to sweat a little bit from the game. “You’re just afraid ‘cause your little sister is about to beat you,” she said.

She was right. Aito was not ready for her to beat him. He thought that he was the best player in the family. He looked at Kimiko standing there with a big smile. She was starting to make him nervous and he didn’t like it.

She threw the ball up and hit it to Aito with all her might. She hit it too hard. It zoomed right past Aito’s head. He could hear the ‘whoosh’ as it crossed his right ear. The ball zipped off the table and onto the other side of the basement. It landed somewhere in the corner with all of the boxes full of their parent’s stuff.

He set his paddle down and went on the hunt. On that side of the basement, it looked like a cavern of cardboard boxes. Mom and Dad saved everything from when they were kids, so the boxes took up the other half of the basement. As Aito started his quest, he took out his cell phone and turned on his
1. Write three questions where the answer could be found in the text. Then find the answer to your question and color it.

1. __________________________
   Color the answer to your question [Yellow]

2. __________________________
   Color the answer to your question [Blue]

3. __________________________
   Color the answer to your question [Orange]

2. Does Aito take the game against his sister seriously? How do you know? Refer to the details found in the text in your response.

________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________

3. What can you infer about Aito’s personality? What can you infer about Kimiko’s personality? Refer to the details found in the text in your response.

   **Inference**
   
   What the text says + what you know in your life

   _______________________________________
   _______________________________________
   _______________________________________
   _______________________________________
1. What is the **theme** of this text? _______________________________________

2. Describe the **theme** of the text.
   ______________________________________
   ______________________________________
   ______________________________________

3. **Circle** a DETAIL OR SENTENCE that helps you identify the **theme**. Explain in your own words how this detail supports the **theme**.
   ______________________________________
   ______________________________________
   ______________________________________

4. Write a **summary** of this text.
   ______________________________________
   ______________________________________
   ______________________________________

5. **Setting close up**: Use details from the text to describe the setting in this story.
   ______________________________________
   ______________________________________
   ______________________________________
Aito and Kimiko were playing ping pong in the basement. Their game was becoming very intense because they both wanted to win. Aito’s younger sister, Kimiko, was usually slow. In the past couple of weeks, however, she had started to keep an eye on the ball. Aito used to just hit it hard and fast to her, but she never could hit it back. When he did this, the game would end. However, now he couldn’t just whack the ball off the green table like usual because she could hit it back. Now he had competition.

Aito stuck out his tongue at her. He knew this made her really mad. He chucked the ball up, and then gave it a nice whack. The small white ball shot across the green table. To Aito’s surprise, Kimiko was more than ready on her side. She stepped back and swung with full force at the white ball coming toward her. The ball shot back to Aito and hit him right in the face. He got mad.

“You’re gonna pay for that one,” he told her.

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She was right. Aito was not ready for her to beat him. He thought that he was the best player in the family. He looked at Kimiko standing there with a big smile. She was starting to make him nervous and he didn’t like it.

She threw the ball up and hit it to Aito with all her might. She hit it too hard. It zoomed right past Aito’s head. He could hear the ‘whoosh’ as it crossed his right ear. The ball zipped off the table and onto the other side of the basement. It landed somewhere in the corner with all of the boxes full of their parent’s stuff.

He set his paddle down and went on the hunt. On that side of the basement, it looked like a cavern of cardboard boxes. Mom and Dad saved everything from when they were kids, so the boxes took up the other half of the basement. As Aito started his quest, he took out his cell phone and turned on his
As he reached the back of the basement, he saw the water heater. It was tall, rusty, and the same color as the wall. It was also quiet. Aito looked around the floor by the heater. He saw a tiny dot of white when he put his light on the ground. He bent down to reach for it, when the heater suddenly turned on with a loud boom.

“Ahh!” he squealed. He bumped his head on the heater hard. His sister heard him screech all the way on the other side of the basement. It made her giggle.

He was angry at her. He almost left without the ball, but turned around, and reached for it. Instead of touching the ball, he felt a box. He took a better look and saw an old wooden box. It looked really old and fancy. There were Japanese characters etched on the sides of the wooden box. He got down on his knees and opened it.

Inside was a collection of old, black and white photos, and some trophies. There was also a heavy golden ping pong ball. When Aito looked at the photos, he saw a woman he recognized. She was receiving a trophy. She was standing on top of a trophy stand with men in the second and third place spots. He looked carefully at the background of the photo and saw the words “World Ping-Pong Championships”. He knew the face of the woman very well. “Grandma?” said Aito, surprised.

“What are you talking about?” said Kimiko.

Aito looked at the photo and realized he was not the best ping pong player in the family. He wondered if maybe he wasn’t even the second best player in the family anymore either.
1. Write three questions where the answer could be found in the text. Then find the answer to your question and color it.

1. ____________________________________________________________________________
   Color the answer to your question [Yellow]

2. ____________________________________________________________________________
   Color the answer to your question [Blue]

3. ____________________________________________________________________________
   Color the answer to your question [Orange]

2. Does Aito take the game against his sister seriously? How do you know? Refer to the details found in the text in your response.

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

3. What can you infer about Aito’s personality? What can you infer about Kimiko’s personality? Refer to the details found in the text in your response.

   
   \textbf{INFER} = \begin{align*}
   \text{What the text says} & \times \text{what you know in your life}
   \end{align*}

   __________________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________
4. What is the **THEME** of this text? ________________________________________________________________

5. Describe the **THEME** of the text.

______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________

6. **Circle** a DETAIL OR SENTENCE that helps you identify the THEME. Explain in your own words how this detail supports the THEME.

______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________

7. Write a **SUMMARY** of this text.

______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________

8. **SETTING CLOSE UP:** Use details from the text to describe the setting in this story.

______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
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TeachingAndTapas@gmail.com

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