

# Lexia's STAAR Redesign-Ready Resources



## Texas Writing Pack

### What is it?

The Texas writing packs include 20+ STAAR-like prompts across all writing modes. The pack also consists of student checklists, scoring rubrics, theme and TEKS-alignment, and related text selections.

### Benefit

- Writing prompts are connected to literature, preparing students for what they'll be exposed to on the extended-constructed response portion of the new STAAR exam.
- Prompts have a thematic connection, preparing students for cross-curricular STAAR content.

**WRITING PROMPT INVENTORY AND TEKS ALIGNMENT continued**

Prompt Type	Title	Primary Core5 Theme	Core5 Activity and Level	TEKS Standards
Argumentative Text	Technology	Technology: Helpful or Harmful?	Passage Comprehension 3 (L14)	TEKS 3.6(E) make connections to personal experiences, ideas in other texts, and society
	Class Pet	People and Animals: Conflict and Cooperation	Passage Comprehension 6 (L19)	TEKS 4.6(E) make connections to personal experiences, ideas in other texts, and society
	Homework	Compromise Through Communication	Text Connections 4 (L21)	TEKS 5.6(E) make connections to personal experiences, ideas in other texts, and society
				TEKS 3.13(C) compose argumentative texts, including opinion essays, using genre characteristics and craft TEKS 4.12(C) compose argumentative texts, including opinion essays, using genre characteristics and craft TEKS 5.12(C) compose argumentative texts, including opinion essays, using genre characteristics and craft

## Comprehension Passages

### What is it?

The programs include text selections that students are exposed to as they work through Lexia® Core5® Reading and PowerUp Literacy®. They are found digitally and in PDF format on the myLexia® resource hub.

### Benefit

- Text selections cover all STAAR genres.
- Text selections align to the rigor of STAAR.
- Selections are TEKS-aligned and support STAAR skills.

Level 8 | Activity 4  
Comprehension Passages

**CHOICE UP**

**THE CHOICE**  
A FOLKTALE RETOLD BY LEANDRE DEGRAND  
NARRATIVE



[1] In a panic, the villagers ran to Madam Sophia's hut. She saw their wild eyes and knew there was trouble. "You must help us," they cried when she came to the door. Madam Sophia listened calmly to their frightened voices.

[2] "The king has sent his soldiers here," said one villager.

[3] "The General is threatening to burn the whole village!" said another.

[4] Madam Sophia considered the situation carefully. She understood that this king, like many before, showed his power through fear and violence. "I will speak to the General," she said.

[5] The people sighed in relief. They were hopeful that Madam Sophia would be able to save them. She was as poor as the villagers themselves. She was not powerful. She had little physical strength left. In fact, she was as fragile as a dried flower. Yet this ancient, white-haired woman was known far and wide for her wisdom. She was often called Sophia the Wise.

[6] Arriving at the General's tent, Madam Sophia bowed her head respectfully to greet him. "So, you are Sophia the Wise," said the General. "I can see that you're not Sophia the Young and Strong," he added with a cruel laugh. "My soldiers are here to turn this village into smoking rubble. You cannot possibly think you will be able to stop us," the General sneered unpleasantly.

[7] "Fate will decide what will happen," replied Madam Sophia.

[8] The General's thick eyebrows rose, as an idea occurred to him. "Oh, yes," he said deviously. "Shall we let fate decide?" He took two slips of paper and scribbled something on each. After he folded each paper, he held out both to Madam Sophia. "Which paper will you choose? The one with the word Destroy, or the one with Save? Your choice will determine the fate of this village."

[9] Madam Sophia looked at both folded papers. She doubted that the General would be giving her a fair chance of saving the village. It was likely that both papers said Destroy. The villagers would be doomed no matter which choice she made. But quickly, she snatched one paper. Without looking at it, she popped it into her mouth and swallowed. It was gone.

[10] The surprised General cried, "Why did you do that?"

## Close-Read Library of Additional Text Selections

### What is it?

The myLexia Resource Hub provides additional, multigenre text selections with lessons designed to teach close-reading skills.

### Benefit

- Selections come with explicit lessons to support close-reading instruction.
- Close-read selections are followed by short-answer questions that can be used to help students practice for the short-constructed response portion of the STAAR Redesign.



## Content Area Connections

### What is it?

Core5 and PowerUp include resources that are cross-curricular in nature.

### Benefit

- Content Area Connections highlight academic vocabulary that is essential in multiple content areas, including words that students will likely encounter on the STAAR.
- Content Area Connections support students in navigating cross-curricular passages.

CONTENT AREA CONNECTIONS

**SOCIAL STUDIES—HISTORY CONNECTIONS:**  
POWERUP COMPREHENSION PASSAGES CONTINUED

Refer to the table below for suggested connections between the comprehension passages and core social studies/history ideas.

Comprehension Passages				Social Studies/History Connections	
Title	Page#	Genre	Lexia® Measure	Disciplinary Core Idea	Topic
Civil Responsibility	147	Informational	3000L	Global Connections	Give examples of conflict, cooperation, and interdependence among individuals, groups, and nations.
				Power, Authority, and Governance	Explore the relationships and tensions between personal wants and needs and various global concerns, such as use of imported oil, land use, and environmental protection.
				Individual, Groups, and Institutions	Identify and describe factors that contribute to cooperation and/or conflict within and among groups and nations.
Marvels of Construction	170	Informational	900L	People, Places, and Environments	Explore the role of technology in communication, transportation, information processing, weapons, development, or other areas as it contributes to or helps resolve conflicts.
				People, Places, and Environments	Show how groups and institutions work to meet individual needs and promote the common good, and identify examples of where they fail to do so.
				People, Places, and Environments	Describe how people create places that reflect ideas, personality, culture, and wants and needs as they design homes, playgrounds, classrooms, and the like.
					Examine the interplay of human beings and their physical environment, the use of land, building of cities, and ecosystem changes in selected locales and regions.



## Lexia Lessons and Skill Builders

### What is it?

Lexia Lessons® are provided when students are struggling and need additional support with specific skills.

Skill Builders are activities that are provided for reinforcement.

### Benefit

- Lexia Lessons are explicit and TEKS-aligned.
- Lessons can be used for daily small-group instruction.
- Skill Builders provide TEKS-based activities that can be used for reinforcement, stations, or homework.

**CORES Lexia Lessons®** Comprehension Compare and Contrast, Lesson 3

**Description**  
This lesson is designed to help students compare and contrast story elements or information within a passage. As they engage in lesson activities, students gain familiarity with words and structures that signal comparisons and contrasts (e.g., **same** signaling a comparison and **different** signaling a contrast) within both informational and narrative text.

**TEACHER TIPS**  
The sections of this lesson focus on informational text. To focus on narrative text, refer to the lesson variation section and use any narrative stories familiar to your students.  
If five or fewer students are in your instructional group, have them work as one team for the Independent Application section of this lesson. For instructional groups with more than five students, break students up into pairs or small teams.  
During discussions, remind students to listen to others, take turns, and speak in complete sentences. Some students may benefit from targeted oral language support to better understand and apply this concept. See the Adaptations section for suggestions.

**PREPARATION/MATERIALS**

- 1 blue marker and 1 red marker
- Copies of the informational text passages at the end of the lesson (for display and for students)
- Copies of the Venn diagram at the end of the lesson (for display and for students)

**Direct Instruction**

Today we are going to learn how to **compare and contrast** the information we find when we read. When we compare and contrast two things, we figure out how they are alike and different.

Hold up the red and the blue markers.

First, I'll compare these two things, which means I'll figure out how they are alike. They are both markers. I can write or draw with both of them.

Use the red marker to write **compare = alike, same**. Read this phrase aloud with students.

When we contrast two things, we show how they are different. Now, I'll contrast these two markers. Hold up the red marker and then the blue one.

## Paired Selections

### What is it?

The online program, along with Lexia's additional resources, provides students with multiple opportunities to compare and contrast texts using paired passages.

### Benefit

- Paired selections will continue to be included in the STAAR Redesign, potentially as early as third grade. Lexia's programs give students the ability to work through paired texts. Learners will deeply understand how to compare and contrast, which is a skill that will continue to be assessed on the STAAR.
- The extended-constructed response on the STAAR Redesign now requires students to respond to literature, and many times they'll have to respond to paired selections. Lexia's paired texts are helpful in teaching students how to analyze and evaluate when given multiple sources.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Comprehension Level 14: Analyze & Evaluate 1

**TEXT CONNECTION**

A. Compare and contrast the two texts by using the phrases in the box to complete the chart. Some phrases may be used more than once. Review each of the texts and annotations on pages 1 and 3 as you work.

informational structure   amusing tone   mistakes can be harmful   inventions can start as mistakes   narrative structure   alarming tone

	<b>Hatchet</b> by Gary Paulsen	<b>Awesome Accidents</b> by Marcia Nelson
Text Structure	_____	_____
Theme/Main Idea	_____	_____
Author's Craft - Tone	_____	_____

B. To compare and contrast the two texts, complete the summary below by filling in each blank with a word from the box.



## Grammar Supports

### What is it?

Grammar supports are woven throughout the Core5 and PowerUp digital programs, and teacher-led grammar instruction is included in Lexia Lessons and Skill Builders.

### Benefit

- Supports provide students with multiple opportunities to practice grammar concepts along with fundamental revising and editing skills.
- Lexia offers a multitude of lessons and resources around grammar, which will be beneficial because revising and editing will now be a part of the STAAR Redesign at all grade levels.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Level: A

K. Edit the following paragraphs for capitalization and punctuation (remember comma rules). The second paragraph contains run-on sentences that need to be repaired. Write "R.O." in the margin and suggest how to repair the errors.

**Paragraph 1**

have you ever entered a greenhouse on a cool, sunny day, anyone who has ever been inside a greenhouse knows how warm it can get despite the cooler temperatures outdoors. Interestingly Greenhouses trap the energy from the sun and keep the plants flowers and other living things inside warm throughout the day and night. In the same way gases like carbon dioxide from Earth's atmosphere work like a greenhouse roof by keeping the energy from the sun close to the earth's surface. At night Earth cools down and the heat is released back into space.

**Paragraph 2**

when carbon dioxide increases in the atmosphere temperatures on Earth's surface also increase which seems fine at first glance but a more careful look shows that slightly higher temperatures over time can have dramatic effects on the planet. Fortunately the ocean is an excellent absorber of excess carbon dioxide. However there is a downside to the ocean cleaning up the air it turns the water more acidic. Delicate sea life such as coral clams and plankton cannot tolerate high acidity. Scientists are currently studying the risks of acidity on marine life survival and reproduction.

Write a one sentence summary of paragraph 1.

Write a conclusion/fincher sentence for paragraph 2 that expresses your opinion.

## myLexia Data

### What is it?

myLexia data is updated regularly, allowing teachers to view performance, track progress, and run reports at the district, campus, classroom, and student levels.

### Benefit

- Performance predictors explain the likelihood of students to approach, meet, or master grade-level expectations on their STAAR exam.
- Skills reporting shows data for every student based on which TEKS they are mastering or struggling with. These reports allow teachers to build small groups based on instructional priorities and understand what skills to cover for reteach and enrichment.

