

# CLOSING THE READING GAP

## THE ARDUOUS EIGHT

Text length.  
e.g. longer texts including a  
broad range of information

[8]

[1] Background knowledge – the sheer range  
of necessary knowledge and related ideas  
in a given passage or whole text.

The scaffolds present, or  
absent, in a given text  
e.g. key word glossary.

[7]



[2] Range and complexity  
of vocabulary  
(including word length).

The generic elements of  
the text e.g. a biographical  
account in history.

[6]

Text difficulty can be  
mediated by...

[3] Use of abstract  
imagery and  
metaphorical language.

Narrative or  
whole-text structures.

[5]

[4] Sentence length  
and syntax.