Shiloh Text Complexity

QUALITATIVE MEASURES	QUANTITATIVE MEASURES
Levels of Meaning The text offers multiple levels of meaning and nuances of abstract concepts related to right and wrong. The author's purpose is implicitly stated with themes highlighting a variety of perspectives on a complex issue.	The Lexile level for *Shiloh* is 890 based on word frequency and sentence length. This is in the mid range of the complexity band for 4th–5th grade according to the Common Core State Standards.

Structure
Overall, the narrative uses a fairly simple, explicit, and conventional story structure.

Language Conventionality and Clarity
Phyllis Reynolds Naylor uses language that is fairly literal and clear. Challenges emerge through use of dialect and an unconventional use of grammar in dialogue.

Knowledge Demands
This text provides access to several complex and sophisticated themes. The characters look at issues of right and wrong from a variety of perspectives, causing the reader to challenge his or her own perspective. General background knowledge about animal cruelty related to hitting, chaining, and starving animals as well as out-of-season hunting is needed to relate to the text. Also, general background knowledge about how people define their moral codes, specifically through the Bible and the law, is needed.

READER TASK CONSIDERATIONS

These should be determined locally with reference to motivation, knowledge, and experiences as well as to purpose and the complexity of the tasks assigned and the questions posed.