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# Texts And Lessons For Content-Area Reading: With More Than 75 Articles From The New York Times, Rolling Stone, The Washington Post, Car And Driver, Chicago Tribune, And Many Others





## Synopsis

"To have any hope of kids investing fully in the subject matter, we have to start by evoking their curiosity and get them interested in the topic. Engaging the students can't wait. If we wait for the fun stuff that might pop up later, the kids will have already jumped ship." -Harvey "Smokey" Daniels and Nancy Steineke

Today we're all expected to be "teachers of reading"-no matter what our subject area. With *Texts and Lessons for Content-Area Reading*, Harvey "Smokey" Daniels and Nancy Steineke support content-area and language-arts teachers alike by pairing more than 75 short, kid-tested reproducible nonfiction texts with 33 simple, ready-to-go lessons that deepen comprehension and support effective collaboration. In the same teacher-friendly, classroom-wise voices that made *Subjects Matter* and *Content-Area Writing* bestsellers, Daniels and Steineke prove that with the right materials and the right lessons, you can turn your kids into much better readers in your subject field by showing: how proficient readers think how skillful collaborators act how to use quick and engaging activities that add to, not steal from subject-matter learning. Each real-world text was chosen for its subject-area relevance, its interest to teens, and for its "wow factor"-the texts most likely to engage kids in discussion and debate. Step-by-step lessons accompany each text, including: 23 Strategy Lessons that focus closely on at least one key comprehension strategy or collaboration skill that proficient learners use, and address the Common Core Standards for ELA 10 Text Set Lessons that directly align to commonly taught curricular topics and offer a deeper, longer engagement in the subjects and strategies at hand. Watch what happens when you give your kids a combination of interesting texts, instruction in smart-reader strategies, and an explicit understanding of good discussion skills. Meeting the standards has never been so much fun. Better Together! Used together, *Texts and Lessons for Teaching Literature* and *Texts and Lessons for Content-Area Reading* give you all the lesson ideas you need for all text types. Save 15% when you buy them together in a *Texts and Lessons Bundle*.

## Book Information

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Age Range: 11 - 17 years

Grade Level: 6 - 12

## Customer Reviews

There is a major push to focus on more nonfiction/informational articles in the language arts classroom. I am currently teaching 6,7, and 8th grade language arts. The hardest part about using nonfiction/informational articles is finding them. These guys have done all of the hard work for you and collected 75 different high interest nonfiction stories. I have already used one with my 7th and 8th graders, the Chicogo Tribune article about no homework in junior high. My 8th graders couldn't believe that this was a real article, I guess they thought it was a trick ; Anyway, the activity was easy to use, super quick prep, and sparked lots of interesting discussions. This is definitely staying on my desk and I know I am going to get a lot of use out of it. The authors give you lesson ideas and discussion starters, but honestly the best part of the book is that you can find a plenty of appropriate and high interst articles in one place!

This book is exactly what I have been looking for. I gave it 4 stars because I would have appreciated if it had told me the age groups that the book was written for. I will use the lessons, but I am going to have to find articles that are appropriate for elementary. I would encourage authors to write a book for grades 3-5. Besides, finding the articles is what I was paying for. It's the part that is most time consuming!

I really am glad that I bought this book. It came up as a suggested book and it intrigued me. I am skeptical about using reviews for educational books because so many of them are written by friends of the authors and these people have a vested interest to give the book five stars.I do not know the authors and have no vested interest! Trust me...this book is worth the money.With the implementation of the Common Core Standards coming, this book is very timely. First, all of the articles used in the books are of high interest to young people (I would say that this is appropriate for grades 7 - 12--and can even be modified to use with ELL's!)The book is really about using

various strategies to teach reading and each of the strategies is modeled with these articles--thus, you have examples with specific activities, steps and even tips and variations. This is a real hands on book and I am sure that I will be using most, if not all, of these strategies in the 2012-2013 school year. I want to take a quote from the author from the back of the book which summarizes the book. "Engaging students can't wait. If we wait for the fun stuff that might pop up later, the kids will have already jumped ship." This philosophy underlies all the strategies and activities in the book. As literacy becomes the standard in all classrooms, this book is invaluable. The 23 strategies are broken down in a way that even someone unfamiliar with teaching reading could implement them easily. In short, if I were to ask for a book that would help me improve my practice, this would be it. I am delighted that I took the risk and purchased it. I highly recommend this book. It's great. I will also be purchasing other books by the authors as they seem to address similar topics.

I have been using this book with 9th and 10th grade to practice comprehension strategies and they are ENGAGED! Once they get started talking about these articles, it's hard to get them to move on to the next class--the authors of the book have chosen highly engaging pieces to work with. The strategies are really helpful and my students can see how to apply them across their academic experience. I am a big fan of all of these authors' works, but this one is by far the winner!

Finally a way to teach the strategies in content areas and not have to spend hours looking for articles for students to read. I have been teaching reading strategies for several years now, but I always struggled to find the right article to go with the strategy being taught. NO LONGER! This book has a lesson and an article ready for you. The articles are engaging and the lessons are on target. I can't thank these authors enough for putting this book together for me and my students.

I was hoping to get a book with texts and questions, but this book doesn't have questions based on the articles. Admittedly, the articles are all great and will be of interest to students and teachers alike, but I needed questions and answers based on the texts. If you're looking for comprehension passages with questions, then this book isn't for you. However, if you're just looking for interesting articles on which you can formulate your own questions, then this book is worth it.

We teachers have been hit with a whole new approach to a no-longer-traditional task. Differentiated instruction? RTII? Analyzing student data and identifying trends and weaknesses? And, by the way, emphasize nonfiction reading skills and strategies, please. Harvey Daniels' latest book is a solid

resource for the many layers of a language arts lesson plan. The strategies are easy to use, well spelled out, and include the a sample text to get you started. I immediately tested a group activity on annotating a text where students examine a news article that has been attached to a larger piece of white paper, answering questions and marking their observations and reactions in the margin in different colored pencils (to identify the group members), and connecting their answers with circles, arrows, underlines, etc., to mark the portions of the text that are relevant to the question. It worked beautifully. Group discussions were on task, with thoughtful debate and active searches for clues. The strategy in practice evolved several times until the students were developing their own questions to share with others, and beefing up their ability to talk to a nonfiction text. At the back of the book, there are many sets of related articles. Some are connected by topic, but differ in format and also level of difficulty, which make them perfect for designing differentiated lesson plans. The topics of the stories are a direct hit with my 8th graders. I love this book so much that I showed it to my language arts colleagues, who made a request of our principal for additional copies to share around the building. It was not difficult to convince her.

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