

# How the Readability Tool Works

Our readability tool analyzes any passage of text — whether from a classic novel, student writing, or curriculum material — and provides a breakdown of how accessible it is for readers who may struggle with decoding or comprehension.

#### **Step 1: Text Analysis**

The tool scans the passage and calculates key metrics, including:

- Sentence Length average number of words per sentence
- Word Complexity based on syllables and length
- Vocabulary Rarity identifies abstract or uncommon words
- Passive Voice flags sentences with unclear subjects or indirect phrasing
- Sensory Language tracks how often the text engages the senses

### Step 2: Scoring

Each passage receives a Dyslexia-Friendly Score (0–100), with higher scores indicating better accessibility. This score is based on research-backed indicators and adjusted to better reflect the experience of real readers — not just formulas.

## **Step 3: Visual Feedback**

The tool creates chapter-level or passage-level heat maps and summary tables. These help identify which sections may be particularly easy or difficult for struggling readers.

#### **Built for Real-World Use**

You can use the tool to:

- Compare different versions of a text
- Assess student writing
- Pre-screen assigned readings for accessibility
- Pinpoint sections of a book that might benefit from scaffolding or guided reading