

Hanukkah

differentiated story



ABOUT LEXILE LEVELS



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The Lexile Framework® for Reading measures are scientific, quantitative text levels. When the Lexile of a text is measured, specific, measurable attributes of the text are considered, including, but not limited to, word frequency, sentence length, and text cohesion. These are difficult attributes for humans to evaluate, so a computer measures them.

Common Core State Standards uses Lexile level bands as one measure of text complexity. Text complexity ranges ensure students are college and career ready by the end of 12th grade. Lexile measures help educators scaffold and differentiate instruction as well as monitor reading growth.

Grade Band	Lexile® Bands Aligned to Common Core Expectations
K-1	190L-530L
2-3	420L-820L
4-5	740L-1010L
6-8	1185L-1385L

Keep in mind when using any leveled text that many students will need scaffolding and support to reach text at the high end of their grade band. According to Appendix A of the Common Core Standards, "It is important to recognize that scaffolding often is entirely appropriate. The expectation that scaffolding will occur with particularly challenging texts is built into the Standards' grade-by-grade text complexity expectations, for example. The general movement, however, should be toward decreasing scaffolding and increasing independence both within and across the text complexity bands defined in the Standards."



Asher's Dreidel

Asher crossed off another day on his calendar. He counted: one, two, three, four, five, six, seven... Hanukkah was almost over. Tonight would be special. Asher spent lots of time with his family during Hanukkah. Asher was very happy.

Some of his friends also celebrated Hanukkah. Some didn't. They all liked to hear what his gift was the night before. He was proud to share. He was



given a small gift each night. One gift was chocolate coins in gold foil. Gelt was one of his favorite parts of the holiday. Asher loved to light the menorah with his family.

They sang songs. They enjoyed the lights. Hanukkah was a special time for his family. It was a special time for the people in his Jewish community. He liked seeing them during the Festival of Lights.

They ate potato pancakes called latkes. They ate donuts filled with jam. Asher and his sister played a game using a dreidel. A dreidel is a spinning top. It has a letter on each side. Each letter means something different. Asher loved to play it. He didn't mind losing to his sister sometimes. They always sat in the same spot to play. Spinning the special top was the best part of the holiday. His mom took a picture of them playing.



She had a book for these pictures. Asher and his sister loved to look at the pictures. His sister pointed to an empty page. She smiled. She said, "we have to write down that I won almost every game."

Asher laughed and agreed. "You're right. Next year I will be better!"

Hanukkah is now over. Asher is already excited to celebrate next year!

Asher's Dreidel

Asher crossed off another day on his calendar. He counted: one, two, three, four, five, six, seven... Hanukkah was almost over. Tonight would be special. His family spent a lot of time together over the past week. That had made him very happy.

Some of his friends at school also celebrated Hanukkah. Some didn't. They all liked to hear what his gift was the night before. Asher was proud to share.

Asher received a small gift each night during the past seven days. One gift was chocolate coins wrapped in gold foil. Gelt was one of his favorite parts of the holiday. Asher and his sister loved to light the menorah with their parents each night.

They sang songs and enjoyed the beautiful lights. Hanukkah was a special time for his family and the people in his Jewish community. He enjoyed seeing them during the Festival of Lights.

They ate potato pancakes called latkes and donuts filled with jam. He and his sister played their favorite game using a spinning top called a dreidel. The dreidel has a letter on each side. Each one means something different, and he loved to play it so much, that he didn't even mind losing to her sometimes. They had sat in the same exact spot in their living room every single year for as long as he could remember. Spinning that special top had become the best part of the holiday, and his mom was sure to capture a picture of the two of them playing each year.

She placed them in a special photo album and the two siblings loved to look back at the memories of their game. His sister pointed to the next page, still empty, and grinned. "This year, we'll have to write down that I won almost every single game," she said.

Laughing, he nodded. "You're right but watch out next year. I'll be older and better."

As the last night of Hanukkah came to an end, he found himself already looking forward to next year.



Asher's Dreidel

Asher marked another box on his calendar. He counted: one, two, three, four, five, six, seven... The celebration of Hanukkah was almost over, and tonight would be very special. His family had spent a lot of time together over the past week and that had made him very happy.

Some of his friends at school also celebrated Hanukkah. Some didn't, but they all liked learning about what his gift had been the night before. He always shared proudly. He had received a small gift each night during the past seven days, including chocolate coins wrapped in gold foil. Gelt was one of his favorite parts of the holiday. He and his sister had waited anxiously each night to light the menorah with their parents.

They sang songs and enjoyed the beautiful lights. Hanukkah was a special time for his family and the people in his Jewish community. He enjoyed seeing them during the Festival of Lights.

They ate potato pancakes called latkes and delicious donuts filled with jam. He and his sister played their favorite game using a spinning top known as a dreidel. The dreidel has a letter on each side. Each one means something different, and he loved to play it so much, that he didn't even mind losing to her sometimes. They had sat in the same exact spot in their living room every single year for as long as he could remember. Spinning that special top had become the best part of the holiday, and his mom was sure to capture a picture of the two of them playing each year.

She placed them in a special photo album and the two siblings loved to look back at the memories of their game.

His sister pointed to the next page, still empty, and grinned, "This year, we'll have to write down that I won almost every single game."

Laughing, he nodded. "You're right, but next year, I'll make a comeback."

As the last night of Hanukkah came to an end, he found himself already looking forward to next year.

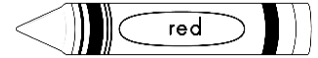


Questions

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.

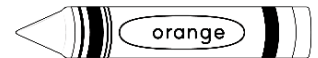
1. What is a latke?

- a. Popcorn
- b. Potato pancake
- c. Licorice
- d. A toy



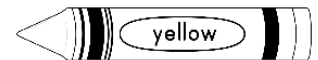
2. What is a part of Hanukkah? (Choose all that apply.)

- a. Christmas Tree
- b. Menorah
- c. Festival of Lights
- d. Card games

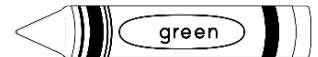


3. What is a dreidel? (Choose all that apply.)

- a. Candle
- b. Spinning top
- c. Special candy
- d. Part of a game



4. What are popular foods to eat during Hanukkah? Use text evidence to support your answer.



5. Draw a picture of a Hanukkah tradition that was described in the passage.

A large, empty rectangular box with rounded corners, intended for drawing a picture of a Hanukkah tradition.

[illegible]

Being the Helper Candle

Hanukkah is 8 days long. The menorah has 8 candles to represent these 8 days. The menorah has one extra candle that is known as the “helper candle” because it is used to light the other candles. What are 9 things you can do to help those around you? Write each good deed in a candle on the menorah.



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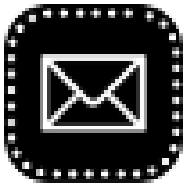
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