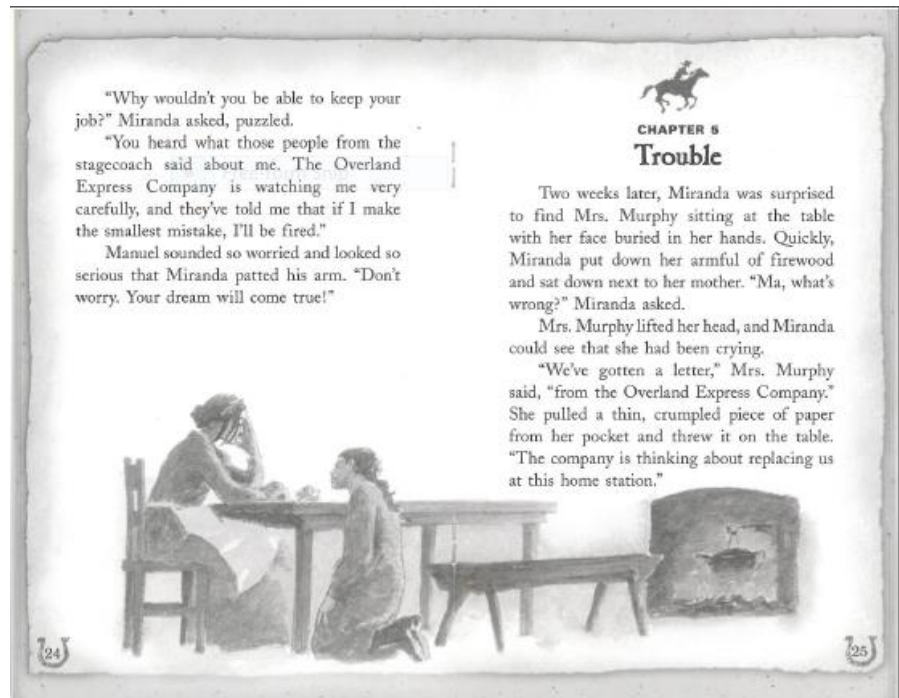


# Characteristics of Texts and Independent Reading Behaviors for the Beginning of 5th Grade

## Text Characteristics:

- Sophisticated vocabulary
- Some of the longer chapter books at this level require sustained reading effort over multiple sittings
- Books represent a range of times in history
- Wider variety of texts
- Literary devices such as simile and metaphor require background knowledge
- Technical aspects of non-fiction text require background knowledge



Fiction Text

## Readers at this stage:

- Begin to understand figurative language
- Understand and discuss more complex characters
- Understand more complex themes and main ideas
- Use context to understand complex vocabulary
- Do a majority of their reading silently
- Connect concepts and themes to political and historical events and environmental information
- Use and understand connotative meanings of sophisticated vocabulary words

**Chapter 7**  
**The Tallest of the Tall**

Do you want your skyscraper to be known around the world as one of the tallest structures ever built? For as long as people have been constructing buildings, they have been competing to create the tallest skyscraper in the world. Among architects and engineers, this is an exciting competition, and cities are proud to have the tallest skyscrapers in the world highlighting their skylines. However, this competition involves some disagreement about who the true winner really is.

While many of these buildings are considered skyscrapers, only a few are among the tallest buildings in the world. Many architects and engineers work very hard to build structures that are the tallest.

**Graph It!**

In the United States, height is usually measured in feet. In many other parts of the world, however, height is measured in meters. One meter is a little longer than three feet. You can compare the heights of some of the world's tallest buildings by creating a table.

Building	Height in feet	Height in meters
Taipei 101, Taipei, Taiwan	1670	509
Petronas Towers, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	1483	452
Sears Tower, Chicago, IL, U.S.A.	1450	442

When you want to compare two groups of data in similar categories, such as height in feet and meters, you can use a **double-bar graph**. The data becomes the bars on your graph; you can compare the information side by side.

**Tallest Buildings in Three Cities**

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Non-fiction Text