

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS¹ REVIEW TEMPLATE^{2,3}

Title/Author _____ Grade/Audience _____

	None	Mild	Moderate	High	Type / Comments
Strong Language					
Violent Content					
Sexual Content					

Strong Language: An expletive is defined as an exclamation or oath, especially one that is profane, vulgar, or obscene.⁴

None: No use of expletives

Mild: Few uses of less intense expletives

Moderate: Several uses of less intense expletives or a few uses of intense expletives

High: Expletives are used often.

Violent Content: Violence is defined as the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, which either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment, or deprivation.⁵

None: No use of violence

Mild: Few uses of less intense violence

Moderate: Several uses of less intense violence or few uses of intensive violence

High: Violence is used often

Sexual Content: Sexual content is defined as depictions or descriptions of: (a) sexual references; (b) full or partial nudity, including depictions of uncovered female breasts, aroused or unaroused male or female genitalia, and unrealistic or overly detailed genitalia; (c) bestiality; (d) sexual acts to or with minors (anyone under the age of 18); (e) sexual acts including, but not limited to, penetration/intercourse, and/or oral sex with or without another avatar or any other object, including overt sexual toys and/or sexual aids; or (f) sexual behavior that has a violent context.⁶

None: No use of sexual content

Mild: Few uses of sexual content

Moderate: Several uses of sexual content

High: Sexual content is used often

¹ "Instructional Materials" may include, but are not limited to books assigned as required reading during the academic year or summer, periodicals, research articles, and other required non-textbook reading material.

² This instructional materials review template is presented as a permissive tool for use by local education agencies and is designed to increase communication between school districts, schools, teachers, parents and the community. The reviews are based upon the viewpoint of the reviewer(s) and do not reflect the views of the State Board of Education or the State of Tennessee. Local education agencies have permission to make additions, deletions, or modifications to this template.

³ This review template is not intended for review of voluntary reading material or for non-required materials in school media centers or public libraries. It is not intended for use by local education agencies or others as a mechanism for eliminating instructional materials or other reading materials.

⁴ The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition, 2000, Houghton Mifflin Company

⁵ Krug et al., "World report on violence and health", World Health Organization, 2002

⁶ Federal Trade Commission