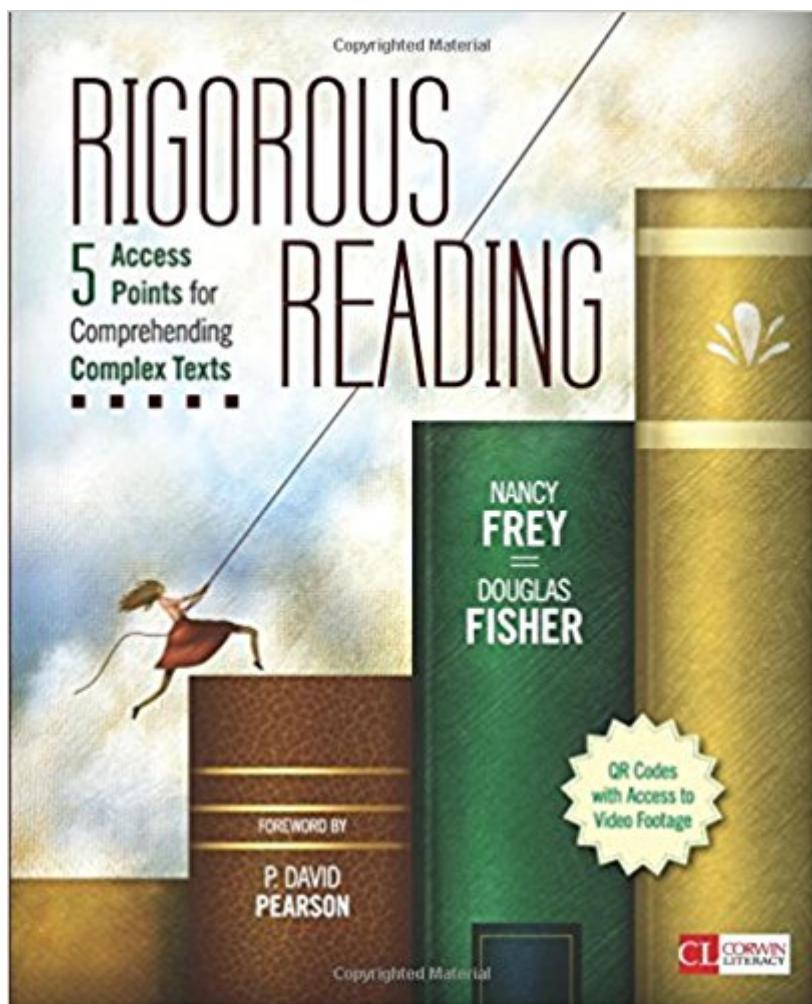


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# Rigorous Reading: 5 Access Points For Comprehending Complex Texts (Corwin Literacy)



## **Synopsis**

What it really means to "read closely" Call it close reading, call it deep reading, call it analytic readingâ •call it what you like. The point is, itâ ™s a level of understanding that students of any age can achieve with the right kind of instruction. In Rigorous Reading, Nancy Frey and Doug Fisher articulate an instructional plan so clearly, and so squarely built on research, that teachers, schools, and districts need look no further: Purpose & Modeling Close & Scaffolded Reading Instruction Collaborative Conversations An Independent Reading Staircase Performance

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"One would think that the first place to look when wanting information about the Common Core State Standards would be, well, the Common Core State Standards. The fact is, though, Doug Fisher and Nancy Frey are quickly becoming the go-to folks for information on teaching these standards. They've proven this again in Rigorous Reading. This is certainly a book to be added to your collection of books that attend to the demands of the CCSS." --Kylene Beers, Ed.D."With Rigorous Reading Doug Fisher and Nancy Frey have provided literacy educators who are committed to successfully raising the bar with solutions that make sense. The book is masterfully developed with an extensive reach across many grade levels in terms of defining what it means to provide intentional instruction and teaching text complexity. The five access points are discussed

pragmatically with evidence of a solid research base deftly woven throughout the book. This is the most practical book I have come across in terms of providing teachers with the knowledge base and assistance many are seeking to improve their instruction with regard to complex texts."--Steven L. Layne, Ed.D., Professor of Literacy Education" In Rigorous Reading: 5 Access Points for Helping Students Comprehend Complex Texts, Fisher and Frey help teachers understand how to bring vigor to rigor. They teach us how to help students understand more from their complex texts -- greater understanding that will help to bring life and energy to each student's reading. Rooted in solid research, this book is a must-read for those grappling with how to translate the recommendations and mandates around text complexity from the Common Core into instructional practices." --Jennifer Serravallo author of Teaching Reading in Small Groups and Conferring with Readers" In a time when nearly every state has adopted the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), we need resources that show us how to support students in developing their full literacy potential. In this very practical and insightful book, Fisher and Frey examine how CCSS conceptions of text complexity are causing us to shift some of our ideas about reading instruction. Rigorous Reading is an important resource that will help teachers align reading instruction with the CCSS in powerful ways."--Linda B. Gambrell, Professor" This is a bold book. . . . Its genius, and its unique contribution, is in bringing the balance and the centeredness to this new game in town--the Common Core."--P. David Pearson, Professor of the Graduate School of Education" One would think that the first place to look when wanting information about the Common Core State Standards would be, well, the Common Core State Standards. The fact is, though, Doug Fisher and Nancy Frey are quickly becoming the go-to folks for information on teaching these standards. They've proven this again in Rigorous Reading. This is certainly a book to be added to your collection of books that attend to the demands of the CCSS." --Kylene Beers, Ed.D." With Rigorous Reading Doug Fisher and Nancy Frey have provided literacy educators who are committed to successfully raising the bar with solutions that make sense. The book is masterfully developed with an extensive reach across many grade levels in terms of defining what it means to provide intentional instruction and teaching text complexity. The five access points are discussed pragmatically with evidence of a solid research base deftly woven throughout the book. This is the most practical book I have come across in terms of providing teachers with the knowledge base and assistance many are seeking to improve their instruction with regard to complex texts."--Steven L. Layne, Ed.D., Professor of Literacy Education" In Rigorous Reading: 5 Access Points for Helping Students Comprehend Complex Texts, Fisher and Frey help teachers understand how to bring vigor to rigor. They teach us how to help students understand more from their complex texts -- greater understanding that will help to bring

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Frey and Fisher have provided a must-read addition to any teacher or district coordinator's library who is or will be implementing the CCSS. This very readable and practical book walks teachers through the cornerstones of close reading, complex texts, collaborative conversations, and scaffolding reading instruction to achieve a more thoughtful and analytic approach to the reading of literature and informational texts. What makes this book stand out is the support for professional development--summary charts, videos, and a professional learning guide in the back that can be used by principals or grade-level team leaders to introduce, practice, and refine the concepts and strategies in each section of the book. The learning guide contains video links and powerpoint slides to make the prep work easy for administrators. I highly recommend this book for all teachers, principals, and district reading coordinators. Thank you Frey and Fisher for another great addition to the field!

When my copy of Frey and Fisher's Rigorous Reading was delivered to my doorstep, I couldn't wait to dig in to the content. In fact, I was looking forward to a "rigorous read" of this latest book from two of my favorite authors. It did not disappoint. My copy is already tattered and loaded with sticky notes and notations I plan to refer back to and share. Rigorous Reading explains the "why" close reading is important while maintaining a practical, useful, and realistic stance. Rigorous Reading has enough practical information to satisfy the individual classroom teacher looking for fresh ideas, enough depth and breadth to be useful for teachers of all content areas, and a set of professional development modules which will assist reading leaders of all kinds in guiding teams, departments, and school districts toward strong reading growth in all students. Educators are currently facing a new set of standards and expectations for students of all levels. The phrase 'close reading' is a term currently heard tossed about in instructional circles nationwide, but it can bring with it confusion and misunderstanding. No longer can the teaching of analytical reading skills wait until the upper grades or high level English courses. As the authors point out, 'close reading' should not be a concept exclusively taught by English teachers, nor is this deep and analytical reading merely about personal, emotional responses to the text. Complex texts abound across all curriculum areas. "If students are going to access complex texts, they must be given the time to read and reread, to respond to questions that encourage them to return to the text and to discuss their ideas in the company of others" (p 15). Frey and Fisher successfully provide access points to assist teachers of all levels in modeling, teaching, scaffolding, and assessing of close reading.

Practical. Powerful. Professional. Dr. Frey and Dr. Fisher come together once again and produce, what I believe, to be their most practical, powerful, professional development "manual" yet. It is centered around the need to increase literacy skills through the Gradual Release of Responsibility, student centered literacy instruction and student data discussions; knowing what the students will need to successfully navigate complex text. The content is well-timed and vital to literacy success in our schools. The imbedded QR codes make the text come to life and provide exemplar models for the reader. A hidden gem is in the back of the book which provides the much needed scaffolding for improved in-house professional development. The modeling of strong instructional literacy practices alongside the language of the CCSS is highly important and very timely. I wish I had this text 2 years ago! The power of teacher proficiency, increased student thinking and deep connection to complex text is embodied in this newest publication. It is a MUST have and a must read for literacy administrators, literacy coaches and curriculum and instruction personnel. I believe you will want to share it with your colleagues, I know I will!

Does not do the job I want. Kids are reluctant readers because of technology and easy access to a constant stream of entertainment. This book has a few ideas for rigorous reading, but nothing I haven't read about before.

I love this book! The straight forward easy to comprehend information along with the video vignettes makes this a powerful resource! As a college professor that teaches reading courses to future teachers, I'm highly recommending this book to my students. My daughter is on her way to becoming a teacher and this is one of her Christmas gifts this year. Also, I work for a virtual school that is rolling out Common Core. I'm eagerly pursuing this as a school-wide "book talk" which I know will be attended by many teachers who refer to Dr. Douglas Fisher and Nancy Frey for latest greatest expertise in this dynamic shift occurring in education.

This book provides a clear process for content area teachers to integrate literacy-based reading instruction into their content area classrooms using the gradual release of responsibility model. This book will continue to be a useful tool for me as the instructional leader in our school and for our teachers who are at the center of building stronger literacy skills in our students that get them ready for any college or career path they might choose. It's a great focus on text complexity, close reading and student-centered activity.

This has helped me get a handle on exactly what it means to be a "Common Core" teacher. It answers many questions that, despite all the exhausting professional development days, I still needed answered and a firm grasp of understanding what changes I need to make in my lesson planning for next year.

Great information. I led several staff members through this book in a book study after school. We all learned a lot, and the videos included enhanced our understanding. However, it is pretty complex and was not as easy to read as many other books that we've tried.

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