CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING GRAPHIC NOVELS

Text

- Writing style appropriate for intended audience in terms of reading level, word choice, sentence or non-traditional text structure, clarity, length, and interpretation
- Use of traditional elements such as plot, setting, and characters is evident and skillful
- Subject matter, concepts, and vocabulary relevant to students' ages, developmental levels, and abilities
- Error-free and current information where required
- Content compatible with the reader's intellectual maturity
- Formatting (page layout, print size) reflects targeted students
- Effective use of sections or chapter divisions
- Narrative true to selected genre such as fantasy, short story and "coming of age"
- Relevant to North Carolina's K-12 curriculum

Art

Cover:

- Attractive
- Clearly indicates topic/theme of book
- Appropriate for targeted audience

Interior Art:

- Art and text are interdependent and aesthetically pleasing
- Appropriate and relevant to graphic format and content
- Use of a variety and appropriate symbolic art, such as text bubbles and graphical representations of sound effects and emotions
- Adequate in size and legibility
- Effective use of color and shading
- Skillful use of sequential art, such as panels and gutters for transitions

Technical Qualities:

- Appropriate paper size and quality
- Effective page layout
- Durability of binding

Potential Instructional Uses

- Supplemental or to support lessons
- Whole-class, cooperative group, or independent study
- Gifted and talented

- Remedial
- Introduction or review
- Enrichment
- Leisure reading
- At-risk
- Reluctant readers
- ESL

Reasonable price in comparison to similar books.