

Wind Power

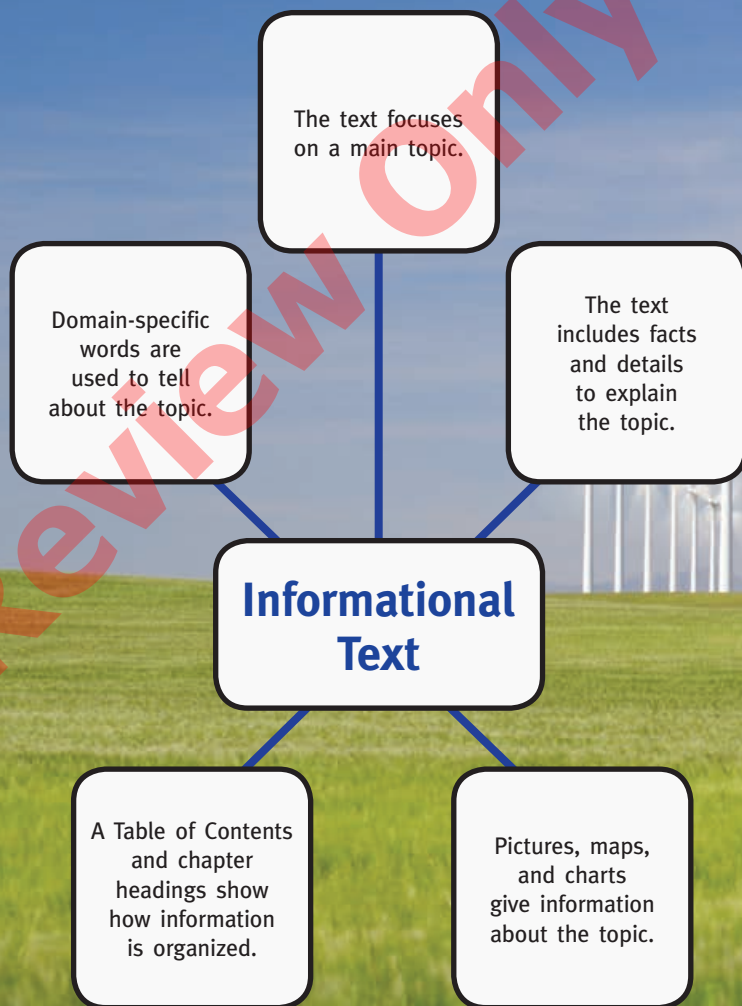


Level **L/24**

Lexile® **590L**

Informational Text

Look for the genre features noted below as you read this book. Use the features to help you understand the text.



© Benchmark Education Company, LLC. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording, or any information storage or retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher. Printed in Guangzhou, China. XXXX-XX-XXXX

LEXILE® is a trademark of MetaMetrics, Inc., and is registered in the United States and abroad.

E-books and additional digital resources available at benchmarkuniverse.com.

ISBN: 978-1-5322-5330-0

Toll-Free 1-877-236-2465

www.benchmarkeducation.com

www.benchmarkuniverse.com

BENCHMARK EDUCATION COMPANY
145 Huguenot Street • New Rochelle, NY • 10801

What Is a Windmill?

A windmill is a machine that uses wind to do its job. Its job can be to mill grain, to get water, or to make electricity.

They are called windmills because they were first used to mill, or grind, wheat.

▼ This mill grinds wheat. Flour comes from ground wheat.



Windmills consist of two parts on the outside:

- a tower rising up in the air,
- a propeller with **blades**.

▼ This is an old stone windmill.



Inside the tower, mills have a wheel that spins around. This wheel is a machine that mills grain. A source of power, or **energy**, is needed to make this machine work. When the wind makes the blades move, the wheel turns and mills the grain.

▼ Wind makes the blades of the windmill turn.



What Is Wind Power?

Wind power is energy that comes from strong breezes. It is a source of power that does not run out. Sources of energy that do not run out are called **renewable**.

▼ Wind is a natural resource.



Wind power can produce electricity. It takes many windmills to make a lot of power. A place where a group of today's windmills is located is called a wind farm.

▼ This is a wind farm in Texas.



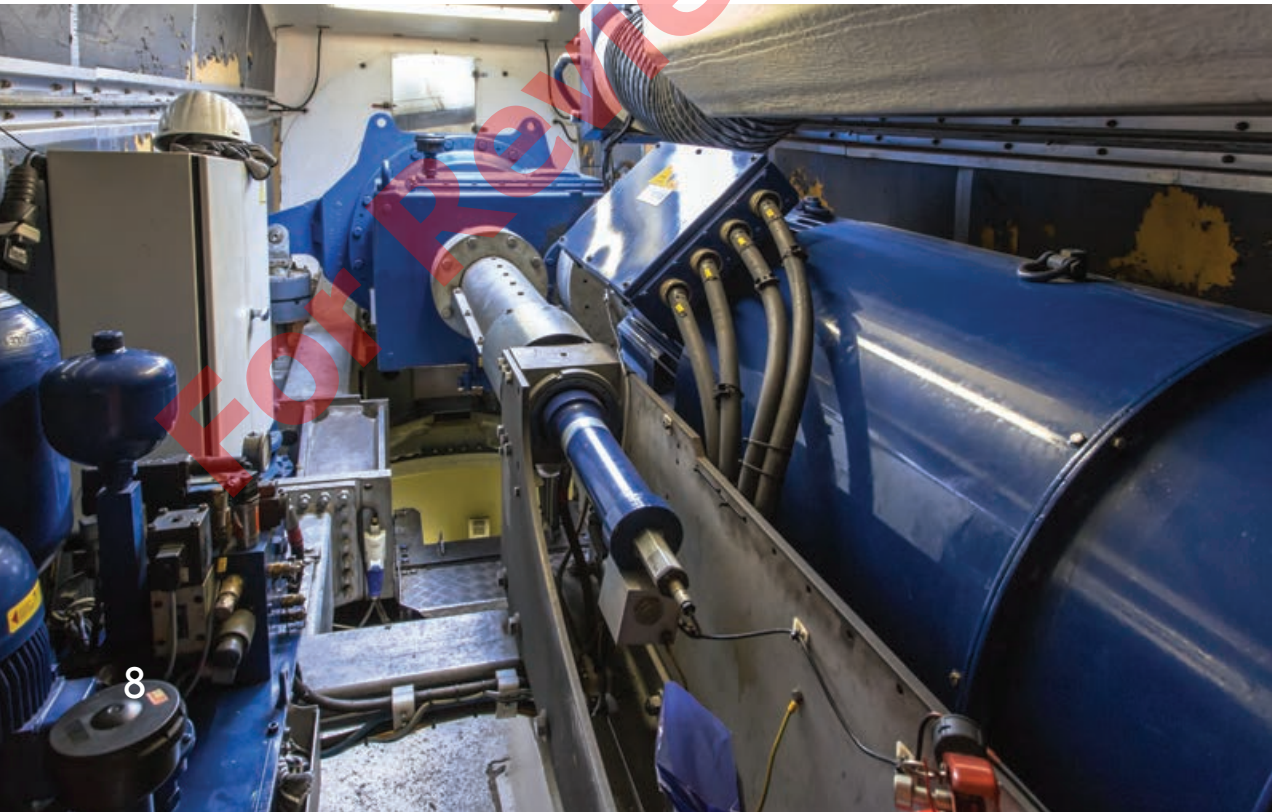
Wind farms have been built in many places in the United States.



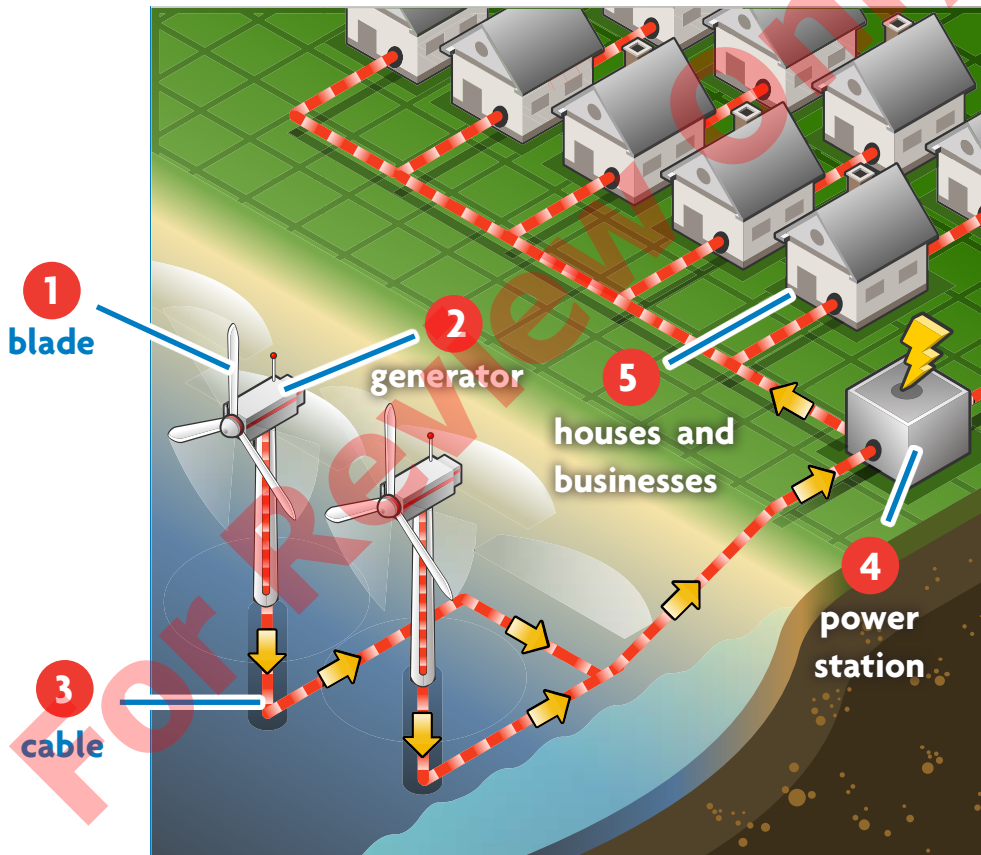
How Do Windmills Make Power?

The wind blows and moves the blades of the windmill. The blades turn a machine inside called a **generator**. It's called that because it generates, or makes, power. The generator starts to work when the blades move in the wind.

▼ This generator produces electricity.



The generator turns the force of the wind into electricity. The electricity is sent from the generator through cables. It is delivered to houses and businesses.



▲ This diagram shows how electricity goes from the wind farm to houses and businesses.