

Common Core and Literacy Strategies: English Language Arts

In *Common Core and Literacy Strategies: English Language Arts*, you'll explore how the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) approach literacy in new and important ways. You will see a new emphasis on critical thinking skills in the area of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Through video examples, in-depth readings, and downloadable applications, you'll learn practical ways to put CCSS to work in classrooms.

Course Objectives

After completing this course, you should be able to

Module 1

- Define literacy and the Common Core State Standards and why they are important.
- Understand the need for literacy skills in all content areas.
- Identify ways that classroom teachers can embrace the Common Core State Standards to improve 21st century literacy in their classrooms.

Module 2

- Understand what text complexity is and how it's determined.
- Articulate the significance of text complexity in developing 21st century literacy.
- Incorporate new text selection criteria and a focus on complex texts into your classroom.

Module 3

- Describe the connection between text comprehension and a deep understanding of various types of literary and informational texts.
- Use literacy strategies to improve literary and informational reading as expressed in common core state standards.

Module 4

- Explain how language, speaking, and listening skills contribute to strong reasoning and analytical skills.
- Use literacy strategies in language, speaking, and listening to increase logical reasoning, argument, and analysis.

Module 5

- Understand the role that reflection and writing play in improving reasoning, argument, and analysis skills.
- Incorporate literacy strategies in reflection and writing to increase reasoning, argument, and analysis skills.

Module 6

- Identify literacy problems for students who struggle with reading for a variety of reasons.
- Develop strategies that help special needs students develop literacy.

Course Syllabus

Module 1	What Is the Common Core and Why Do We Need It? Module Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Video: Lily Eskelsen• Reading: <i>Educational Leadership</i>—Building on the Common Core Check for Understanding 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading: Literacy and the Common Core State Standards• Video: Literacy in Other Disciplines• Reading: <i>Educational Leadership</i>—Reading through a Disciplinary Lens Check for Understanding 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application: Observe Literacy in Another Content Area• Module Review Module Journal
Module 2	Focusing on Complex Texts Module Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading: Understanding Text Complexity• Video: Introduction to Text Complexity Check for Understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading: <i>Educational Leadership</i>—Too Dumb for Complex Texts• Video: The Gettysburg Address: A Curricular Exemplar in Literacy Check for Understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application: Choosing and Using Complex Texts• Module Review Module Journal

Module 3	Literacy Strategies I: Text Features and Comprehension Module Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading: Fostering Deep Comprehension in the Classroom• Video: Shift 4: Text-based Answers Check for Understanding 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading: <i>Educational Leadership</i>—The Case for Informational Text• Reading: <i>Educational Leadership</i>—Summarizing to Comprehend• Videos: Reading Comprehension Strategies Check for Understanding 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application: Comprehension Lesson Plan• Module Review Module Journal
Module 4	Literacy Strategies II: Language, Speaking, and Listening Module Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading: Developing Language, Speaking, and Listening Skills• Video: Shift 6—Academic Vocabulary Check for Understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading: Content Area Conversations• Video: The Lesson Collection: Literature Discussion Groups• Reading: <i>Educational Leadership</i>—Thinking is Literacy, Literacy Thinking Check for Understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application: Collaboration and Listening and Speaking• Module Review Module Journal

Module 5

Literacy Strategies III: Writing and Reflection

Module Welcome

- Video: Writing to Inform and Make Arguments
- Reading: Promoting Critical Writing and Reflection

Check for Understanding

- Application: Survey Writing Standards Across Grades
- Reading: *Educational Leadership*—For the Sake of Argument
- Video: Shift 5: Writing from Sources
- Reading: *Educational Leadership*—Putting Gel Pen to Paper

Check for Understanding

- Application: Designing a Lesson Plan for Writing
- Module Review

Module Journal

Module 6

Literacy for Students who Struggle in School

Module Welcome

- Reading: Literacy for Students who Struggle in School
- Reading: *Educational Leadership*—The Day Reading Became Play
- Reading: *Educational Leadership*—The Power of Strategies Instruction

Check for Understanding

- Online Video: SHIFT 3—Staircase of Complexity
- Reading: *Educational Leadership*—Teacher Skills to Support English Language Learners

Check for Understanding

- Application: Designing Literacy Activities for Struggling Readers
- Module Review

Module Journal

Resources

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- EngageNY (Poster). *Shift 4: Text based answers* [Video]. (2011). Retrieved from <http://vimeo.com/27076243>
- EngageNY (Poster). *Shift 5: Writing from sources* [Video]. (2011). Retrieved from <http://vimeo.com/27076961>
- EngageNY (Poster). *Shift 6: Academic vocabulary* [Video]. (2011). Retrieved from <http://vimeo.com/27077248>
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