

# 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

<b>Module 1</b>	<b>What Is the Common Core and Why Do We Need It?</b> Module Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Media: Common Core 101</li><li>• Reading: <i>Educational Leadership</i>—Building on the Common Core</li><li>• Extend Your Learning: Lily Eskelsen</li><li>• Reading: Literacy and the Common Core State Standards</li><li>• Video: Literacy in Other Disciplines</li><li>• Reading: <i>Educational Leadership</i>—Reading through a Disciplinary Lens</li></ul> Check for Understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Application: Observe Literacy in Another Content Area</li></ul> Module Journal
<b>Module 2</b>	<b>Focusing on Complex Texts</b> Module Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Video: Introduction to Text Complexity</li><li>• Reading: Understanding Text Complexity</li><li>• Reading: <i>Educational Leadership</i>—Too Dumb for Complex Texts</li></ul> Check for Understanding 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Video: The Gettysburg Address—A Curricular Exemplar in Literacy</li><li>• Video: Save the Last Word for Me</li></ul> Check for Understanding 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Application: Choosing and Using Complex Texts</li></ul> Module Journal

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

<b>Module 5</b>	<b>Literacy Strategies III: Writing and Reflection</b> Module Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Video: Writing to Inform and Make Arguments</li><li>• Reading: Promoting Critical Writing and Reflection</li></ul> Check for Understanding 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Application: Survey Writing Standards Across Grades</li><li>• Reading: <i>Educational Leadership</i>—For the Sake of Argument</li><li>• Video: Shift 5 - Writing from Sources</li><li>• Reading: <i>Educational Leadership</i>—Putting Gel Pen to Paper</li></ul> Check for Understanding 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Application: Designing a Lesson Plan for Writing</li></ul> Module Journal
<b>Module 6</b>	<b>Literacy for Students who Struggle in School</b> Module Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Video: Meeting Students' Needs</li><li>• Reading: Literacy for Students Who Struggle in School</li><li>• Reading: <i>Educational Leadership</i>—The Day Reading Became Play</li><li>• Reading: <i>Educational Leadership</i>—The Power of Strategies Instruction</li></ul> Check for Understanding 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Video: SHIFT 3 - Staircase of Complexity</li><li>• Reading: <i>Educational Leadership</i>—Teacher Skills to Support English Language Learners</li><li>• Video: Put Yourself in Their Shoes</li></ul> Check for Understanding 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Application: Designing Literacy Activities for Struggling Readers</li></ul> Module Journal

## Resources

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