

Common Core State Standards

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Grade
9-12

A resource to help you support your child's learning

In high school, students will closely and critically read complex works of literature and informational texts. In writing and through class discussions, students will interpret what they read and present analysis based on appropriate examples and evidence from the text.

Some of the work students will be doing in these areas includes:

- Reading and analyzing foundational works of American and world literature
- Evaluating the reasoning used in historical documents
- Understanding the role of figurative language
- Participating in group discussions
- Giving a class presentation
- Conducting short- and long-term research projects

Here are just a few examples of how students will develop important literacy skills across grade levels as they read increasingly challenging works of literature.

Reading Literature

Grade Eight Reading	Grade Nine & Ten Reading	Grade Eleven & Twelve Reading
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot.• Analyze how differences in the points of view of the characters and the audience or reader create such effects as suspense or humor.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details.• Analyze a particular point of view or cultural experience reflected in a work of literature from outside the United States.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account.• Analyze a point of view by distinguishing what is directly stated in a text from what is really meant.

Reading for Information

Grade Eight Reading	Grade Nine & Ten Reading	Grade Eleven & Twelve Reading
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.• Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums (such as text, video, or multimedia) to present a particular topic or idea.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn.• Analyze various accounts of a subject told in different mediums determining which details are emphasized in each account.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cite evidence to support an analysis of what the text says including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.• Integrate information presented in different media or formats as well as in words in order to address a question.

Writing tasks in high school may include literary analysis, research papers, creative writing, and essays. Here are a few examples of how students will develop important writing skills across grade levels.

Grade Eight Writing	Grade Nine & Ten Writing	Grade Eleven & Twelve Writing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce a topic clearly, previewing what is to follow, and develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce a topic clearly with information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce a topic clearly with information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a concluding statement or section such as articulating implications or the significance of the topic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a concluding statement or section such as articulating implications or the significance of the topic.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize ideas, concepts, and information into broader categories. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize complex ideas, concepts, and information to make important connections and distinctions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize complex ideas so that each new element builds on what came before to create a coherent narrative.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use appropriate transitions to create cohesion and clarify relationships among ideas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use precise language and subject-specific vocabulary appropriate for the complexity of the topic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use appropriate and varied transitions and sentence structure.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use precise language and subject-specific vocabulary 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use an analogy to illustrate a point

Helping your child learn outside of school

1. Increase time for conversation at home. Discuss classroom assignments, activities, and homework. Ask your child how he or she is doing in class and how you can help.
2. Ask your child about his or her academic goals and career interests. Assist in gathering various sources of information on college and career opportunities.
3. Begin to explore colleges and other postsecondary options that are of interest to your child.

Partnering with your child's teacher

Ask your child's teacher questions like:

- Is my child becoming an effective writer?
- Is my child becoming more skilled at reading and understanding challenging material?
- What extra support can I provide at home to reinforce what you are teaching in class?
- How can I ensure that my child is developing good study habits for high school and beyond?

For more information on the Common Core State Standards for English go to <http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy> or <http://www.commoncoreworks.org>.

Adapted from Parent Roadmaps to the Common Core State Standards, Council of Great City Schools, www.cgcs.org