

Glossary

ACRONYMS AND TERMS

A Glossary of Key Terms can be found in Appendix A: Common Core Standards for ELA/Literacy: Supporting Research and Glossary which is available from engageNY at <http://engageNY.org/resource/new-york-state-p-12-common-core-learning-standards-for-english-language-arts-and-literacy>

Abbreviations:

The Standards documents use the following abbreviations. They are presented in the order in which they appear in the document:

CCR College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards

Grades K-5

RL Reading Standards for Literature

RI Reading Standards for Informational Text

RF Reading Standards: Foundational Skills

W Writing Standards

SL Speaking and Listening Standards

L Language Standards

Grades 6-12

RL Reading Standards for Literature

RI Reading Standards for Informational Text

W Writing Standards

SL Speaking and Listening Standards

L Language Standards

RH Reading Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies

RST Reading Standards for Literacy in Science and Technical Subjects

WHST Writing Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects

Academic vocabulary

The explicit teaching of vocabulary words and different “tiers” of vocabulary. This relates to decisions teachers make about which words to target, and how to guide students in using particular words.

Close read

A focus on facts and details in the text, including structural elements and rhetorical features.

Common Core Learning Standards

The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) Initiative was a joint effort by the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices and the Council of Chief State School Officers in partnership with Achieve, ACT, and the College Board. The outcome was a core of state standards in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics for grades K-12. The adoption process required states to adopt the CCSS and add up to 15 percent more standards based on an individual state’s needs. This has resulted in the *NYS P-12 Common Core Learning Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy* and the *NYS P-12 Common Core Learning Standards for Mathematics*.

Gradual Release of Responsibility Model (GRR)

An instructional model in which the responsibility within the learning process gradually shifts from the teacher to the student. The goal is to mentor students in becoming capable thinkers and learners. GRR has been cited as an effective approach to improve writing and reading comprehension, as well as literacy outcomes for English language learners.

Graphic organizer

A graphic organizer is a visual representation of information (e.g., concept map, mind map, flow chart, Venn diagram).

Instructional Shifts

The Instructional Shifts, as presented by the New York State Education Department, are aligned with Common Core Learning Standards. The Shifts for English Language Arts and Literacy are: balancing informational and literary texts, building knowledge in the disciplines, staircase of complexity (students encountering grade-appropriate complex text), focusing on text-based answers, writing from sources, and developing academic vocabulary.

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Glossary

Prezi

A presentation software and storytelling tool. Prezi allows the user to zoom in and out of their presentation media.

Realia

Real-life objects used during teaching to improve student understanding. A foreign language teacher, for instance, might use realia to help students associate words with the objects themselves.

Reciprocal teaching

A structured dialogue between students and teacher. Each takes a turn in leading the dialogue using strategies such as questioning, summarizing, clarifying, and predicting.

Scaffolding

Structuring a task in a systematic way so that the student is given the proper amount of support to be successful at each step. The level of support is reduced as the student builds the necessary skills.

Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP)

An instructional framework that focuses on content and academic vocabulary and increases comprehension for English language learners.

Sheppard Software

A source of free, online educational games and activities. Subjects range from geography and math to health and science.

Staircase of complexity

Students encounter appropriately complex texts at each grade level. The goal is to develop language skills and knowledge needed for success.

Text-dependent questions

Questions that students can only answer by referring back to the text they are reading, determining what the text says, and making logical inferences from it.

Universal Design for Learning (UDL)

A research-based educational framework that guides the development of flexible learning environments and curriculum to accommodate individual learning differences.

Weebly

A free Web-authoring site that allows users to create their own Web pages by dragging and dropping content from a variety of sources. Weebly can be used for creating classroom websites, student e-portfolios, and websites for projects.

Word wall

An organized collection of words displayed in the classroom to teach children to recognize and spell high-frequency words.

Resources

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES ON COMMON CORE LEARNING STANDARDS/ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND LITERACY

NYSUT Collection of Lessons and Video on Common Core Learning Standards

NYSUT

www.nysut.org/

The lesson plans and accompanying videos on this site feature teachers interacting with students in activities related to acquisition of the Common Core Learning Standards. Teachers demonstrate incorporating the Instructional Shifts into their practice, discuss their understanding of the Shifts, and describe what has worked as well as the challenges.

Share My Lesson

American Federation of Teachers and TES Connect

<http://www.sharemylesson.com/>

Share My Lesson, developed by teachers for teachers, is a site where educators create and share their work. This platform also provides an online community for collaboration. Topics include all aspects of the Common Core Learning Standards as well as advice and guides. Share My Lesson was developed by the American Federation of Teachers and TES Connect, the largest network of teachers in the world.

NEA Common Core State Standards Toolkit

National Education Association

<http://www.nea.org/home/46653.htm>

This toolkit addresses six areas related to understanding and implementing the Common Core State Standards: (1) Common Core State Standards Overview; (2) Curriculum and Instruction; (3) Professional Development; (4) Assessment and Reflection; (5) English Language Learners; and, (6) Students with Disabilities. Resources can be downloaded and customized for handouts, presentations, and background information.

New York State Teacher Centers Network

<http://www.nysteachercenters.org/>

The New York State Teacher Centers Network is an important and effective vehicle for professional development related to State Education Department initiatives such as data-driven instruction, Common Core State Learning Standards, and teacher/school leader effectiveness. Visit their website to learn more about professional development opportunities that integrate classroom-based assessments with the CCLS and teacher evaluation/development requirements.

EngageNY.org

New York State Education Department

<http://engageny.org/>

This site is developed and maintained by the New York State Education Department (NYSED) to support the implementation of several initiatives, including the New York State P-12 Common Core Learning Standards. Examples of content include curriculum materials, performance tasks, video, and assessment guidelines and materials developed by NYSED and their partners.

The Parents' Guide to Student Success

National Parent Teacher Association

<http://pta.org/parents/content.cfm?ItemNumber=2910>

These two-page parents' guides, available in English and Spanish, have been developed by the National Parent Teacher Association for each grade level. Each guide provides an overview of expectations for that grade in mathematics and English language arts/literacy — based on the Common Core State Standards. A rationale for Common Core Standards is offered, along with examples of what the student would be working on during the year and ideas for parents and caregivers related to learning activities.

A Guide to Creating Text-Dependent Questions for Close Analytic Reading

AchievetheCore.org

<http://www.achievethecore.org/downloads/Guide%20to%20Creating%20Questions%20for%20Close%20Analytic%20Reading.doc>

This resource offers a definition as well as steps for creating text-dependent questions. Steps guide the teacher to identify the core understandings and key ideas of the text, start small, target vocabulary and text structure, address tough sections head-on, develop coherent sequences of text-dependent questions, identify the standards that are being addressed, and create a culminating activity.

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Resources

The Instructional Practice Evidence Guide for Common Core State Standards.

AchievetheCore.org

<http://engageny.org/resource/tools-to-guide-the-collection-of-evidence-of-shifts-in-practice>

The Instructional Practice Evidence Guide is a tool for addressing the key Shifts in ELA and is available at three levels (K-2, 3-5, 6-12). The guide lists different types of evidence of the Shifts being utilized (e.g., whether questions and tasks attend to the academic language in the text; whether the teacher consistently expects and requests evidence and precision; if writing tasks reflect a balance of persuasive, explanatory or informational, and narrative tasks).

Understanding Language

Stanford Graduate School of Education

<http://ell.stanford.edu/>

This site focuses on language, literacy, and learning in the content areas. Teaching resources that exemplify best practices for English language learners are offered. These correspond to Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics and to the Next Generation Science Standards. Examples of themes include responding to the variation among students learning a new language, the importance of collaboration, and how culturally specific values and practices intersect with some skill areas in the Standards.

CAST (Center for Applied Special Technologies)

<http://www.cast.org/index.html>

CAST is an educational research and development organization which focuses on Universal Design for Learning. UDL “provides a blueprint for creating instructional goals, methods, materials, and assessments that work for everyone” — with an emphasis on flexible approaches that can be customized and adjusted for individual characteristics. All students can benefit from UDL, particularly learners with diverse characteristics (e.g., physical, sensory, and learning differences; those considered gifted). UDL is referenced in the Common Core State Learning Standards/Application to Students with Disabilities available from <http://engageny.org/resource/common-core-application-to-students-with-disabilities>

Literacy Implementation Guidance for the ELA Common Core State Standards (2012)

International Reading Association Common Core State Standards Committee

http://www.reading.org/Libraries/association-documents/ira_ccss_guidelines.pdf

The International Reading Association has providing this document to address specific literacy issues in relationship to the Common Core State Standards. The focus of this paper is on issues related to the Standards that have proven particularly challenging or confusing. The intent is to support implementation as well as represent literacy leaders’ perspectives on best practices and interpretation of Standards.