

ELA Common Core

Instructional Shifts 1-3:

Shift 1: Increase reading of informational Text. In elementary classrooms, at least 50% of what students read should be informational.

Shift 2: Apply text complexity. Each grade requires growth in text complexity to prepare students for the level of reading expected beyond high school. Students should engage in close, careful reading along with necessary supports to make challenging texts accessible.

Shift 3: Build academic vocabulary through complex texts across the content areas. Focus strategically on comprehension of pivotal/ commonly found words (e.g. tier 2 words).

Semester One

Reading Unit 1
Writing Text Type: Narrative

Reading Unit 2
Writing Text Type: Narrative

Reading Unit 3
Writing Text Type: Informative/
 explanatory

Reading Unit 4
Writing Text Type: Informative/
 explanatory

Semester Two

Reading Unit 5
Writing Text Type: Opinion/Argument

Reading Unit 6
Writing Text Type: Opinion/Argument

Reading Unit 7
Writing Text Type: Narrative /
 Research

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Instructional Shifts 4-6:

Shift 4: Use text-based evidence. Students engage in rich, rigorous conversations and writing experiences that are deeply connected to ideas and information presented in texts.

Shift 5: Increase writing from sources. Students write using evidence to inform and make an argument based on the ideas, events, and facts presented in texts. Students should be able to use online (multimedia) and print sources of information. Writing instruction should also include short, focused research projects.

Shift 6: Apply literacy instruction in all content areas. Students learn about domain-specific content through reading and by writing informative/explanatory and argumentative pieces. Content-area teachers emphasize reading & writing in their planning and instruction.