

**Preparing New Teachers for Common Core
CCSS English Language Arts Resources
ELA Instructional Shifts Chart**

1. Building knowledge through content rich non-fiction.	
Shift from:	To:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imbalance with focus on literary texts • Analysis of conventions such as plot, character, conflict, setting, and theme • Literacy and writing in isolation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balance of fiction and non-fiction texts K-5: 50% Fiction, 50% Non-fiction 6-8: 45% Fiction, 55% Non-fiction 9-12: 30% Fiction, 70% Non-fiction • Content rich non-fiction to build coherent general knowledge • Embedded literacy in history/social studies, science, and technical subjects to build knowledge through reading and writing
2. Reading, writing and speaking grounded in evidence from text both literary and informational.	
Shift from:	To:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions that could be answered without close reading or that do not require inference • No requirement to defend answer with text-based evidence, either verbally or in written form • Formulaic writing, summaries, paragraph responses, 5-Paragraph essay format, overuse of graphic organizers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions that require inferential thinking supported by text evidence • Requiring students to articulate evidence-based answers verbally and in writing • Intentional cultivation of narrative writing then scaffolding sequencing and details which will build capacity for argumentative and informational writing
3. Regular practice with complex text and its academic language	
Shift from:	To:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on basic skills of reading, writing, and vocabulary in isolation • Assessment readiness • Mechanical language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scaffolded complexity of texts • College, career-readiness • Metaphorical language