

CKLA Skills: Unit Preparation Protocol

Step 1: Skim the Unit Content

Guiding Question: What content is included in this Unit, and how does this content build on past units?

<i>Skim the lesson titles in the table of contents, the Alignment Chart, and the Introduction.</i>
How do the lessons build on each other (within the Unit) and build on previous learning ? How does this unit students for in future units ?

Step 2: Understand the Big Picture of the Unit

Guiding Question: What are the most important learnings of this unit? What are the essential understandings?

<i>Review the Alignment Chart and the Unit Introduction.</i>
What will students learn in this Unit? What is most important for students to accomplish? What are the essential understandings ?
In your own words, why does this content matter for students?

Step 3: Analyze the Assessments

Guiding Question: What will my students do in this unit to demonstrate progress towards the essential understandings and grade level standards?

<i>Review the "Assessment Opportunities" section in the Introduction and the assessments in the Unit. If needed, preview a few lessons for daily assessment practices.</i>
What assessments are in this Unit?
For "major" assessments: what do students need to know and be able to do ?
How do the Unit assessments connect to the essential understandings ? When and how will you check on progress to essential understandings?
How do this unit assessments build on skills students already have? What strengths will students need to build as they progress in the module?
Learning Acceleration: What knowledge/skill from the previous grade does this task require? Who is missing this knowledge/skill and how do you know? What "just in time" support will you provide?

Step 4: Prepare to Teach the Unit

Guiding Question: What else do I need to do to get ready to teach this unit?

<i>Review the introduction, individual lessons, and Appendices (if applicable).</i>
Given students' current knowledge & skills, what will be most challenging in the unit? (consider motivation, strengths, and skill gaps).
Which skills from previous units require the most reinforcement for your students?
Where will you spend more time in the unit? Where could you move quickly ?
What knowledge or practice do you need to get ready to teach? What support do you need? Sounds to practice: