



Dear Families,

High school English Language Arts prepares students to think critically, communicate effectively, and engage thoughtfully with increasingly complex ideas. Through reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and creating, students develop the literacy skills needed for college, careers, and lifelong learning. We believe literacy empowers students to analyze ideas, communicate with purpose, and contribute thoughtfully to their communities and future endeavors.

What Your Child Will Experience

Georgia's English Language Arts standards encourage students to interpret a wide variety of texts while developing their own voices through writing, speaking, and creating. Throughout high school, students will:

- Read increasingly complex literary, informational, and multimedia texts.
- Analyze how authors use language, structure, and craft to communicate ideas.
- Write and present for authentic audiences and purposes.
- Conduct research, evaluate sources, synthesize information, and communicate evidence-based thinking.
- Participate in meaningful discussions that strengthen critical thinking and collaboration.
- Build the literacy skills needed for success beyond high school.

These experiences prepare students to communicate effectively in college, careers, and civic life.

High Quality Instructional Materials

Students use CommonLit 360, Cobb County's core instructional resource for grades 9–12. The curriculum combines high-quality literary and informational texts with knowledge-building units that encourage students to think deeply about significant topics and ideas.

Through CommonLit 360, students regularly:

- Read, annotate, and discuss complex texts.
- Write using evidence from multiple sources.
- Participate in collaborative discussions and inquiry.
- Build vocabulary and background knowledge across disciplines.
- Complete authentic reading and writing tasks that prepare them for postsecondary success.

Teachers use CommonLit 360 alongside district resources and professional expertise to provide engaging, standards-aligned instruction.

Supporting Literacy at Home

Families play an important role in supporting adolescent literacy. We encourage you to:

- Ask your student about what they are reading and discussing in class.
- Encourage regular reading beyond school assignments.
- Discuss current events, books, articles, and podcasts together.
- Encourage writing for authentic purposes.
- Have your student access CommonLit 360 from home to review classroom texts, assignments, and digital learning resources.

Working together, we can help every student become a thoughtful reader, confident communicator, and lifelong learner.

Thank you for partnering with us in your student's education.

The Cobb County English Language Arts Department