

UbD-Related Websites

Compiled by Jay McTighe and Sandy Kleinman

I have compiled the following collection of websites in support of curriculum and assessment design using the Understanding by Design (UbD)® framework. Please e-mail me (jaymctighe@verizon.net) if you discover outdated links as well as other useful sites that you find so that I can add to this list.

Key: ** Highly Recommended * Recommended

STAGE 1 – UNDERSTANDINGS and ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS for ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

* **Engage New York** offers a searchable database of curriculum and assessment resources aligned to the Common Core Standards Click on “English/Language Arts” to view.

<https://www.engageny.org>

Essential Questions in LITERATURE

** Essential Questions in Literature developed in **Greece Central Schools**, NY. Some of the designated literary themes are intended to connect with companion Social Studies courses.

There are many other excellent resources on this site, including *Tools for Reading, Writing & Thinking* and *ELA Best Practices* and Rubrics

<http://www.greece.k12.ny.us/academics.cfm?subpage=923>

* Literary Essential Questions for High School courses developed in **Scarsdale, NY Public Schools**.

<http://www.scarsdaleschools.org/Page/570>

** **Common Lit** offers a free, downloadable collection of texts framed by essential questions.

<http://commonlit.org>

* **AERO Standards** for International Schools include a set of Understandings and Essential Questions – Reading (pp. 20, 21, 60), Writing (pp. 71-72), Listening and Speaking (pp. 80-81), and Language Foundations (pp. 85-86).

http://www.projectaero.org/aero_standards/ELA/AERO-ELA-Framework.pdf

* **New York City** a searchable database of curriculum and assessment resources. Click on “English Language Arts” and then selected to view grade levels.

<https://www.weteachnyc.org/>

* **New Jersey DOE** – A collection of overarching (program level) big ideas, understandings and essential questions developed by the **New Jersey DOE**. Click this link to download a pdf file and scroll down to page 7 to view.

<http://www.nj.gov/education/aps/njscp/Phase1allAreas.pdf#page=7>

Ohio DOE provides model curricula tied to the Common Core Standards in E/LA. The E/LA curriculum models include Enduring Understandings.

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Ohios-Learning-Standards/English>

NBC Learn offers a series of videos featuring writers speaking to students about their craft.

<http://www.nbclearn.com/portal/site/learn/writers-speak-to-kids>

***** **LIBRARY/MEDIA** *****

Collections of resources including lesson plans (k-12) on various media center topics (e.g., Research skills; lessons linked to subject areas).

<http://aasl.jesandco.org/facet/results>

<http://www.sldirectory.com/libsf/resf/libplans.html>

<http://www.sldirectory.com/index.html#top>

PA DOE Model Curriculum provides a curriculum framework for Library/Media Programs based on UbD.

<http://www.psla.org/teaching-and-learning/model-curriculum>

Useful article presents a **Matrix** for school librarians to use in aligning Common Core Standards and informational literacy skills in inquiry, reading, and research.

<http://www.abc->

[clio.com/Portals/0/PDF/FeaturedArticles/LU/SLMFreeArticles/0113_v29n4p29_Matrix_Sch_Lib_Moreillon_2.pdf](http://www.abc-clio.com/Portals/0/PDF/FeaturedArticles/LU/SLMFreeArticles/0113_v29n4p29_Matrix_Sch_Lib_Moreillon_2.pdf)

Common Core Crosswalks for Librarians/Media Specialists

<http://www.ala.org/aasl/standards/crosswalk>.

<http://aasl.jesandco.org/>

GENERAL WEBSITES

The following websites provide examples of *Understanding by Design*® curriculum work in **States/Provinces, School Districts,** and **Schools.**

** Massachusetts DOE

Through the Race to the Top Initiative, teams of educators from across the state used the UbD Framework to develop more than 100 pre-k to grade 12 model curriculum units in English language arts and literacy, history/social science, mathematics, the arts and science and technology/ engineering.

A free registration is required to access these materials at the following website:

http://www.doe.mass.edu/candi/model/download_form.aspx

* A series of classroom videos showing some of these units in use.

<http://www.doe.mass.edu/candi/model/videos/MCUs.html>

* **New Jersey DOE** – Use this link to download a pdf file containing a collection of overarching (program level) understandings and essential questions.

<http://www.nj.gov/education/aps/njscp/Phase1allAreas.pdf>

* **Ohio DOE** provides model curricula tied to the Common Core Standards in E/LA, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies, along with strategies for working with diverse learners. The E/LA curriculum models include Enduring Understandings; the Social Studies units contain Essential Questions; and the Mathematics units include Common Misconceptions. From “Topics”, select subject area of interest.

* **Engage New York offers** a searchable database of curriculum and assessment resources aligned to the Common Core Standards for pre-K – 12 in E/LA and Mathematics.

<https://www.engageny.org>

New York City a searchable database of curriculum and assessment resources. Click on “filters” to search via grade levels and subjects.

<https://www.weteachnyc.org/>

Pennsylvania – The Pennsylvania Department of Education has established the Standards Aligned System (SAS) containing curriculum resources. Select a content area (e.g., SAS Applied to Mathematics), a grade range (e.g., 6 – 8) or a

Grade/Course (e.g., Pre-Algebra) to view Big Ideas (understandings) and Essential Questions.

<http://www.pdesas.org/module/sas/curriculumframework/>

**** Literacy Design Collaborative** has developed sample curriculum based around performance tasks for E/LA, Social Studies, and Science.

<http://ldc.org/sample-curricula>

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STAGE 2 – PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS and RUBRICS

Here is a collection of websites containing resources for performance assessment tasks and rubrics. The list begins with general sites, followed by links in various subject areas.

I have worked with Defined Learning to develop:

1. Seven blogs on the design & use of Performance Tasks (right side of screen)
2. A set of on-line PD modules (left side of screen)

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

**** Literacy Design Collaborative (LDC)** – Funded by the Gates Foundation, the LDC has developed a set of task templates and instructional modules linked to the Common Core E/LA Standards. The templates support the integration of the E/LA Standards with content from Science, Social Studies and Technical subjects. Click on these links to learn more and view sample templates.

<http://ldc.org/>

<http://ldc.org/sample-curricula>

Additional LDC Task examples are available from the **PA DOE Standards Aligned System (SAS)**. Logon, then click on “Search” and enter “LDC” to access tasks in science and social studies. Many of the posted reading and writing tasks are also supported by writing exemplars – annotated student models.

<http://www.pdesas.org/ContentWeb>

**** ThinkCERCA** is an online, CCSS-aligned literacy program with tools and content so teachers can help students learn to read closely, think critically, and develop powerful arguments. Search on the Library of Leveled Authentic Texts and tasks. A free registration is required.

<https://learn.thinkcerca.com/library>

*** The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium** offers sample performance tasks for E/LA. To view these tasks:

Click “Sign in” (no need to enter anything), Select “grade level”, then “Yes,” then “Start E/LA G__ Performance Task,” then “Select,” then “Yes, start my test,” finally click on Green Arrow (“Go to next page”)

<https://sat1.sbactpt.tds.airast.org/Student/Pages/TestShellModern.aspx>

*** Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts**

Appendix B provides a set of text samples and task starters to exemplify the level of complexity and quality that the Standards require of students in a given grade band.

http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix_B.pdf

Appendix C offers many seed ideas for performance tasks along with student writing samples to illustrate what it takes to meet the standards.

http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix_C.pdf

*** Albuquerque, NM Public Schools** have developed sets of E/LA tasks and writing rubrics (at the secondary level) aligned to the Common Core Standards. Search by E/LA and grade level to view.

http://rda.aps.edu/RDA/Performance_Task_Bank/index.cfm

*** Newsela** provides a resource for helping students comprehend informational text. The free service offers daily news articles written at five levels of difficulty, suitable for students from upper elementary to high school. Newsela adapts to

each student's reading ability to offer the right content while allowing re-leveling of articles with a single click. Articles are paired with quizzes aligned to the CCSS so teachers can track their students' progress on a daily basis.

<http://newsela.com/>

**** The Performance Assessment Resource Bank (SCALE)** is a recently posted online resource developed at Stanford University. The site offers a searchable database of curated performance assessments and associated resources that support their use by educators, schools, and systems and is designed as a platform to build a rapidly expanding collection of curated resources. This was a closed site but is now available nationally!

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

**** Colorado Professional Learning Network**

Offers an assessment resource bank that includes performance tasks in a searchable database. Search by subject, grade level, item type, and cost (many of the assessments are free).

<http://www.coloradopl.org/assessment/assessments>

**** New York State Performance Standards Consortium** provides a collection of quality performance tasks and rubrics in various subject areas.

<http://performanceassessment.org>

*** The Virginia State Superintendents Association (VASS)** provides a collection performance tasks and rubrics developed in Virginia school divisions.

<http://vassonline.org/Page/291>

**** UbD Units with Embedded Performance Tasks**

Supported through the Race to the Top Initiative, teams of educators from Massachusetts used the UbD Framework to develop more than 100 pre-k to grade 12 model curriculum units in English language arts and literacy, history/social science, mathematics, and science and technology/ engineering. A free registration is required to access these materials at the following website:

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**** PBS Learning Media** offers daily news articles with accompanying questions and lesson ideas for teachers to use with students. This is a useful resource for tasks involving research or issues analysis on current topics.

<http://tinyurl.com/n7zmxr9>

**** A collection of quality performance tasks developed by the Alberta Assessment Consortium, CN.** Browse by grade and subject. Some of the collection is in open space and some is member protected which will be evident from the sub-page menus.

<http://www.aac.ab.ca/assessment-materials-2/>

***** RUBRICS *****

** A collection of quality rubrics developed through the **New York State Performance Assessment Consortium**.

<http://performanceassessment.org/performance/prubrics.html>

* A wide variety collection of rubrics in various courses and subject areas compiled by **Winona State University**

<http://course1.winona.edu/shatfield/air/rubrics.htm>

* Links to numerous websites containing rubrics, prepared by **Kathy Schrock and Discovery Learning**. Note: Not all web links are active.

<http://www.schrockguide.net/assessment-and-rubrics.html>

** Analytic rubrics for CCSS E/LA in reading and writing from **PARCC**.

<https://theliteracycookbook.wordpress.com/2014/09/05/parcc-update-newwriting-rubrics/>

- **Grade 3** – <http://www.parcconline.org/samples/english-language-artsliteracy/grade-3-generic-rubrics-draft>
- **Grade 4/5** – <http://www.parcconline.org/samples/english-language-artsliteracy/grades-4-5-generic-rubrics-draft>
- **Grade 6/11** – <http://www.parcconline.org/samples/english-language-artsliteracy/grades-6-11-generic-rubrics-draft>

* PARCC Released items and rubrics available at:

http://parcconline.org/news-and-video/410-parcc-releases-2015-16-high-school-test-items?utm_source=PARCC+Updates+2-11-17&utm_campaign=PARCCOnline.org&utm_medium=email

** **Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium** offers analytic rubrics for CCSS E/LA for the five writing genres: argumentative, explanatory, Informational, narrative, and opinion.

<http://www.smarterbalanced.org/assessments/practice-and-training-tests/resources-and-documentation/>

Directions:

<http://www.smarterbalanced.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/Performance-Tasks-Writing-Rubrics.pdf>

* A collection of quality rubrics for Writing, Speaking, Debate, and Socratic Seminar from **Greece Central Schools, NY**

<http://www.greece.k12.ny.us/academics.cfm?subpage=1369>

* An analytic trait rubric to assess students in Responding to Text (Grades K-4) available from **Exemplars.com**. Click on the link to download a pdf file.

<http://www.exemplars.com/resources/rubrics/assessment.php>

* An analytic trait rubric to assess students in Narrative Writing available from **Exemplars.com**. Click on the link to download a pdf file.

<http://www.exemplars.com/resources/rubrics/assessment.php>

A holistic Reading Rubric available from **Exemplars.com**. Click on the link to download a pdf file.

<http://www.exemplars.com/resources/rubrics/assessment.php>

A holistic Writing/Communications Rubric available from **Exemplars.com**. Click on the link to download a pdf file.

<http://www.exemplars.com/resources/rubrics/assessment.php>

A holistic Research Rubric available from **Exemplars.com**. Click on the link to download a pdf file.

<http://www.exemplars.com/resources/rubrics/assessment.php>

Literacy Design Collaborative offers literacy rubrics. Click on the “Student Work Rubrics” tab.

<https://coretools ldc.org/resources>

* A set of developmental/proficiency continuums for Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking developed by Bonnie Campbell-Hill.

<http://www.bonniecampbellhill.com/support.php>

* **EssayTagger** offers a Common Core Standards rubric creation tool. Free.

<http://www.essaytagger.com/commoncore>

An on-line rubric creator from **ALCA Curriculum**.

<http://www.alcaweb.org/arch.php/room/2390/area/12195>

iRubric* – An on-line rubric generator with hundreds of developed rubrics available in various subject areas. Requires a free registration.

<http://www.rcampus.com/indexrubric.cfm>

Rubistar* – An on-line rubric generator with many sample rubrics available in various subject areas.

<http://rubistar.4teachers.org/index.php>

Teachnology* – An on-line rubric generator with many sample rubrics available in various subject areas.

http://www.teach-nology.com/web_tools/rubrics/

**Note: Be a wise consumer since the available rubrics on these sites vary in quality.*