

# CommonLit Setup Checklist

2,000+ leveled reading passages — the ELA library

|                |                                                                                                     |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sign up</b> | <a href="https://www.commonlit.org/en/users/sign_up">https://www.commonlit.org/en/users/sign_up</a> |
| <b>Home</b>    | <a href="https://www.commonlit.org">https://www.commonlit.org</a>                                   |
| <b>Cost</b>    | Library, free reading assessment, and teacher tools are free.                                       |

---

## Before you start

*CommonLit's full curriculum (CommonLit 360) is grades 6–12 only. For Grade 5 you get the library, the free reading assessment, and all the teacher tools — but no week-by-week course. The GD ELA curriculum stays the spine; CommonLit is your library to plug into it.*

## Setup checklist

- ☐ **Step 1.** Create a free teacher account at [commonlit.org/en/users/sign\\_up](https://www.commonlit.org/en/users/sign_up).
- ☐ **Step 2.** Create a class and add your child as a student (parent-managed login OK).
- ☐ **Step 3.** Use Library filters: Lexile band, grade 5, theme/genre, CCSS standard.
- ☐ **Step 4.** Run the free baseline Reading Assessment (Grades 3–12) at the start of the year.
- ☐ **Step 5.** Bookmark Text Sets relevant to GD social studies units.

## Paired-texts week (every 2–3 weeks)

- ☐ **1.** Pick a CommonLit passage that mirrors the GD anchor novel chapter.
- ☐ **2.** Monday: assign the passage with Guided Reading Mode on.
- ☐ **3.** Tue–Wed: child annotates and answers comprehension questions.
- ☐ **4.** Thursday: open the paired text and compare authors' purpose.
- ☐ **5.** Friday: child writes 1 paragraph comparing the two texts; log on Template 2E.

## Quarter-by-quarter plays

- ☐ **Quarter 1:** Foundations / Multiple Perspectives — passages tagged 5th grade for theme and main idea.
- ☐ **Quarter 2:** Theme across texts — paired passages on identity, change, and community.
- ☐ **Quarter 3:** Historical fiction & comparative writing — pair Aztec/Maya Text Sets with GD anchor texts.
- ☐ **Quarter 4:** Figurative language, roots, and research — close-read poetry; use passages as research sources.

## Where it fits in your toolkit

GD = the spine. CommonLit = your reading library. Khan = grammar/vocab practice. PBS = video and documentary. Together they cover what no single tool can.

## Notes

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---