English Language Arts Standards
Reading: Informational Text
Grades 9-10 & 11-12

• CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.9-10.9 Analyze seminal U.S. documents of historical and literary significance (e.g., Washington’s Farewell Address, the Gettysburg Address, Roosevelt’s Four Freedoms speech, King’s “Letter from Birmingham Jail”), including how they address related themes and concepts.

Read ANB’s entries on Washington’s Farewell Address and the Gettysburg address. ANB’s biographies of George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Martin Luther King Jr. will also provide you with context when analyzing seminal documents in U.S. history.

• CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.11-12.8 Delineate and evaluate the reasoning in seminal U.S. texts, including the application of constitutional principles and use of legal reasoning (e.g., in U.S. Supreme Court majority opinions and dissents) and the premises, purposes, and arguments in works of public advocacy (e.g., The Federalist, presidential addresses).

The ANB includes many articles on Supreme Court decisions from The Oxford Companion to United States History including Brown v. Board of Education, Plessy v. Ferguson, Roe v. Wade, and many more. You can also read the entry on the Supreme Court, the articles selected for CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.9-10.9 above, and the entry on the Federalist Papers to help you meet this Common Core standard.

• CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.11-12.9 Analyze seventeenth-, eighteenth-, and nineteenth-century foundational U.S. documents of historical and literary significance (including The Declaration of Independence, the Preamble to the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and Lincoln’s Second Inaugural Address) for their themes, purposes, and rhetorical features.

The Oxford Companion to United States History content included in the ANB provides many articles to help you meet this standard including the Bill of Rights, Constitution, Declaration of Independence, and entries for many of the Amendments (19th Amendment, 18th Amendment, 16th Amendment, 14th Amendment, etc.)

Standard 10: Range, Quality, & Complexity
Range of Text Types for 6–12

• Texts Illustrating the Complexity, Quality, & Range of Student Reading 6-12
  * “Speech to the Second Virginia Convention” by Patrick Henry (1775)
  * “Farewell Address” by George Washington (1796)
  * “Gettysburg Address” by Abraham Lincoln (1863)
  * “State of the Union Address” by Franklin Delano Roosevelt
  * “Letter from Birmingham Jail” by Martin Luther King, Jr. (1964)
  * “Common Sense” by Thomas Paine (1776)
  * Walden by Henry David Thoreau
  * “Society and Solitude” by Ralph Waldo Emerson
  * Black Boy by Richard Wright (1945)

Use the ANB entries on Washington’s Farewell Address, the Gettysburg Address and Common Sense along with the biographies of Patrick Henry, George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Martin Luther King Jr., Thomas Paine, Henry David Thoreau, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Richard Wright to help you meet this standard.