

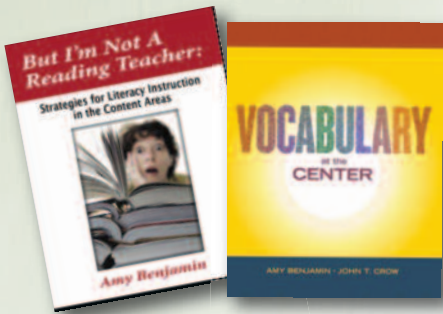
# LITERACY SKILLS FOR THE COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS: *MOVING UP THE STAIRCASE OF TEXT COMPLEXITY*

Grades 5-12



December 5, 2011 • Crowne Plaza, Edison, NJ

The Common Core State Standards require students to read and write texts of increasing levels of complexity. Text complexity refers to vocabulary, sentence length, organizational structure, background knowledge required, subtleties, and levels of meaning. This workshop will provide specific, practical strategies for each of these features of text complexity in both reading and writing. Samples of tasks and texts will be taken directly from the CCSS document.



**Teachers and administrators will come away with strategies that will help students to:**

1. "Unpack" those long sentences often found in primary source documents and pre-twentieth century literature required by the Common Core State Standards.
2. Build the academic and literary vocabulary that is absolutely necessary for comprehension of the kind of complex text that students are expected to read.
3. Understand what it means to analyze, explain, describe, and interpret. These four "task verbs" appear throughout the Common Core State Standards, and they are not synonymous!

**Amy Benjamin** offers workshops and keynotes for educators at the secondary level. She is a nationally-recognized expert in improving student performance in all subject areas through literacy instruction. Amy, a long-time high school English teacher, has coached teachers throughout the United States and Canada.

She is a consultant to the National Council of Teachers of English, and has been a professional advisor to the College Board; Holt, Rinehart, and Winston; and Scholastic Magazines.

Amy is an author of several books about improving literacy, including *But I'm Not a Reading Teacher* and *Vocabulary at the Center*. Her upcoming book is about the literacy skills necessary to drive instruction that meets the Common Core State Standards.

## About the Presenter

**REGISTER 4 WEEKS IN ADVANCE FOR SPECIAL RATE:**

\$100 per person (for teachers)

Supervisors/Administrators can attend free of charge

(must register 4 weeks in advance)

AMY BENJAMIN