Purpose of Lesson and Unit Planning for the CCSS for ELA

1) Identify standards that demand instruction by utilizing student data.
2) Identify texts that can be used to meet these standards.
3) Establish lesson objectives and student practices that scaffold student learning to meet the lesson or unit standards.
4) Establish assessments that allow for students to demonstrate mastery of the standards.
5) Identify tasks that will allow for remediation and scaffolding as needed.

Non-Negotiables for Alignment to the CCSS for ELA

1) Lessons must include grade-appropriate, complex texts.
2) Activities must allow students to cite evidence from text.
3) Lessons must include activities that ask students to write from sources.

Steps to Create a Lesson and Unit Plan

Step 1: Analyze student data from previous formative and summative assessments, including standardized tests, to identify areas that require instruction, based on the skills required by the CCSS.

Step 2: Analyze texts that are aligned to the standards and determine text complexity to ensure grade appropriate texts with varying levels of complexity.

Step 3: Create lessons using best practices, such as graphic organizers, vocabulary development, close reading, etc. Lessons should include the non-negotiables mentioned above.

Step 4: Determine how students will show mastery of the skills taught, including formative assessment that can be used to adjust instruction as needed throughout the unit. A summative assessment should be any tool that allows for students to exhibit mastery.

Step 5: Study student products and formative assessments to identify the need for remediation. Utilize research-based intervention strategies as needed.