

Sample Performance Tasks for Informational Texts: English Language Arts

- Students compare George Washington’s Farewell Address to other foreign policy statements, such as the Monroe Doctrine, and *analyze* how both texts *address similar themes and concepts* regarding “entangling alliances.” [RI.9–10.9] Common Core State Standards for English language arts appendix B | 130
- Students *analyze how* Abraham Lincoln in his “Second Inaugural Address” *unfolds* his examination of the *ideas* that led to the Civil War, paying particular attention to *the order in which the points are made, how Lincoln introduces and develops* his points, and *the connections that are drawn between them*. [RI.9–10.3]
- Students *evaluate* the *argument and specific claims* about the “spirit of liberty” in Learned Hand’s “I Am an American Day Address,” *assessing the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence and the validity of his reasoning*. [RI.9–10.8]
- Students *determine the purpose and point of view* in Martin Luther King, Jr.’s, “I Have a Dream” speech and *analyze how King uses rhetoric to advance* his position. [RI.9–10.6]