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| Module 1Facilitator Guide | Focus on Instructional Shifts |

Activity 6

Connecticut Core Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy

Grades 6–12

*Systems of Professional Learning*

# Session at-a-Glance

### Activity 6: Activity 6: Myths About Rigor in the Common Core Classroom

(30 minutes) Working in mixed grade groups of five, coaches take a short quiz (anticipation guide) about rigor and the Common Core. They briefly discuss their responses.

Participants read a recent post on middleweb.com by Barbara Blackburn, “Five Myths about Rigor and the Common Core” <http://www.middleweb.com/12318/five-myths-rigor-common-core>. Each participant reads the entire blog post and underlines information relevant to the rigor quiz. They discuss and revise responses on the quiz, using evidence from the blog post.

##### Supporting Documents:

* Directions
* Short Quiz
* “Five Myths about Rigor and the Common Core” (Blackburn, 2014)

##### PowerPoint Slides:

* 63–65

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# Session Implementation

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| Explain that the CCS are often referred to as “rigorous” new standards. What does rigor mean? How does it manifest in the standards? |
| **Activity 6** |
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| Complete instructions and article are provided in the participant guide. |