CASAS Assessment & Resources Update

- CASAS Competencies and CASAS Content Standards
- CASAS Appraisal – Form 80
- Life and Work Listening
- CASAS Teacher’s Handbook for ESL
- CASAS Technology
  - CASAS eTests, TOPSpro Enterprise, QuickSearch online
- CASAS for Adult Secondary Educ (ASE)
  - Secondary Level Assessments
  - National External Diploma Program (NEDP)
  - Workforce Skills Certification System (WSCS)
- Assessment Policies
- Field Testing Opportunities

June 2008
Competency areas expanded or added:
- education
- financial literacy
- health and medical information
- media literacy
- technology

60 new competencies

Correlation of CASAS Competencies Version 2003 to Version 2008

All tests to be recoded and updated in TAMs and TOPSpro 2008–09

Both posted on casas.org
Recoding of a test item – example

Prior coding was
- 2.5.5 Locate and use educational services in the community, including interpreting and writing school-related communications

New coding
- 2.8.3 Locate and interpret information related to classes, schedules....
- 2.8.4 Interpret policies and procedures of educational institutions regarding attendance, grades, ...
CASAS Content Standards

- Reading – no changes
- Listening – v2 revised spring 2008
- Math – to be revised 08–09
- Aligning CASAS Competencies and Assessments to Basic Skills Content Standards
  - Updated – 2nd Edition
- Posted on casas.org
Test Coding

- Reading and Listening content standards coded to most widely-used test series
  - New student and class reports available in TOPSpro
  - Posted on casas.org

- Multiple competency and content standards coding for all test series underway
  - Available in TOPSpro reports
  - Posted on casas.org

- **Revised** student performance report format accommodates multiple coding for
  - Competencies
  - Content Standards
CASAS Appraisal – Form 80

- Reading
- Listening
- Oral Screening
- Writing Screening
Listening Appraisal – Form 80

- 26 questions
- 30 minutes
- Places into Levels A, B and C listening pretests
- Scale scores range from 180s to 230s
Reading Appraisal – Form 80

- 25 questions
- 30 minutes
- Places into Levels A, B, C, and D reading pretests
- Scale scores range from 180s to 240s
Level A Item Types

- Picture Prompt — repeated
  - Prompts in a test booklet

- Comprehension Question — repeated
  - Conversations between two people
  - Phone message recordings and conversations
  - Recorded announcements and messages

- Predict Next Line — repeated
  - Finish conversation between two people

Testing Time: 35 minutes
Level B Item Types

- **Comprehension Question** — repeated
  - Conversations between two people
  - Phone message recordings and conversations
  - Recorded announcements and messages

- **Predict Next Line** — repeated
  - Finish the conversation between two people

- **Identify True Statement** — not repeated
  - Which is correct?
  - Interpret statements or conversations

Testing Time: 40 minutes
Level C Item Types

- **Comprehension Question** — not repeated
  - Conversations between two people
  - Phone message recordings and conversations
  - Recorded announcements and messages

- **Identify True Statement** — not repeated
  - Which is correct?
  - Interpret statements or conversations

- **Predict Next Line** — not repeated
  - Finish the conversation between two people

**Testing Time:** 30 minutes
Life and Work – Reading

- Available in CASAS eTests
- New Life and Work logo
- Modified reading covers
  - Same test inside
- Replaces Life Skills Reading
# Student Performance by Competency

**Form 83 L**  
Life and Work Listening – Level B

## Test Item Correlation to CASAS Competencies

**TO USE AS A CHECKLIST:**
1. Review test results. At top, mark items + or −, depending on overall test performance.
2. Highlight dots for items answered correctly or incorrectly, depending on overall test performance.
3. At left, check competencies frequently missed to target in instruction. Compare to total times competency appears.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Item Number</th>
<th>Competency</th>
<th>Listening Item Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.1.2 Understand or use appropriate language for informational purposes (e.g., to identify, describe, ask for information, state needs, agree or disagree)</td>
<td>2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 4 4 4 4 4 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.1.3 Understand or use appropriate language to influence or persuade (e.g., to caution, advise, persuade, negotiate)</td>
<td>2 2 2 2 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 4 4 4 4 4 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.1.4 Understand or use appropriate language in general social situations (e.g., to greet, introduce, thank, apologize)</td>
<td>2 2 2 2 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 4 4 4 4 4 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.1.7 Understand, follow or give instructions, including commands and polite requests (e.g., Do this; Will you do this?)</td>
<td>2 2 2 2 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 4 4 4 4 4 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.1.8 Understand or use appropriate language to express emotions and states of being (e.g., happy, hungry, upset)</td>
<td>2 2 2 2 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 4 4 4 4 4 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.1.6 Count, convert, and use coins and currency, and recognize symbols such as ($) and (.)</td>
<td>2 2 2 2 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 4 4 4 4 4 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.2.1 Interpret advertisements, labels, charts, and price tags in selecting goods and services</td>
<td>2 2 2 2 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 4 4 4 4 4 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.2.2 Compare price, quality, and product information to determine the best buys for goods and services</td>
<td>2 2 2 2 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 4 4 4 4 4 4</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1.2.7 Interpret information or directions to locate merchandise</td>
<td>2 2 2 2 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 4 4 4 4 4 4</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>1.2.8 Identify common food items</td>
<td>2 2 2 2 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 4 4 4 4 4 4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Item Type:** 1 Picture prompt; 2 Comprehension question; 3 Predict next line of dialogue; 4 Identify true statement based on prompt. For further explanation see Test Administration Manual.

© 2008 CASAS  Duplication for instructional purposes is permitted.  See www.casas.org for complete list of competencies
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test item number</th>
<th>1</th>
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<td>TO USE AS A CHECKLIST:</td>
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<td>1. Review test results. At top, mark items + or −.</td>
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<td>2. Highlight dots for items answered correctly or incorrectly, depending on overall test performance.</td>
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<td>3. At left, check standards frequently missed in target in instruction. Compare to total times standard appears. (Use Competency Matrix to assess performance by competency.)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Content Standard</th>
<th>Listening Item Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>L1 Phonology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>L1.5 Recognize reduced forms of words and phrases (e.g., gonna, gonna, Did you/Didja, twenty/twenty)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>L2 Vocabulary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>L2.3 Comprehend high frequency words, phrases, phrasal verbs and simple idioms used in a variety of everyday contexts (e.g., everyday conversations, simple descriptions, directions)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>L2.4 Comprehend simple words, phrases, and idioms drawn from functional life skill topics (e.g., shopping, housing, health, transportation, employment)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>L2.5 Comprehend homonyms in content (e.g., There's a hole in the bag / Get a whole bag)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>L2.7 Comprehend speech that contains unfamiliar vocabulary using contextual clues</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>L3 Grammar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>L3.3 Recognize contracted forms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>L3.4 Recognize imperative constructions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>L3.5 Recognize negative constructions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>L3.6 Distinguish between simple questions (e.g., WH- &amp; yes/no) and statements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CASAS Teacher’s Handbook

Content
- What is Adult Education ESL
- What is CASAS
- Competencies and Content Standards
- Registration, orientation, placement
- Accountability
- CASAS testing – administration
- Appraisals, pre- and post-tests
- Using test results
- Choosing and using appropriate text materials
CASAS Teacher’s Handbook

- Designed for self study, face-to-face (f2f), or facilitated online training
- Initial focus – ESL in California
- Next development –
  - US version for ESL
  - US version for ABE
  - US version for ASE
TOPSpro and TOPSpro Enterprise

- **TOPSpro**
  - Reports distance learning NRS data
  - Attendance status – active vs inactive
  - Continued support for TOPSpro

- **TOPSpro Enterprise**
  - Multiple deployments
  - Powerful data grids
  - Enhanced reporting
  - SIF compliant
  - Pilot implementations rolling out July 2008
### TOPSpro Enterprise – classroom

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>CASAS SYSTEMS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TOPSpro V5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Classroom Advantages – Tests and Reports</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Score CASAS tests</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide CASAS competency reports for student and class</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide CASAS content standard reports for student and class</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide student gain and other measured progress reports</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description of Features

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administrative Advantages – Local, Regional, and State</th>
<th>CASAS Systems</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exchange data with other systems: demographics, attendance, class, E/U records</td>
<td>✔️ ✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automates data entry: scan CASAS Entry/Update, Test records etc.</td>
<td>✔️ ✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual student data entry (option for small sites w/o scanner)</td>
<td>✔️ ✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collects and aggregates student level data</td>
<td>✔️ ✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rolls up data to local, regional and state level</td>
<td>✔️ ✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Generates all NRS tables (CASAS and other test scores, i.e. BESTplus, TABE)</td>
<td>✔️ ✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracks learners in multiple programs (duplicated)</td>
<td>✔️ ✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracks registered students (unduplicated)</td>
<td>✔️ ✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 150 customized reports</td>
<td>✔️ ✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ad hoc reporting tool</td>
<td>✔️ ✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Education Rights &amp; Privacy Act (FERPA) compliance</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools Interoperability Framework (SIF) specifications compliance</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Insurance Portability &amp; Accountability Act (HIPAA) compliance</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive filtering in data grids</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reports available in color with charts and graphs</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## TOPSpro Enterprise – web & network

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESCRIPTION OF FEATURES</th>
<th>CASAS SYSTEMS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Web and Network Advantages – System Architecture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deployment as Web-based</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deployment as standalone database, LAN or WAN</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web-based reporting, e.g. online student portfolio</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bidirectional correspondence between data grids &amp; reports</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to replicate data to a central server (1)</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enterprise database for large agency implementation</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved performance for networks</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Next generation interface and usability (.Net 3.0)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to slice and dice data cohorts for export</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Replication copies local data to a central server on a daily basis, a benefit NOT available in a Web-based only system. With replication, local installations perpetually maintain a copy of their own data. This gives local installations four major advantages:
   a. Faster information retrieval of local data than on a Web-based only MIS
   b. Unconditional access to local data; not subject to Internet bandwidth and availability
   c. Data storage is in two locations for optimum security
   d. Allows automated data entry via scanning – a benefit for large programs
      (manual data entry is always an option – a benefit for small programs that don’t have a scanner)
Benefits of CASAS eTests

- No need for test booklets or answer sheets or #2 pencils
- Includes practice test items
- Contains a quick locator to seamlessly move a student into the correct pretest
- Provides immediate results
- Selects next test automatically
- Exports to TOPSpro
- Can be given individually or to a group
- Retains demographic data across all tests
Common CASAS eTests Scenario:
1) Examinee takes quick Locator (no charge) and continues immediately into appropriate CBT pretest
2) CASAS eTests scores and reports pretest score
3) For post-test, CASAS eTests automatically selects post-test form

Facilitates agency change:
- Precipitates evaluation of program practices and goals
- Encourages cross-training of faculty and staff
- Standardizes and improves assessment policies
- Improves service to customers – the students!
Most widely used CASAS test series are on CASAS eTests
  ◦ All tests are on one CD
  ◦ CASAS eTests units (CTUs) may be used for any test
    • Administrations (CTUs) in increments of 50, 100, 500, or 1,000

Installation
  ◦ Standalone Computer
    • CASAS eTests available on one machine only
  ◦ Local Area Network (LAN) server
    • CASAS eTests available at server and client machines
  ◦ Master Server
    • CASAS eTests available across multiple LANs
CASAS eTests

- Replication feature
  - facilitates data collection and reporting at central site
    - State level
    - Large agency with many sites

- Web deployment available in future

- What is the name of this test security device?
QuickSearch On-line version

- Instructional materials database
- Subscription is complimentary initially
- QS no longer available in CD format
- Easier to search by multiple competencies
- Coding to content standards under way
- Log in will be required
### Improved Login Security Question

If you are a first-time user, please register below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Name*:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middle Initial:</td>
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<td>Last Name*:</td>
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<td>State/Territory/Country*:</td>
<td>--Select One--</td>
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<td>Email Address*</td>
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<td>Email Address*:</td>
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<td>Agency Information</td>
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<td>Phone Number:</td>
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<td>CASAS Assigned Agency ID:</td>
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<td>Security Question*:</td>
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<td>Verify Security Answer*:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Please choose a username and password that you can use to verify your identity for future logins.

*Please choose a security question to verify your account. In case you forget your username and/or password in the future, you will be asked to answer this security question to verify your identity.

*Required field. No acronyms please.*
CASAS for ASE programs

- Reading and Math – tests at Levels C and D
- Secondary Level Assessments
  - Reading for Language Arts
  - Mathematics
  - Science and history forms under revision
- Functional Writing
- Workplace Speaking
- NEDP
- WSCS
Workplace Speaking

- Questions cover
  - Work and social topics
  - Workplace safety and customer service
- Assesses communication of meaning and listening comprehension
- For employed examinees
- Reports out scale scores
National External Diploma Program (NEDP)

- Competency and performance-based high school completion assessment program for adults
- Selected CASAS tests used to predict readiness for and success in the NEDP
- NEDP competency revalidation completed
- Assessments being redesigned to reflect more rigorous high school graduation requirements
- Increased emphasis on technology
- Used in 10 states + Guam
- CASAS acquired program – July 2006
Workforce Skills Certification System: a national system to meet local needs

- A partnership of two nationally recognized and validated skill measurement systems
  - CASAS – applied academic skills
  - LRI – applied soft skills

- To meet local labor market needs, WSCS helps
  - Employers identify skill levels required for jobs
  - Job candidates document skill attainment
  - Training providers establish targets for training
Workforce Skills Certification System

- Workforce Skills Certificate
  - Applied Academic Skills
  - Applied Soft Skills

- Workforce Skills Transcript
  - Applied Academic Skills
  - Applied Soft Skills
  - Applied Learning Portfolio
Special Needs

- New materials
  - Pre–Beginning Reading Content Standards for Developmental Disabilities (link with POWER and Life Skills color photo test forms)
  - Research Brief on Preliminary Learning Gains for Adults with Developmental Disabilities

- Targets for field testing Fall 2008:
  - New color photo appraisal for the 2A–5A test series
  - POWER Employment Preparation 3A level test
CASAS Sample Test Items

- Instructional tool to:
  - Familiarize students and teachers with CASAS item types
  - Practice taking CASAS test items
  - Practice marking the answer sheet
  - Can use TOPSpro Test Record

- Sample test items
  - Reading at Levels A, B and C. Level D coming fall ‘08
  - Listening (80 series) ready July ‘08
  - Math ready fall ‘08
  - 5 – 6 test items per level for each skill area
  - Not a predictor of performance
  
  Downloadable from casas.org at no cost
Test Preparation Guidelines

Appropriate Strategies

- Use diagnostic information generated by TOPSpro or manually to “teach to”:
  - Task Areas
  - CASAS Competencies
  - Content Standards
- Use other CASAS support materials to link assessment and instruction (e.g., QuickSearch)
- Use CASAS answer sheets to practice test-taking skills
Test Preparation Guidelines

Inappropriate Strategies

- Teaching to a particular test item
- Teaching specific vocabulary found in test items
- Limiting curriculum to only what is covered on the test
Field Testing Opportunities 2008 – 09

- Life and Work Reading (BX and CX) \( N = 1,400 \)
- WLS Reading and Math (Level D) \( N = 1,000 \)
- Life and Work Math (all levels) – stay tuned
- Essay Task (new) and Picture Task (colored prompts) via computer – stay tuned
- Earn gift certificates (Barnes and Noble or Staples) or CASAS vouchers