

# CASAS Assessments for Citizenship Preparation



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[bit.ly/CASASSI-cit1](https://bit.ly/CASASSI-cit1)



## EL Civics Basics

### Part 1: Information and Requirements

**Citizenship Prep  
slides 12-18. [pdf](#)  
(updated for 2017-2018)**

**Facilitated by  
CASAS Program Specialists**

# Tech Up Your Citizenship Class Objective

- Participants will identify the critical resources in the form of social media, printed material, and websites with Civics and language enrichment activities to meet suggested USCIS-recommended Citizenship course content standards and gain digital literacy skills.

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## DATA COLLECTION KEY GUIDELINES #13

- EL Civics Education and SODS: Consists of an Entry Record, Update Record, **pretest**, **post-test**, and the following:
  - a. An additional assessment for the Civic Participation focus area, based on selected Civic Objectives and Additional Assessment Plans (COAAPS)
  - b. **CASAS Citizenship Interview Test (CIT) or Government and History (GH) test for Citizen Preparation focus area.**

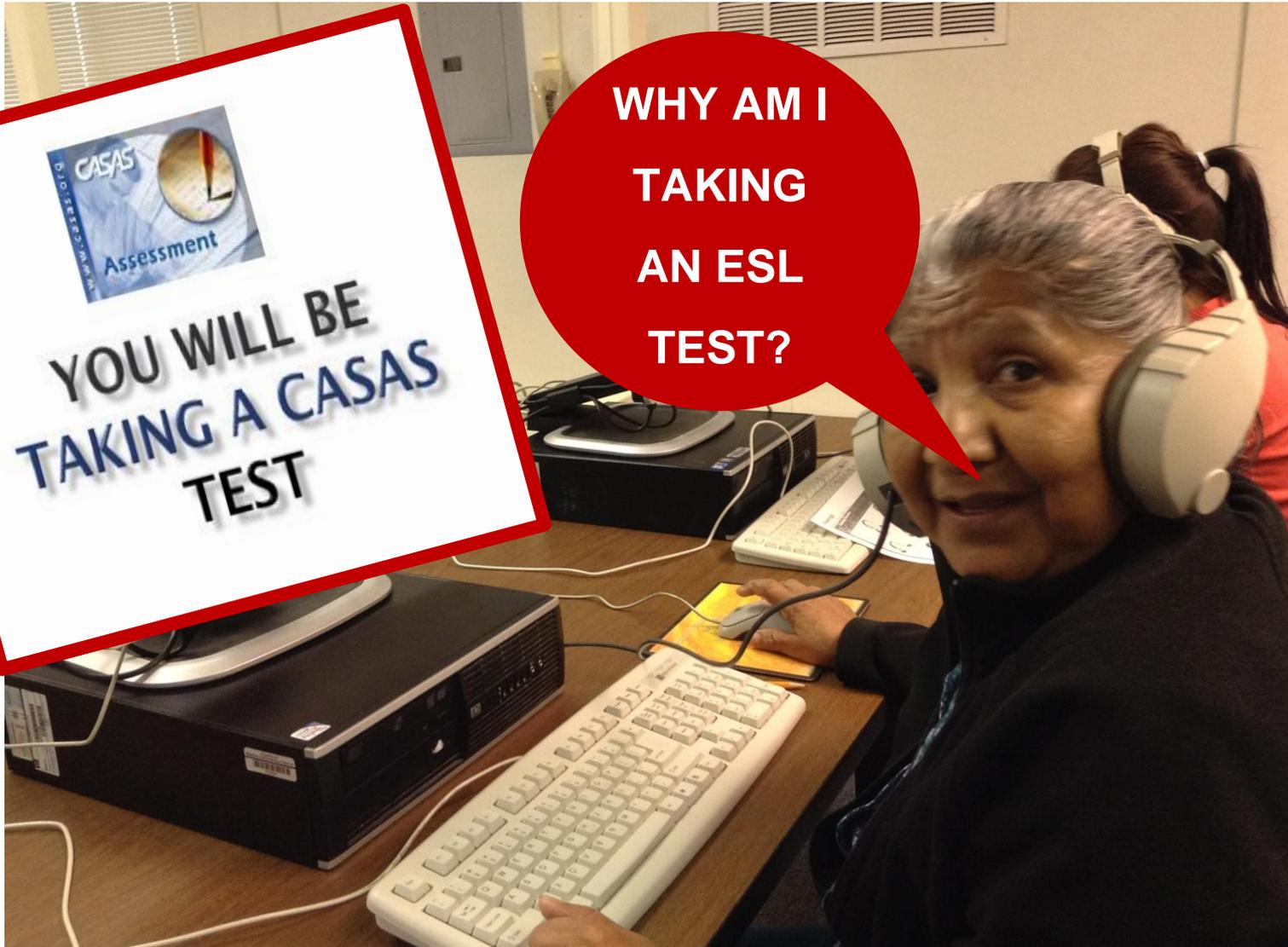
- Learners must take a **CASAS pre- and post-test**. A learner can earn 1 payment point for completing a level.
- Learners may take the
  - **Citizenship Interview Test (CIT) AND**
  - **Government & History for Citizenship test (G&H)**to earn payment points (1 for each test passed at 206 or above, total 2 payment points)
- Agency staff must be **certified** to administer the **CIT**
- Agency staff follow administration manual guidelines to administer the **Gov't & History for Citizenship test (G&H)**

Source: <https://www.casas.org/docs/default-source/el-civics/el-civics-basics-part-1.pdf> Slide 13

# The USCIS N-400 and the CASAS Life/Work Reading series

- CASAS Life/Work Pre-Test and Post-Test
- Correlation between the CASAS Life/Work Tests and the N-400r
  - Detail: Job/School and Money
- Example of CASAS Literacy Test 27R
- Example of CASAS Level C Test 185R





## ***Strong correlation between the N-400 and CASAS Test***

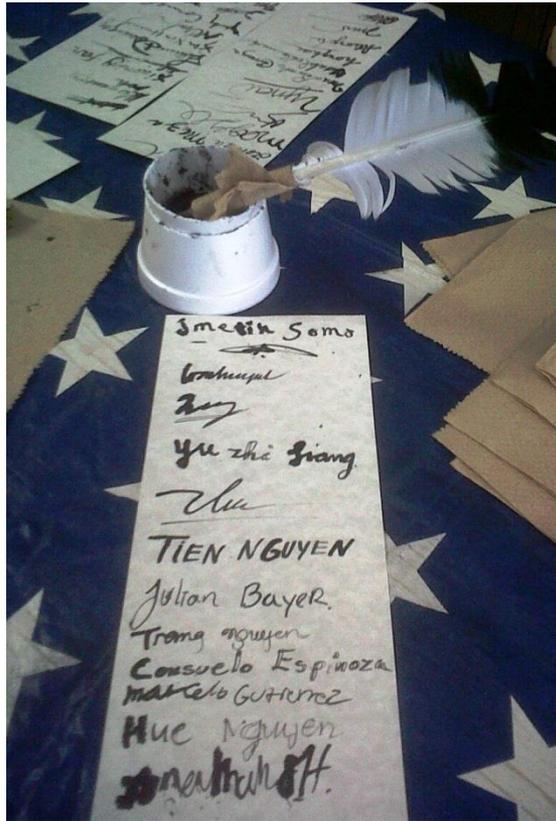
Test #s based on 2008 paper tests

		Placement		Literacy		Level A			
		020L	020R	027R	028R	081R	082R	081RX	082RX
<b>Job/ school</b>		12,13,22	14,15,16, 17,18			21,24	21	5,12,25	9,10
	<b>Money</b>	8,12		13,19	11,19	6,14,17	7,17	11,20	2,10,11,1 5,17,18,1 9,20,23,2

		Level B		Level C		Level D		CIT	
		083R	084R	185R	186R	187R	188R	973S	974S
<b>Job/ school</b>		5,6,15,16, 19	1,2,3,4,5, 15,16,17, 19	9,10,22,2 3,25,27,2 8	2,21,22,2 3,26,27,2 830,31,32	1,2	1,2,9,102 8,29	17, Years of School	18, Years of School
	<b>Money</b>	21,22	10,17	11	17,18,19, 27	5,12,13	1,2,22,23	16	17

# Example of CASAS Literacy Test 27R

- R2.4 Use capitalization as a clue to interpret words
- (e.g., names, place names, other proper nouns)



27R

*Tien Nguyen*

**Part 2. Information About You** *(Person applying for naturalization)*

1. Your Current Legal Name *(do not provide a nickname)*

Family Name *(Last Name)*

Given Name *(First Name)*

Middle Name *(if applicable)*




**Part 12. Your Signature** *(USCIS will reject your Form N-400 if it is not signed)*

Your Statement

I certify, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America, that this application, and the evidence submitted with it, are all true and correct. I authorize the release of any information USCIS needs to determine my eligibility for naturalization.

Your Signature

Date *(mm/dd/yyyy)*

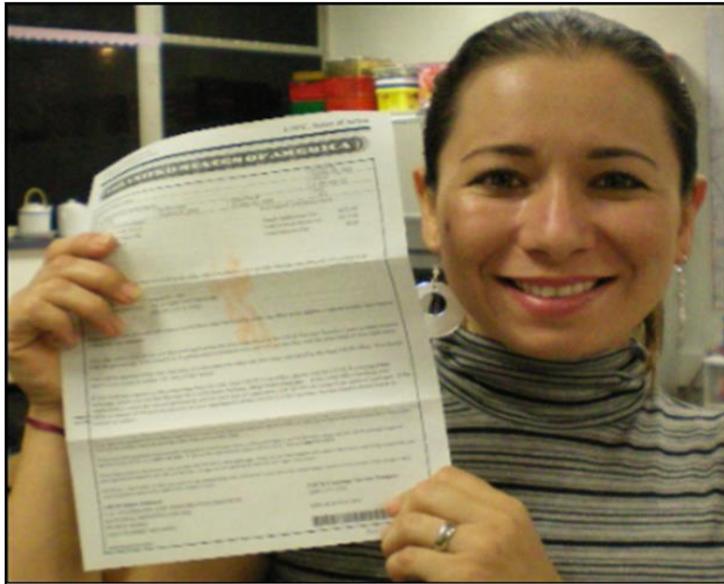


***We signed the Constitution!***

***I signed my N-400!***

## Model Standard:

Interpret simple authentic materials on familiar topics  
(newspaper articles on current events, social letters, public information notices)



*Erika's Fingerprint  
Appointment Notice!*

185R

## FINGERPRINTING

Room 108

M - F 8 am – 4 pm

No appt. necessary.

Sat. by appointment only

Room 109

## Sample questions:

- *Where do you go?*
- *When do you need an appointment?*



# CASAS Citizenship Assessments

- CASAS Reading for Citizenship Tests (951/952R)
- CASAS Gov't/History LISTENING TEST for Citizenship (965/966G)
- CASAS Citizenship Interview Test (CIT) (973/974S)

## **Target population:**

- Low beginning ESL students

## **Competencies Assessed:**

- Reading comprehension in a citizenship context
- These tests do not measure knowledge of the government and history of the United States.

## **Test Administration:**

- One-on-one or group administration
- Multiple-choice questions
- Large-print, reusable test booklet



**What is it?**

- a. A dime
- b. A nickel
- c. A penny
- d. A quarter

- formerly CASAS Citizenship Field Test 889,  
**supersedes 963/964**
- Multiple choice listening test.
- Students listen to thirty recorded questions.
- Each question is repeated twice.
- The questions are based on the new 100 questions.

## Practice 1

- a) Red and black
- b) Red, white, and blue
- c) Black and white
- d) White, gold, and green

## Practice 2

- a) John Adams
- b) Thomas Jefferson
- c) George Washington
- d) Alexander Hamilton

Sample test w/ audio file available at <https://goo.gl/RTzj53>



- The Citizenship Interview Test (CIT) is a standardized oral assessment that assesses the speaking skills of adult ESL & Citizenship learners.
- **The CIT helps determine if an individual is ready to pass the USCIS naturalization interview.**
- Target population: High Beg. to Adv. ESL students
- For more info, see 2016-7 Citizenship Preparation Questions and Answers [bit.ly/1pkYrcV](http://bit.ly/1pkYrcV)

- Competencies Assessed:
  - CASAS competencies
    - Ex: Basic communication (Small talk)
  - Multiple grammar structures and verb tenses
  - N-400 Application for Naturalization Vocabulary
- Training is required to administer this test.
- Test Administration:
  - One-on-one interview format (approx. 15 to 20 minutes)
  - Follows basic interview pattern (Intro, Middle, Closing)

- Unit 1: Citizenship Interview Test Overview
- Unit 2: The Certification Process
- Unit 3: Before Test Administration
- Unit 4: About the Test Booklets
- Unit 5 Test Administration
- Unit 6: Calculate and Interpret Scores
- Unit 7: The Scoring System
- Unit 8: Form 974 Anchors and Scoring Exercises
- Unit 9: Form 973 Anchors and Scoring Exercises
- Unit 10: Training Completion and Certification

- **Score 0**
  - No response;
  - OR The response does not answer the question correctly;
  - OR The response is not comprehensible
- **Score 1**
  - Answers the question in terms of content but requires inference;
  - OR gives a partial answer to the question
- **Score 2**
  - Answers the question
  - AND entire meaning is clear

- **1. CLARITY OF ENTIRE RESPONSE**
  - To receive a score of 2, the entire message must be clear.
  - It should be easily understandable, requiring no effort or time to construe meaning.
  - There should be no possibility for debate about meaning.
  
- **2. ACCORDING TO THE “AVERAGE AMERICAN”, NOT A TRAINED ESL PROFESSIONAL**
  - Examiners should judge clarity as an “average, untrained American” would, not as a teacher.

# Two Examples of CIT anchors

- **What is your home address?**
  - 1331 E. Calaveras Blvd, Milpitas, California, 95132 2
  - 1331 E. Calaveras Blvd, Milpitas, California 1
  - 1331 E. Calaveras Blvd, Milpitas 1
  - I live in Milpitas. 0
  - live in a house. 0
  
- **Have you ever sold or smuggled Illegal drugs?** Y/N
  
- **What are illegal drugs?**
  - Drugs against the law like heroin and cocaine 2
  - Drugs against the law. 1
  - Alcohol 0

- Does not measure knowledge of the US Civics.
  - Administer Gov't/History LISTENING TEST for Citizenship (965/966G) separately
  
- Vocabulary based on 10 page pre-2014 N-400 Application for Naturalization
  - Does not include Part 12:14-21 New War Crimes Qs
  
- Detours from the N-400 question sequence.
  - Interruptions / Distractions
    - Questions about previous education and home country.
  
- Uses Colloquial English
  - Questions about financial support and family.

- Does not measure knowledge of the US Civics.
  - **REFOCUSSES student prep on the N-400 application!**
- Vocabulary based on 10 page pre-2014 N-400
  - **Students must explain N-400 Part 12 terms!**
- Detours from the N-400 question sequence.
  - **Students learn how to navigate interruptions & request for further info in a safe environment.**
- Uses Colloquial English
  - **Work/life connection: job interviews, medical exams, parent/teacher conferences, etc.**

# CASAS EL Civics and the Naturalization Interview

- What is COAPPS?
- Intro to EL Civics Objectives 40
  - EL Civics Objective 40 Language/Literacy Objectives
  - COAPPS 40.4
  - COAPPS 40.4 Mock Interview
- COAPPS 19—alternative to COAPPS 40

## EL Civics Objectives and Additional Assessment Plans

- Supports the design, creation, implementation and delivery of instructional activities that either integrates civics education content with ESL instruction.
- Connects literacy to the lives of learners and reflects their experiences as community members, parents and participants in the workforce.
- Through these programs, adults understand and deal with social issues through community research projects, collecting and analyzing information, and interpreting findings in ways that connect school-based learning with personal knowledge and community experience.

- Consumer Economics:
  - Banking, Housing
- Community Resources:
  - Safety, DMV, School, Emergency, Family, Immigration
- Health:
  - Cost/Insurance, Healthcare, Medical Emergencies,
- Employment:
  - Workers Rights, Safety, Soft Skills
- Government and Law:
  - Government, Civic Engagement, Citizenship, Legal Aid
- Transitions
  - Digital Literacy, "Bridge to College, Training, Career"

**2017-2018 Pre-approved COAPPS List [pdf](#)**

- **EL Civics Objectives 40:**

## **Government and Law - Citizenship Preparation**

- Respond to questions about the history and government of the United States in order to be successful in the naturalization process.

- **EL Civics Focus Area(s):**

- Naturalization
- U.S. History
- Civic Engagement
- Government



Correlation of  
Instructional  
Materials to EL  
Civics Objectives  
40 available at  
<http://bit.ly/1kQao4f>

1. \*Discuss basic historical events or patriotic symbols.
2. \*Describe the colors and design of the American flag, and discuss the meaning of the stars and stripes.
3. \*Identify the three branches of American government.
4. Identify three levels of American government and describe their major functions.
5. \*Write vocabulary words and dictated sentences from U.S. history and civics topics.

6. \*Name the following:

- President
- Vice President
- your U.S. Senators
- Your Representative
- the Governor of California,  
etc

7. Read, discuss, and/or write about issues relating to the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

8. Describe the three branches of American gov't.

9. Demonstrate the ability to give appropriate answers to questions taken from the N-400 citizenship application.

10. Identify ways a citizen can participate in democracy.

11. Identify important people and events in American history and discuss related impact on our lives today.

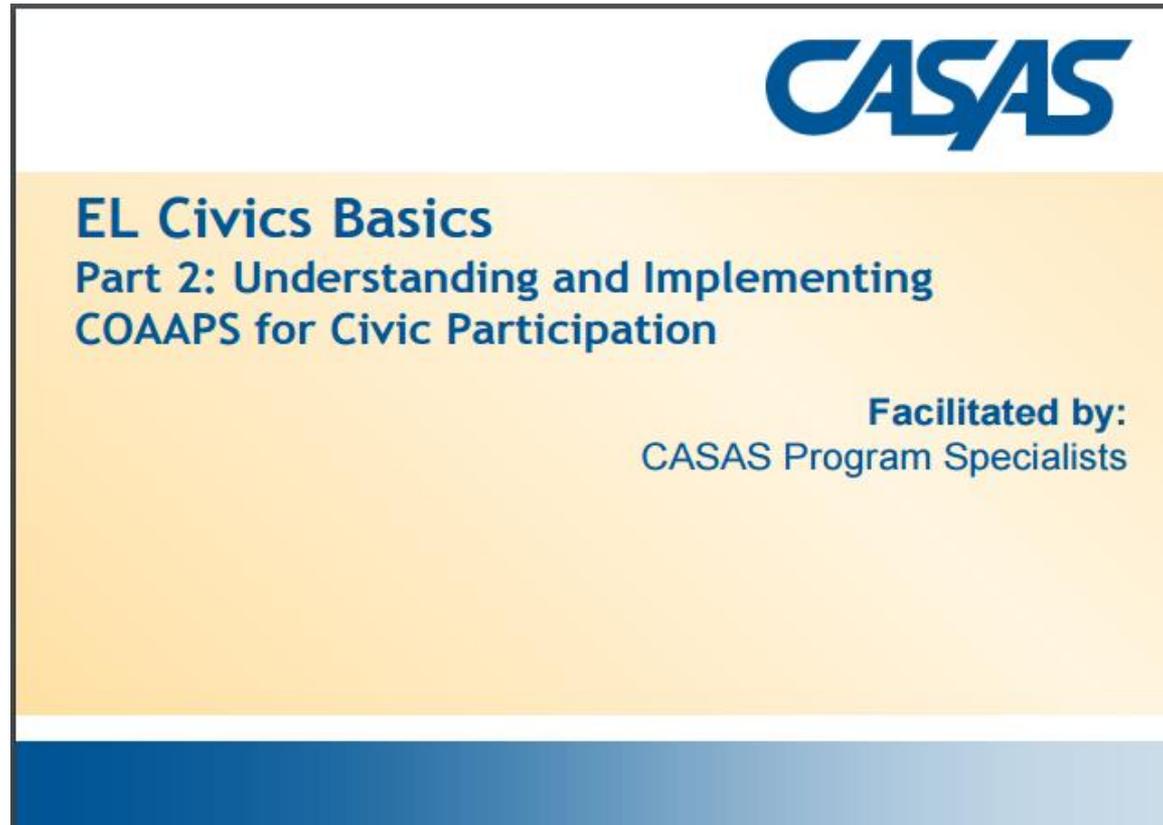
- ELC: Citizenship Preparation 40.4
  - Oral, Written (no portfolio) Beginning Low - Advanced
- Language and Literacy Objectives 1,2,3,5,6,7
- Additional Tasks:
  - Prepare for a USCIS Interview
    - Student will participate in a mock oral USCIS interview.
  - Practice Dictation (up to 3 level-appropriate sentences)
  - Write a Letter or an Article related to the Constitution or Bill of Rights

- Student will answer up to 12 level-appropriate USCIS interview questions such as the following:
  - *State your full name.*
  - *What is your current address?*
  - *Why do you want to become a U.S. citizen?*
  - *Explain how you support yourself.*
  
- In addition, interview will contain questions from the USCIS 100 questions, such as:
  - *What is one promise you make when you become a United States citizen?*
  - *Who wrote the Declaration of Independence?*

**Identify the rights of immigrants in the United States, and access local and state agencies that specialize in these rights.**

- \*Name and distinguish the differences among immigrant status categories.
- \*Read and interpret adapted texts of the U.S. Bill of Rights and Amendments.

- \*Read and interpret adapted texts of immigrant and naturalized citizens' rights & responsibilities.
- \*List citizens' and immigrants' rights & responsibilities.
- \*Identify/list local agencies that specialize in immigrant services, their locations, fees, and hours.
- Contact local and state agencies that specialize in immigrant services and ask simple questions about agency services, hours, fees, etc.



EL Civics Part 2: [COAPPS for Civic Participation](#)

**Slides 49-51 about 231 & 243 Civics Objectives AND IELCE classes**

**More resources for Civic Participation are available at**

**<https://www.casas.org/docs/default-source/el-civics/el-civics-basics-part-2.pdf>**

# CASAS Citizenship and EL Civics Resources

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- CASAS Quick Search
- CASAS Bibliography of Citizenship Materials (2008)

## QuickSearch

A Database of Instructional Materials for Youth and Adult Educational and Training Programs

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**QuickSearch by**

- Titles
- Competencies / Content Standard
- Program, Level, & Skill
- Publishers
- Tests

Get more information on

- Quick Search Tutorial
- Reports & Other Tools
- Exit

**Tests**

**Series**

- Citizenship
- ECS
- Life & Work
- Life Skills
- WLS

**Assessments**

- Reading
- Listening
- Math
- Speaking
- Writing
- Gov. & History

**CASAS Levels**

- 2A-5A Disabilities
- Pre-A Beginning Literacy
- A Beginning
- B Intermediate
- C Advanced
- D Adult Secondary
- E Advanced Adult Secondary

[CASAS Levels Descriptions](#)

**Program**

- ABE Adult Basic Education
- ASE Adult Secondary Education
- Citizenship
- EL Civics
- Employability
- ESL English as a Second Language
- Family Literacy
- LD Learning Disabilities
- Workforce

**Modality**

- Textbook
- Textbook and Audio
- Web Site
- Multimedia
- Video/DVD
- Software
- Computer Courseware
- Game

**Year of Publication**

From  To

**Assessment Tools**

- Included

**Search by test**



**Citizenship**

## Bibliography of Citizenship Materials

Download 2008 pdf:  
<https://www.casas.org/docs/pagecontents/citizenship-bibliography.pdf>

# Practice for the CASAS Citizenship Assessments

- MN Literacy: Mock Interview
- CCSF: Best, OK, and Worst Citizenship Interview Strategies
- uscitizenpod: Level Up Interviews
- uscitizenpod: 30 Section Interviews & “Bootcamp”
- uscitizenpod: NEW! Listening Quizzes

<b>MINNESOTA</b> <b>Literacy</b> <b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>IV. → Oath Requirements – ASK ALL QUESTIONS IN THIS SECTION (47-53)</b>			
<b>Questions asked by USCIS Immigration Officer</b>		<b>Appropriate Student Response</b>	<i>Check one box for each question asked</i>	
			<b>Gave Appropriate Response</b>	<b>Unable to Answer</b>
47. Do you support the Constitution and form of government of the United States?	<i>Yes</i>			
48. Do you understand the full Oath of Allegiance to the United States?	<i>Yes</i>			
49. What is the Oath of Allegiance?	<i>It means I am loyal to the US and its constitution, and I will follow the laws of this country.</i>			
50. Are you willing to take the full Oath of Allegiance to the United States?	<i>Yes (If “no”, student should explain which part they will not, and why)</i>			
51. If the law requires it, are you willing to bear arms on behalf of the United States?	<i>Yes or No (Must use religious background for a “No” Answer)</i>			
52. If the law requires it, are you willing to perform noncombatant services in the U.S. Armed Forces?	<i>Yes</i>			
53. If the law requires it, are you willing to perform work of national importance under civilian direction?	<i>Yes</i>			

# CCSF: Best, OK, and Worst Citizenship Interview Strategies



## Learn English **FREE** and Prepare to Become a U.S. Citizen with USA Learns!



- Beginning and intermediate English
- Video lessons and 1000s of activities
- English speaking, listening, vocabulary, pronunciation, reading, writing and grammar
- New U.S. Citizenship course!

Start

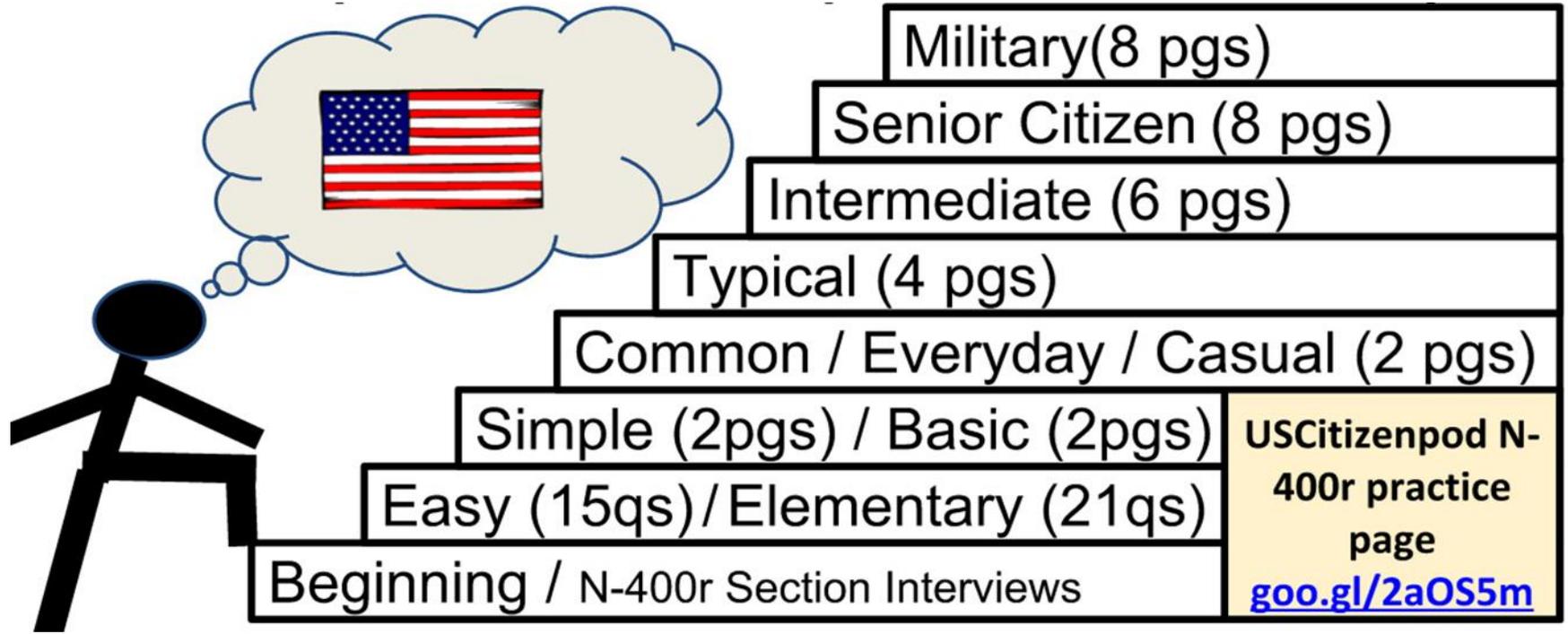
Already

Sig



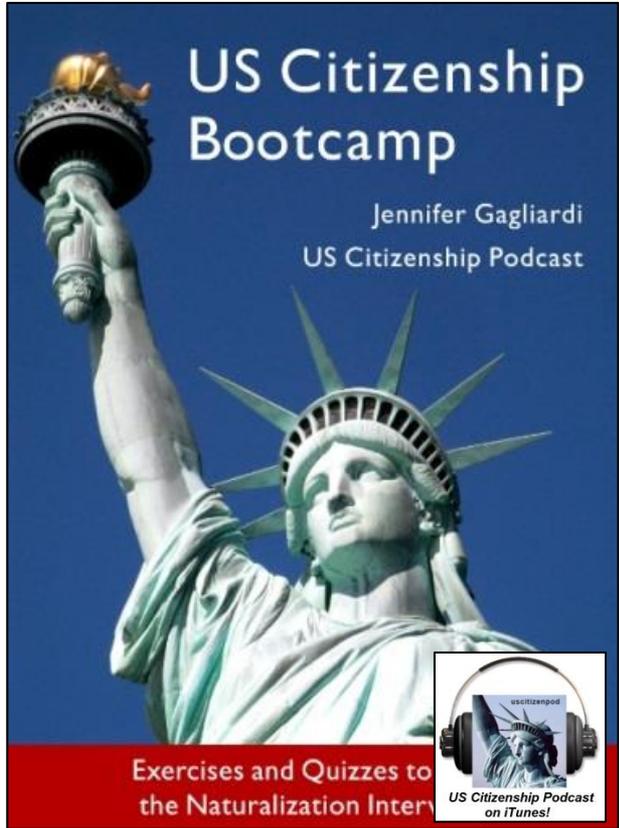
**Debut:  
Nov 1, 2017**

[www.usalearns.org](http://www.usalearns.org)





**Thirty N-400 Section Practice Interviews**



**US Citizenship Bootcamp Paperback June 2017!**

# uscitizenpod: Mix & Match Citizenship Interviews and Quizzes



**Includes  
20 interviews  
and 40 Civics  
quizzes**



## 10 N-400 and 10 Civics Listening Tests Summer 2018!

**Question:  
Paper or  
Google Forms?**

### U.S. Citizenship: Civics Listening Quiz 01

Listen to mp3 <https://goo.gl/iZdEKY>



mp3 QR code

01.

- a) The Articles of Confederation
- b) The Bill of Rights
- c) The Constitution
- d) The Declaration of Independence

02.

- a) communism
- b) economic opportunity
- c) market economy
- d) terrorism

03.

- a) Twenty-seven (27)
- b) Fifty (50)
- c) One hundred (100)
- d) Four hundred and thirty-five (435)

04.

- a) the First Lady
- b) the Secretary of Defense
- c) the Secretary of State
- d) the Speaker of the House

05.

- a) to print licenses
- b) to print money
- c) to provide schools
- d) to provide soldiers



US Citizenship Podcast on iTunes!

- Vision: To lead California adult education in the integration of technology into the educational process, ultimately empowering learners to meet their academic, employment and civic goals. [[short video](#)]
- Training: [f2f](#) & [online](#)
- Digests for [teachers](#) & [admins](#)
- [News](#)
- [Teaching with Technology](#)
- Technology and Distance Learning [Symposium](#)



# Thank You for Attending!

- Be sure to visit the CASAS website at [www.casas.org](http://www.casas.org)
- Follow us on Twitter  [twitter.com/CASASsystem](https://twitter.com/CASASsystem) and use the hashtag [#casassi2018](https://twitter.com/hashtag/casassi2018) to tweet updates, photos, and stories.
- Keep in touch with Facebook  [facebook.com/CASASsystem](https://facebook.com/CASASsystem) use the hashtag [#casassi2018](https://facebook.com/hashtag/casassi2018) to share photos and post stories.
- Visit us on the  [YouTube Channel](#)