CASAS Assessments for Citizenship Preparation

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CASAS Assessments for Citizenship Preparation Objective

• Participants will understand that the CASAS Citizenship assessments not only add instructional rigor, but facilitate the successful acquisition of language skills needed to successfully pass the USCIS Naturalization Interview.
CASAS Citizenship Assessment
WIOA Funding and Pay Points

- WIOA Accountability & Assessment
- Citizenship Prep Payment Point Requirements
WIOA Accountability & Assessment

DATA COLLECTION KEY GUIDELINES #13

• EL Civics Ed & SODS: Consists of an Entry Record, Update Record, pretest, post-test, and:
  • 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 Gov’t & History (GH) test for Citizen Preparation focus area.

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Citizenship Prep Payment Point Requirements

• Learners must take a CASAS pre- and post-test. A learner can earn 1 pay point for completing a level.

• Learners may take
  • Citizenship Interview Test (CIT) AND
  • Government & History for Citizenship test (G&H)
  to earn pay 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 manual guidelines to administer the Gov’t & History for Citizenship test (G&H).
USCIS Citizenship Interview and more!

- Overview of the USCIS Citizenship Interview
- USCIS Reading and Writing Tests
- USCIS 100 Civics Questions
- USCIS N-400 Application for Naturalization
- Census 2020 Person 1 & Person X (+1)
- The USCIS N-400 and Census 2020

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Overview of the USCIS Citizenship Interview

• Speaking/Listening test
  • Respond to approx. 20-70 commands /questions based on the USCIS N-400 Application for Naturalization.

• Reading Test
  • Correctly read aloud 1 of 3 sentences.

• Writing Test
  • Correctly write 1 of 3 dictated sentences.

• USCIS Civics Test
  • Correctly answer 6 of 10 of the USCIS Civics questions.
USCIS Reading and Writing
(indirectly assessed via (951R/952R)

• Two complementary vocabulary lists.
• Sentences based on civics topics.
• No official set of reading nor dictation sentences.

• READING
  • People (First/Last Names)
  • Civics
  • Places
  • Holidays
  • Question Words
  • Verbs
  • Function (ex: articles, prepositions)
  • Content (ex: adjectives, numbers)

• WRITING
  • People (Last Names only)
  • Civics
  • Places
  • Months
  • Holidays
  • Verbs
  • Function (ex: p/n, prep.)
  • Content (ex: colors, numbers)
USCIS 100 Civics Questions
(assessed via the CASAS G&H)

• AMERICAN GOV’T
  • A: Principles of American Democracy 100:01-12
  • B: System of Government
    • Intro 100:100-15
    • Legislative Branch 100:16-26
    • Executive Branch 100:27-36
    • Judicial Branch 100:37-40
    • Federal/State Government 100:41-44
    • Political Parties 100:45-47
  • C: Rights & Responsibilities 100:48-57

• AMERICAN HISTORY
  • A: Colonial Period and Independence 100:58-70
  • B: 1800s 100:71-77
  • C: Recent American History & more info 100:78-87

• INTEGRATED CIVICS
  • A: Geography 100:88-95
  • B: Symbols 100:96-98
  • C: Holidays 100:99-100
USCIS N-400 Application for Naturalization
(indirectly assessed via the CASAS Life/Work series and directly assessed via the CASAS CIT)

• Eligibility
• Info about You
• Accommodations
• Contact info
• Residence
• Info about Parents
• Biographic Info
• Employment/School
• Time Outside the US
• Marital History
• Children
• Additional Info
• Applicant's Signature
• Interpreter's Signature
• Preparer's Signature
• Signature at Interview
• Renunciation of Foreign Title
• Oath of Allegiance
Census 2020!
Person 1 Questions

1. The number of people living or staying in a home on April 1, 2020.
2. Were there any additional people staying here on July 1, 2019 that you did not include in question 1?
3. Is the home owned with or without a mortgage, rented or occupied without rent.
4. Phone number
5. Name
6. Sex (male/female)
7. Age and date of birth
8. Whether each Person 1 is of Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin.

10. "Is this person a citizen of the United States?"

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Census 2020!
Person X (+1) Questions

1. Name
2. Where does Person X usually live?
3. How is this person related to Person 1?
4. Sex (male/female)
5. Age and date of birth
6. Whether Person X is of Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin.
7. Race of Person X in the home.
8. "Is this person a citizen of the United States?"

Pending Supreme Court Decision
USCIS N-400 and Census 2020

Eligibility: 1+

Info about You: 2+

Contact info: 4+

Residence: 5+

Info about Parents: 6+

Biographic Info: 7+

Employment/School: 8+

Time Outside the US: 9+

Marital History: 10+

Children: 11+

Additional Info: 12+

**"Is this person a citizen of the United States?“

1. The number of people living or staying in a home on April 1, 2020.

2. Were there any additional people staying here on July 1, 2019 that you did not include in question 1?

3. Is the home owned with or without a mortgage, rented or occupied without rent.

4. Phone number

5. Name

6. Sex (male/female)

7. Age and date of birth

8. Whether person is of Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin.


10. What is your relation to Person 1?
The USCIS N-400 & the CASAS Life/Work Reading series

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

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Citizenship Students . . .

www.casas.org/si
Wait a minute...

YOU WILL BE TAKING A CASAS TEST

WHY AM I TAKING AN ESL TEST?

www.casas.org/si
## Strong correlation between the N-400 and CASAS Test

Test #s based on 2008 paper tests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Placement</th>
<th>Literacy</th>
<th>Level A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>020L</td>
<td>020R</td>
<td>027R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job/school</td>
<td>12, 13, 22</td>
<td>14, 15, 16, 17, 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money</td>
<td>8, 12</td>
<td>13, 19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level B</th>
<th>Level C</th>
<th>Level D</th>
<th>CIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>083R</td>
<td>084R</td>
<td>185R</td>
<td>186R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job/school</td>
<td>5, 6, 15, 16, 19</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 15, 16, 17, 19</td>
<td>9, 10, 22, 2, 3, 25, 27, 2, 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money</td>
<td>21, 22</td>
<td>10, 17</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[www.casas.org/si](http://www.casas.org/si)
R2.4 Use capitalization as a clue to interpret words
- (e.g., names, place names, other proper nouns)

We signed the Constitution!  I signed my N-400!
CASAS Level C Test 185R & N-400

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

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?

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CASAS Citizenship Assessments

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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)

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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

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What is it?

a. A dime
b. A nickel
c. A penny
d. A quarter
Gov’t/History LISTENING (965/966G)

- 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.
Gov’t/History LISTENING (965/966G)

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
Are you ready to begin?

Yes!

www.casas.org/si
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


[www.casas.org/si](www.casas.org/si)
Intro to the CIT Part 2

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 min.)
- Follows basic USCIS interview pattern (Intro, Middle, Closing)
CIT Training Modules

- 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
Example of CIT Scoring Guidelines

• 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, un-trained American” would, not as a teacher.

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CIT Scoring Rubric

- **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

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Two Examples of CIT anchors

- What is your home address?
  - 2: 1331 E. Calaveras Blvd, Milpitas, California, 95132
  - 1: 1331 E. Calaveras Blvd, Milpitas, California
  - 1: 1331 E. Calaveras Blvd, Milpitas
  - 0: I live in Milpitas.
  - 0: I live in a house.

- Have you ever sold or smuggled Illegal drugs? Y/N

- What are illegal drugs?
  - 2: Drugs against the law like heroin and cocaine
  - 1: Drugs against the law.
  - 0: Alcohol
CIT CAVEAT!

- 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.

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CIT Benefits!

- Does not measure knowledge of the US Civics.
  - REFOCUSES student prep on the N-400 application!

- Vocabulary based on 10 page pre-2014 N-400
  - Students must explain common 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 space.

- Uses Colloquial English
  - Work/life connection: job interviews, medical exams, parent/teacher conferences, etc.
CASAS EL Civics and the Citizenship Interview

- What is COAPPSS?
- Intro to EL Civics Objectives 40
  - EL Civics Objective 40 Language/Literacy Objectives
  - COAPPSS 40.4 Mock Interview
- COAPPSS 19: alternative to COAPPSS 40
- COAPPSS 54: The Census!
What is COAPPS?

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.

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COAPPS

- 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"

2018-2019 Pre-approved COAPPS List pdf
Intro to EL Civics Objectives 40

- 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

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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, write about issues
- The Constitution
- 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.
COAPPS 40.4

- 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

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COAPPS 40.4 Mock Interview

- 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?*

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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.
COAPPS 19—Immigrant Rights cont’d

• *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, locations, fees, and hours.

• Contact local and state agencies that specialize in immigrant services and ask simple questions about agency services, hours, fees, etc.

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COAPPS 54: Census 2020!

LANGUAGE AND LITERACY OBJECTIVES Part 1

This COAAP will be finalized when the Census 2020 questions are released. Contact lbhoward@casas.org

1. *Respond to personal information questions related to the Census.

2. *Identify and/or describe the Decennial Census and/or its purpose.

3. *Identify and/or describe reasons why completing the Census is important.

4. *Identify and/or describe barriers students might have in completing the Census.
COAPP 54: Census 2020!

LANGUAGE AND LITERACY OBJECTIVES Part 2

This COAAP will be finalized when the Census 2020 questions are released. Contact lbhoward@casas.org

5. Identify and/or describe privacy and confidentiality laws protecting Census information.

6. Write a persuasive email, letter or article explaining the importance of completing the Census.

7. Complete an authentic or simulated Census form online or in print.
COAPPS 54: Census 2020!
Task 1

• TASK 1: Describe why completing the Census is important (BL- BH) 10 points possible

• After learning about the importance for all persons living in the U.S. to complete the Decennial Census and about the privacy and confidentiality laws protecting Census information, student will describe up to 5 pictures orally or in writing, depicting why completing the Census is Important.
COAPPS 54: Census 2020!
Task 2

• Task 2: Complete a Simulated Census form online or in print. (16 points possible)

• Given a level-appropriate agency-created case study about 2 persons living in a residence, student will answer up to 16 authentic Census about Persons 1 and 2 in the case study in order to complete a simulated Census form online or in print.
COAPPS 54: Census 2020!
Task 3

• Task 3: Participate in a Simulated Conversation with a Census Enumerator (BL-ADV) (Points possible = 18)

• Given level-appropriate agency-created case study about 2 persons living in a residence, student will participate in a simulated interview with a Census Enumerator (assessor).
Task 4

- TASK 4: Write a persuasive email, letter or article to overcome barriers to census participation (ILADV) (20 points possible)

- After learning about the importance for all persons living in the U.S. to complete the Decennial Census, about barriers to completing the Census and about the privacy and confidentiality laws protecting Census information, student will complete an authentic writing task such as an article, letter to the editor or an email or a letter to a friend who has concerns about completing the Census such as: “I don’t feel comfortable sharing my information” or “I don’t know how to complete census form” or “I don’t have time to complete the Census form”. Student will use persuasive language to convince the reader to participate in the Decennial Census.
CASAS Citizenship and EL Civics Resources

- CASAS EL Civics Basics Part II
- CASAS Quick Search
More about EL Civics COAPPs

EL Civics Basics
Part 2: Understanding and Implementing COAAPS for Civic Participation

Facilitated by:
CASAS Program Specialists

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

www.casas.org/si
CASAS Quick Search

Search by test

www.casas.org/si
CASAS Biblio. of Citizenship Materials

Download 2008 pdf:
https://www.casas.org/docs/pagecontents/citizenship-bibliography.pdf
Practice for the CASAS Civics and Citizenship Assessments

- Census.gov
- MN Literacy: Mock Interview
- CCSF: Best, OK, and Worst Citizenship Interviews
- USA Learns.org
- uscitizenpod: Mix and Match / Mezclar y Combinar
- Don’t Touch That Dial: Mix and Match Census Interviews!
Census.gov
Lesson Plans for Math, History, Geography and more!

Adopting an Entrepreneurial Mindset - Using Census Data for Business

Using the Decennial Census to Draw Conclusions About American Life

Maps and Graphs - Exploring the U.S. Island Territories

Also check out the US Census Channel on YouTube
### MN Literacy Mock Interview

**IV. Oath Requirements – ASK ALL QUESTIONS IN THIS SECTION (47-53)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Questions asked by USCIS Immigration Officer</th>
<th>Appropriate Student Response</th>
<th>Gave Appropriate Response</th>
<th>Unable to Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>47. Do you support the Constitution and form of government of the United States?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48. Do you understand the full Oath of Allegiance to the United States?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49. What is the Oath of Allegiance?</td>
<td>It means I am loyal to the US and its constitution, and I will follow the laws of this country.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50. Are you willing to take the full Oath of Allegiance to the United States?</td>
<td>Yes (If “no”, student should explain which part they will not, and why)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51. If the law requires it, are you willing to bear arms on behalf of the United States?</td>
<td>Yes or No (Must use religious background for a “No” Answer)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52. If the law requires it, are you willing to perform noncombatant services in the U.S. Armed Forces?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53. If the law requires it, are you willing to perform work of national importance under civilian direction?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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!

Debut: Nov 1, 2017

www.usalearns.org
uscitizenpod: Mix & Match
Citizenship Interviews and Quizzes

Mix-and-Match
U.S. Citizenship
Interviews & Quizzes

20 interviews and 40 Civics quizzes
in English and Spanish
Don’t touch that dial!

uscitizenpod: Mix and Match Census Interviews

- 6 levels of interviews based on the 2020 Census
- 5 versions of interviews per level
- Includes standard question on the 2020 Census Form plus follow-up questions by possible follow-up visits from Census workers
- Quizzes based vocabulary, practice scenarios, privacy laws, and historical Census data
- ETA Labor Day 2019; contact jgagliar@musd.org.
Thank you for attending!

Help improve the Summer Institute, take the survey!

Facebook.com/CASASsystem use #casassi2019 to share!

@CASASsystem use #casassi2019 to tweet!

CASASAssessment