



# **New CASAS Reading Assessment Series**

**Greater Opportunities for Adult Learning Success**

- **NRS-approved CASAS tests**
- **New Reading GOALS Test Series**
  - Overview
  - Test Content Blueprint
  - Sample Test Items
- **CASAS Field testing and Research Studies**
- **Questions**

Click to visit the [Reading GOALS](#) web page

## ■ Tests for ABE/ASE

- NRS-approved through 2025
  - CASAS Reading GOALS for ABE/ASE (900 series)
- NRS-approved through June 2019
  - Life Skills Math (30 series) or Secondary Math (Forms 505 & 506)
  - Life and Work Reading (80 series), Beg. Literacy, Forms 27 & 28, and Reading for Language Arts (Forms 513 & 514)

## ■ Tests for ESL

- NRS-approved through February 2021
  - Life and Work Reading (80 series), Beginning Literacy, Forms 27 and 28, and Reading for Language Arts (Forms 513/514)
  - Life and Work Listening (980 series)

- **New GOALS series**
  - Reading GOALS approved for ABE/ASE through 2025
  - Reading GOALS for ELLs submitted on October 1, 2018
  - Math GOALS submitted to OCTAE
  - Listening GOALS in development
- **Strongly aligns with College and Career Readiness (CCR) Standards for Adult Education**
  - **Reading** - assesses higher order thinking skills (Depth of Knowledge), complex informational text, and vocabulary, including academic language
  - **Math** - math concepts assessed in common life and work applications

# *Reading* **GOALS** *Test Series*

The logo for CASAS (Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems) is positioned between the words "GO" and "LS". It features a stylized blue and red graphic above the word "CASAS" in blue.

## ■ Intake

- Locator, Form 104R -- 15 mins. - eTests only with pretest
- 900R Appraisal -- 30 mins.- Paper and eTests
  - Appraisal may be used alone for screening but not for NRS reporting

## ■ Pre-and Post-tests - Paper and eTests

- New Reading GOALS for ABE/ASE
  - 60 minutes for Level A, 75 minutes for Level B, C, D
- Pre- and post-tests -- 60 minutes each
  - Life Skills Math or Secondary Math for ABE/ASE
  - Life and Work Reading for ESL and ABE/ASE
  - Life and Work Listening (980 series) for ESL

## ■ Post-testing

- Administer post-test(s) after 70 -100 hours of instruction but no less than 40 hours

# NRS EFLs and Reading GOALS Scale Score Ranges



NRS EFL	ABE/ASE Levels	Reading GOALS Scale Score Ranges	Life and Work Reading Scale Score Ranges
1	Beginning ABE Literacy	203 and below	200 and below
2	Beginning Basic Education	204 - 216	201 - 210
3	Low Intermediate Basic Education	217 - 227	211 - 220
4	High Intermediate Basic Education	228 - 238	221 - 235
5	Low Adult Secondary Education	239 - 248	236 - 245
6	High Adult Secondary Education	249 and above	246 and above

# New Reading Test Series Content



- **New CASAS Reading Series Blueprint reflects:**
  - CASAS Competencies
  - **Content Standards**
    - CASAS Reading Standards
    - CCR Standards for Adult Education in the area of Reading
  - Reading Task Areas
  - Depth of Knowledge (DOK)

Click to download the [Reading GOALS Test Blueprint](#)



<b>CASAS Reading GOALS Content Areas</b>	<b>CCRS Reading Anchor*</b>
<b>Vocabulary</b>	<b>R4</b>
<b>Reading Comprehension Skills</b>	
Locate detail	<b>R1</b>
Main idea; Author's purpose	<b>R2, R6</b>
<b>Higher Order Reading Skills</b>	
Locate/compare details; Infer/draw conclusions	<b>R1</b>
Text structure and features	<b>R5</b>
Author's point of view	<b>R6</b>
Analyze claim/argument	<b>R8</b>
<b>*CCRS Reading Standards R7, R9 and R10 are measured across content areas.</b>	

# Depth of Knowledge (DOK)



- Describe levels of cognitive processing and higher-order thinking required in the *College and Career Readiness Standards*.
- **Four DOK levels:**
  1. Recall, Reproduction, Recitation
  2. Application of Skill/Concept
  3. Strategic Thinking
  4. Extended Thinking

## ■ The Academic Word List (AWL)

- Developed by Averil Coxhead at the School of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies at [Victoria University of Wellington](#), New Zealand.
- The list contains 570 word families which were selected because they appear with great frequency in a broad range of academic texts.
- The list does not include words that are in the most frequent 2000 words of English (the [General Service List](#)), thus making it specific to academic contexts.
- An alphabetized version is available online.
- CASAS used the AWL list for the GOALS Reading series.

# Reading GOALS Item Types



- **Multiple choice - All levels**
  - Comprehension (in existing Reading tests)
  - Sentence completion
- **New text and item features - Levels B, C, D**
  - Numbered lines in text passages
  - Underlined words embedded in passage
- **Level A only**
  - Photo prompts and distractors in beginning of the test
- **Item Families**
  - Multiple items related to one reading passage makes efficient use of test time

# CASAS Sample Test Items



- **Available at no cost**
  - Reading -- Levels A - D
  - Math - Levels A - D
  - Listening -- Levels A - C, including audio files
- **Use sample test items to:**
  - familiarize students with CASAS items
  - give students practice in taking a CASAS test
  - make future testing go more smoothly
  - help reduce student test-taking anxiety
- **Download sample test items at:**  
<https://www.casas.org/product-overviews/curriculum-management-instruction/sample-test-items>

### Lease vs Buy

#### Read This Before Leasing or Buying a Car!

1 Choosing between leasing or buying a car is one task in life that many  
2 individuals face. Some experts believe buying is the preferred choice because  
3 consumers have the freedom to sell the car at any time and are able to determine  
4 the asking price for themselves. Others respond that leasing is the better  
5 option because consumers often can select newer makes and models that may  
6 not be within their reach when purchasing a car. More importantly, leasing  
7 means lower monthly payments. Those who favor buying are quick to point  
8 out that the payments never end with leasing, and after the endless payments,  
9 consumers have nothing to call their own.

The writer distinguishes between leasing and buying by emphasizing the \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. affordability of leasing a car
- B. high cost of purchasing a car
- C. similarities of both options
- D. pros and cons of the options

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7 means lower monthly payments. Those who favor buying are quick to point  
8 out that the payments never end with leasing, and after the endless payments,  
9 consumers have nothing to call their own.

Which statement would make the *best* conclusion to this article?

- A. Leasing the newest model beats owning an older one.
- B. The decision depends on each person's situation.
- C. It is obvious that leasing involves too many costs.
- D. Most experts see little difference between leasing and buying.

## Star Tech

### Employee Computer and Internet Policy

1 All StarTech employees have a computer Internet connection to use for company  
2 business. The company also has a liberal policy of giving employees up to 30  
3 minutes of personal Internet use each day. However, communications on  
4 company computers belong to StarTech. The company can look at all messages  
5 and documents on its computers and other company technology.

Which word means the same as liberal as used in this announcement?

- A. generous
- B. radical
- C. traditional
- D. widespread



# Revised CASAS Reading Standards



- Combined, reduced, re-named and re-organized the categories and standards
  - Number of categories reduced from 9 to 5
  - Number of standards reduced from 125 to 51
- Added new standards from the CCR Standards for Adult Education in the English Language Arts and Literacy areas of Reading, Reading Foundations and Language
  - All CCRS Standards in these 3 areas are referenced at least once in the revised CASAS Reading Standards.
- To align assessment with instruction, the categories in the revised CASAS Reading Standards will be the same as the categories for reporting test results for the new CASAS Reading series.
- Click to download the revised [CASAS Reading Standards](#).

## **1 – Foundational Literacy**

## **2 – Language and Vocabulary**

## **3 – Reading Comprehension Skills - DOK 1**

- Literal Comprehension
- Informational and Literary Text
- Includes CASAS Reading Task Areas
  - Forms, Charts/Tables, Text, Other Formats

## **4 – Higher Order Reading Skills - DOK 2 and higher**

- Informational and Literary Text

## **5 – Higher Order Reading Skills**

- Literary Text Only

# Sign Up for Field-Testing!



- **Now through December 2018**
  - Item field testing for new Listening GOALS series
- **February - August 2019**
  - Research studies for new Listening GOALS test series
- **Cooperative studies** for new Reading GOALS and Math GOALS test series
  - GED Testing Service
  - ETS HiSET
- **To participate** in CASAS field testing and research studies
  - send an email to: [fieldtesting@casas.org](mailto:fieldtesting@casas.org) or contact Karen Burger ([kburger@casas.org](mailto:kburger@casas.org))

# High School Equivalency Studies



- **CASAS is collaborating with GED Testing Service and ETS HiSET on research studies.**
  - Study will establish cut scores on CASAS Reading and Math GOALS tests that indicate student readiness to take the corresponding HiSET and GED sections.
  - States and local programs interested in taking part in these studies should contact Nicole Jordan [njordan@casas.org](mailto:njordan@casas.org) or Karen Burger [kburger@casas.org](mailto:kburger@casas.org)




# Thank You for Attending!

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 Be sure to visit the CASAS website at [www.casas.org](http://www.casas.org).

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