

Reference Table Showing Relationship between Education Level and CASAS Reading and NALS Prose and Document Levels and Scores

Highest Education Level or Degree Completed	CASAS Reading Scores	CASAS Levels	Approximate NALS Levels*	Approximate NALS Scores from Prose and Document Scales*
= 8	= 230	A/B/C	1	170 - 177
9 - 11	231 - 240	C/D	2	227 - 231
12	241 - 245	D	2	**
High School	241	D	2	264 - 270
GED	244	D	2/3	GED Credential: 264 - 268 GED Passers: 289 - 290
Vocational/ technical training; some college; AA	246 - 250	E	3	290 - 308

*J. Baldwin, et al. *The Literacy Proficiencies of GED Examinees: Results from the GED-NALS Comparison Study*. American Council on Education and Educational Testing Service, 1995. Refer to Figures 1.5a and 1.5b, pp. 22 and 23.

**Data not available as part of the Baldwin study.

CASAS, 1996

Reference Table Showing Relationship between Education Level and CASAS Math and NALS Quantitative Levels and Scores

Highest Education Level or Degree Completed	CASAS Math Scores	CASAS Levels	Approximate NALS Levels*	Approximate NALS Scores from the Quantitative Scale*
= 8	= 218	A/B	1	169
9 - 11	219 - 225	B/C	2	227
12	226	C	2	**
High School	226 - 227	C	2	270
GED	228 - 229	C	2/3	GED Credential: 268 GED Passers: 284
Vocational/ technical training; some college; AA	230 - 250	C/D/E	3	295 - 307

*J. Baldwin, et al. *The Literacy Proficiencies of GED Examinees: Results from the GED-NALS Comparison Study*. American Council on Education and Educational Testing Service, 1995. Refer to Figure 1.5c, p. 24.

**Data not available as part of the Baldwin study.

CASAS, 1996

Descriptions of the NALS Literacy Levels*

NALS Literacy Level Score Range	Prose Literacy Scale	Document Literacy Scale	Quantitative Literacy Scale
Level 1 (0 to 225)	Read short text to locate a single piece of easily identifiable information.	Locate a piece of information based on a literal match; enter personal information into a document.	Perform single, simple arithmetic operations, such as addition, using provided numbers and specified operations.
Level 2 (226 to 275)	Locate a single piece of information with distractors present; make low-level inferences; compare and contrast easily identifiable information.	Match a single piece of information, with distractors present; make low-level inferences; cycle through information or integrate data from parts of a document.	Perform a single operation using numbers provided or easily located; determine the operation to be performed from the format of the material.
Level 3 (276 to 325)	Match literal information in the text; make low-level inferences; integrate information from lengthy text; generate a response based on easily identifiable information.	Integrate multiple pieces of information from one or more documents; cycle through complex data or graphs which contain irrelevant information.	Locate two or more numbers in material; determine arithmetic operation from terms used in the task.
Level 4 (326 to 375)	Perform multiple feature matches of information; integrate or synthesize information from complex or lengthy passages; make complex inferences.	Perform multiple feature matches; cycle through documents; integrate information; make higher levels of inference.	Perform two or more sequential operations; use quantities found in different displays; infer operations from information provided or prior knowledge.
Level 5 (376 to 500)	Search for information in dense text; make high-level inferences; use background knowledge; contrast complex information.	Search through complex displays that contain multiple distractors; make high level, text-based inferences; use specialized knowledge.	Perform multiple operations sequentially; disembed features of problem from text; use background knowledge to determine quantities or operations needed.

*J. Baldwin, et al. *The Literacy Proficiencies of GED Examiness: Results from the GED-NALS Comparison Study*. American Council on Education and Educational Testing Service, 1995. Refer to Figure 1.1, p. 14.

NALS Proficiency by Educational Attainment

Average NALS Prose Literacy for Varying Educational Attainment*

NALS Level	NALS Score	Sample Task	NALS Score	Educational Attainment
1	149	Identify country in short article	177	0 - 8 years of schooling
	210	Locate one piece of information in sports article		
	224	Underline sentence explaining action stated in short article		
2	226	Underline meaning of a term in government brochure	231	9 - 12 years of schooling
	250	Locate two features of information in sports article	268	GED credential
	275	Interpret instructions from appliance warranty	270	High school diploma
3	280	Write brief letter explaining error on credit card bill	290	GED passers
	304	Read news article; identify sentence that provides interpretation of situation	294	Some college
			308	Two-year degree
316	Read lengthy article to identify two behaviors that meet stated condition	322	Four-year degree	
4	328	State in writing argument made in lengthy newspaper article	336	Graduate studies/degree
	347	Explain difference between two types of employee benefits		
	359	Contrast views expressed in two editorials on automotive technologies		
	374	Compare two metaphors used in poem		
5	382	Compare approaches stated in narrative on growing up		
	410	Summarize two ways lawyers may challenge prospective jurors		
	423	Interpret brief phrase from lengthy news article		

*This chart was extrapolated from J. Baldwin, et al. *The Literacy Proficiencies of GED Examinees: Results from the GED-NALS Comparison Study*. American Council on Education and Educational Testing Service, 1995. Figure 1.5a, p. 22.

Average NALS Document Literacy for Varying Educational Attainment*

NALS Level	NALS Score	Sample Task	NALS Score	Educational Attainment
1	69	Sign your name	170	0 - 8 years of schooling
	151	Locate expiration date on driver's license		
	214	Using pie graph, locate type of vehicle having specific sales		
2	232	Locate intersection on street map	227	9 - 12 years of schooling
	245	Locate eligibility from table of employee benefits	264	High school diploma, GED credential
	259	Identify and enter information on application for social security card		
3	277	Identify information from bar graph depicting source of energy and year	289	GED passers
	296	Use sign out sheet to respond to call about resident	290	Some college
	314	Use bus schedule to determine appropriate bus for given set of conditions	299	Two-year degree
	323	Enter information given into an auto maintenance record form	314	Four-year degree
4	342	Identify correct percentage meeting specified conditions from a table of such information	326	Graduate studies/degree
	348	Use bus schedule to determine appropriate bus for given conditions		
5	379	Use table of information to determine pattern in oil exports across years		
	396	Using a table depicting information about parental involvement in school survey, write a paragraph summarizing extent to which parents and teachers agree		

*This chart was extrapolated from J. Baldwin, et al. *The Literacy Proficiencies of GED Examinees: Results from the GED-NALS Comparison Study*. American Council on Education and Educational Testing Service, 1995. Figure 1.5b, p. 23.

Average NALS Quantitative Literacy for Varying Educational Attainment*

NALS Level	NALS Score	Sample Task	NALS Score	Educational Attainment
1	191	Total a bank deposit entry	169	0 - 8 years of schooling
2	238	Calculate postage and fees for certified mail	227	9 - 12 years of schooling
	246	Determine difference in price between tickets for two shows	268	GED credential
	270	Calculate total costs of purchase from an order form	270	High school diploma
3	278	Using calculator, calculate difference between regular and sale price from an advertisement	284	GED passers
	308	Using calculator, determine the discount from an oil bill if paid within ten days	295	Some college
			307	Two-year degree
			322	Four-year degree
4	325	Plan travel arrangements for meeting using flight schedule	334	Graduate studies/degree
	350	Using information stated in news article, calculate amount of money that should go to raising a child		
	368	Using pamphlet, calculate the yearly amount a couple would receive for basic supplemental security income		
5	375	Calculate miles per gallon using information given on mileage record chart		
	382	Determine individual and total costs on an order form for items in a catalog		
	421	Using calculator, determine the total cost of carpet to cover a room		

*This chart was extrapolated from J. Baldwin, et al. *The Literacy Proficiencies of GED Examinees: Results from the GED-NALS Comparison Study*. American Council on Education and Educational Testing Service, 1995. Figure 1.5c, p. 24.