Miami-Dade County Public Schools
District School Operations
Office of Adult and Community Education
Adult ESOL Program

CASAS For Students In The Classroom

M-DCPS, Adult ESOL Program, January 2012
What is CASAS?

CASAS stands for:

The Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System (CASAS)

CASAS measures English skills in:

- Reading
- Listening

Who has to take the CASAS Test?

The Florida Department of Education (DOE) requires students take placement tests before entering an ESOL program, and post-test after classroom instruction to measure learning gains.

All students registered in Miami- Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) Adult ESOL Programs will take the proper standardized Comprehensive Adult Students Assessment System (CASAS) assessment.

You can enroll in ESOL no matter what score you earn in CASAS.
Adult Centers use your CASAS score to:

- Determine your English skill level
- Place you in the appropriate level to begin your studies

Beginning at the right level is critical to learning English. We want you to succeed. By knowing what areas you need help in, your instructors can work with you to strengthen your skills.

How Can I Learn More about CASAS?

You can talk with a school counselor or your teacher for more information.
Assessment Process Summary:

1. Screening
2. Pre-Test
3. Instruct
4. Post-Test

These are the ranges of the CASAS scores and levels:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCALE SCORE</th>
<th>ADULT ESOL COURSE LEVEL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 180 AND LITERATE IN NATIVE LANGUAGE</td>
<td>FOUNDATIONS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>181 – 190</td>
<td>LOW BEGINNING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>191 – 200</td>
<td>HIGH BEGINNING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>201 – 210</td>
<td>LOW INTERMEDIATE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>211 – 220</td>
<td>HIGH INTERMEDIATE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>221 – 235</td>
<td>ADVANCED</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Your placement level is based on the lower of the two scores (reading and listening).

Example: Reading Score = 192
Listening Score = 187
Level= Low Beginning
Make-Up Exams:

Sometimes circumstances force students to miss a scheduled test; however, arrangements can be made with instructors and the Assessment and Testing Center to make-up a missed exam. Make-up exams are very important.

CASAS Test Formats:

The listening test is used to determine a student’s ability to understand spoken English. There are three levels:

**CASAS eTest**

- **Level A**
  - All items are repeated
  - Picture Prompts and the questions
  - Comprehension Questions - Conversations between two people. Phone message recordings and recorded announcements
  - Predict Next Line - Finish conversation between two people
  
  **35 Minutes**

**CASAS LISTENING TESTS**

- **Level B**
  - Comprehension Questions - Repeated Conversations between two people. Phone message recordings and recorded announcements
  - Predict Next Line - Repeated Finish conversation between two people
  - Identify True Statement - Which is correct?
  
  **40 Minutes**

- **Level C**
  - No repetition
  - Comprehension Questions - Conversations between two people. Phone message recordings and recorded announcements
  - Identify True Statement Which is correct?
  - Predict Next Line - Finish conversation between two people
  
  **30 Minutes**

**Paper and Pencil**

- **Level A**
  - Picture Prompts and the questions
  - Comprehension Questions - Conversations between two people. Phone message recordings and recorded announcements
  - Predict Next Line - Finish conversation between two people
  
  **35 Minutes**

- **Level B**
  - Comprehension Questions - Repeated Conversations between two people. Phone message recordings and recorded announcements
  - Predict Next Line - Repeated Finish conversation between two people
  - Identify True Statement Not Repeated - Which is correct?
  
  **40 Minutes**

- **Level C**
  - No repetition
  - Comprehension Questions - Conversations between two people. Phone message recordings and recorded announcements
  - Identify True Statement Which is correct?
  - Predict Next Line - Finish conversation between two people
  
  **30 Minutes**
You can practice sample test items online at: www.casas.org

Click on Assessment.
Then on Sample Test Items.
PREPARING FOR THE POST TEST

- Practice sample test items on www.casas.
- Be on Time
- Bring #2 Pencil if taking a pen and paper test
- Think of the test as an opportunity to show what you know—a chance to see your progress
- Rest the night before the test
- Turn cell off
- Do not bring any calculators, dictionaries, or books
- Do not leave the room until you are dismissed
Practice 1 (Pencil and Paper)

What is he doing?
A He’s washing the dishes.
B He’s watching the children.
C He’s watering the plants.
D He’s cleaning the table.

CASAS etest

Practice 1

What is he doing?
A He’s washing dishes.  C He’s watering plants.
B He’s watching children.  D He’s cleaning the table.
Practice 1 (Pencil and Paper)

Please sign in and have a seat. We will call your name.

What do you do first?
A. call in
B. sign in
C. sit down
D. say your name

CASAS etest

Practice 1

What do you do first?

A. call in  C. sit down
B. sign in  D. say your name
Practice 1 (Pencil and Paper)

**TeleHealth Service**

Now you can obtain health information 24 hours a day directly from your home telephone. Call into our toll-free number and choose one of over 200 recorded messages that give you information on everything from common diseases to immunizations to lowering cholesterol.

What does TeleHealth offer?
A. home health care  
B. information on health  
C. a 24-hour appointment line  
D. direct access to medical staff

**CASAS etest**

Practice 1

**TeleHealth Service**

Now you can obtain health information 24 hours a day directly from your home telephone. Call into our toll-free number and choose one of over 200 recorded messages that give you information on everything from common diseases to immunizations to lowering cholesterol.

What does TeleHealth offer?

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<th>C</th>
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<td>information on health</td>
<td>a 24-hour appointment line</td>
<td>direct access to medical staff</td>
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PREPARE FOR THE TEST

Here are some additional online sites you can use to increase your reading and listening skills:

www.esl-lab.com (reading and listening)
www.eflclub.com (reading)
www.livemocha.com (reading and listening)
www.mansioningles.com (reading and listening)
www.englishclub.com (reading and listening)
www.a4esl.org (reading)
www.seminolecasastest.edu (reading and listening)
http://www.scc-fl.edu/adulted/els/pett/listening.htm (listening)
http://www.pbclibrary.org/mousing/mousercise.htm (To practice using a computer mouse)
www.thewclc.ca (Learning Edge)
PREPARE FOR THE TEST

Test questions are presented in a variety of task areas, or display formats.

You can prepare for the test by practicing using the different formats.

Reading questions could have:

1. Forms
2. Charts, maps, consumer billings, matrices, graphs, or tables
3. Stories, articles, paragraphs, sentences, directions, or pictures
4. Signs, price tags, ads, or product labels
5. Measurement scales and diagrams
PREPARE FOR THE TEST

Listening questions could have:

1. Picture prompt
2. Comprehension question
3. Predict next line of dialogue
4. Identify true statement based on prompt

Example:

1. Who is speaking?
   Listen to a conversation where you will identify the speaker.

   “This is the office of Dr. Perez, we are sorry but we have to cancel your appointment for tomorrow and re-schedule it for next week.”

   Who is speaking?
   a. A nurse
   b. A doctor
   c. An office assistant
   d. A patient

2. Which is the best answer to the following statement?

   Good Morning, how are you?
   1. It is a good day.
   2. I’m fine thank you and you?
   3. My sister is doing well.
GOALS
Setting goals will help you focus and accomplish your dreams. Students are encouraged to write down an educational goal at the beginning of their studies.

MY EDUCATIONAL GOAL

What:

When:

How:

Where:
This report will tell you how you did on your test. Ask your teacher to discuss with you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Comp No.</th>
<th>Correct?</th>
<th>Competency Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.2.1.2</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Ask for, give, follow, or clarify directions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.2.1.2</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Ask for, give, follow, or clarify directions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.1.1.2</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Use phone directory and related publications to locate info.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.1.1.2</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Use phone directory and related publications to locate info.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1.8.2.1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Interpret bank procedures, forms, writing checks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1.8.2.1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Interpret bank procedures, forms, writing checks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1.2.1.4</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Interpret ads, labels, charts, etc to select goods, services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>1.2.1.4</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Interpret ads, labels, charts, etc to select goods, services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>2.6.4.2</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Interpret, order from restaurant menu, and compute costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>2.6.4.2</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Interpret, order from restaurant menu, and compute costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>4.1.2.1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Follow proc. for applying for a job, incl. application forms</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ask your teacher if you have questions about this report.
Congratulations

You Are on Your Way to

SUCCESS!