

# Life After the Test

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# Objectives

- “ Review CASAS tools for determining student instructional needs
- “ Explore online lesson plans linked to CASAS competencies
- “ Identify specific lesson plans that may be used in the classroom to address a deficient competency
- “ Explore online sites for student use

# Introductions

- “ Name
- “ Where do you teach?
- “ What do you teach?
- “ How do you determine what to teach?
- “ Have you used CASAS tools to identify what to teach? What have you used?

# CASAS Competencies

What is a competency?

**A competency is a measurable learning objective in a functional life skills context.**

Examples:

Interpret medicine labels

Check sales receipts

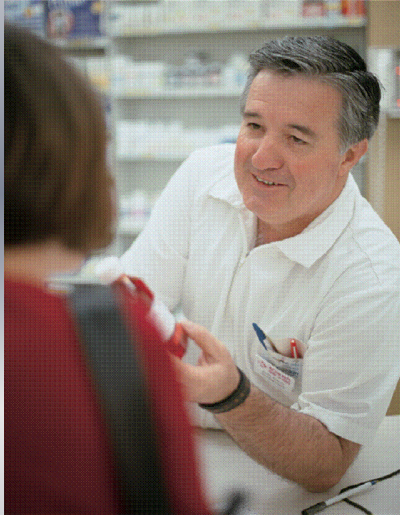
## Competency Content Areas

0. Basic Communication
1. Consumer Economics
2. Community Resources
3. Health
4. Employment
5. Government and Law
6. Math
7. Learning and Thinking Skills
8. Independent Living

Download the CASAS Competencies at

<https://www.casas.org/home/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.showContent&MapID=1602>

# The Competency Coding System



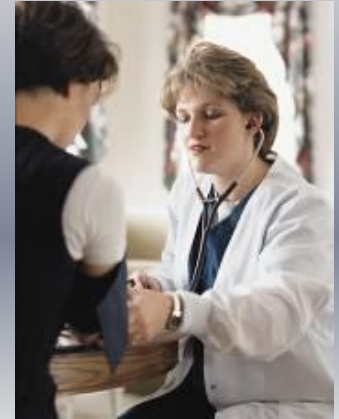
## **Content Area**

3. Health

## **Competency Area**

(what students should know)

3.4 Understand basic safety measures and health risks



## **Competency Statements**

(how we can measure understanding)

3.4.1. Interpret product label directions and safety warnings

3.4.2. Identify safety measures that can prevent accidents and injuries



# Sample Test Items at Three Levels

## 2.1.7: Take or interpret telephone messages

150 155 160 165 170 175 180 185 190 195 200 205 210 215 220 225 230 235 240 245 250

### A Level

Who is coming?

- A. today
- B. Sara
- C. Dan
- D. Amy

8:30

Sara -  
Dan is coming  
today at 11:00.

Amy

### B Level

When does the caller  
want to meet?

- A. at 8:20
- B. on 3/15
- C. on Monday
- D. downtown

### C Level

What should be done with this message?

- A. Paula should give it to Mr. Harper.
- B. Mr. Harper should give it to Lisa.
- C. Lisa should give it to Mr. Harper.
- D. Paula should give it to Lisa.

#### WHILE YOU WERE OUT

Date: 3/15 Time: 8:20

To: Lisa

From: Mr. Harper

Of: Lofton College

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Telephoned             | <input type="checkbox"/> Returned your call |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please call | <input type="checkbox"/> Will call again    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Urgent                 |   |

Message: Can you meet  
him downtown on  
Mon. at 1:30?

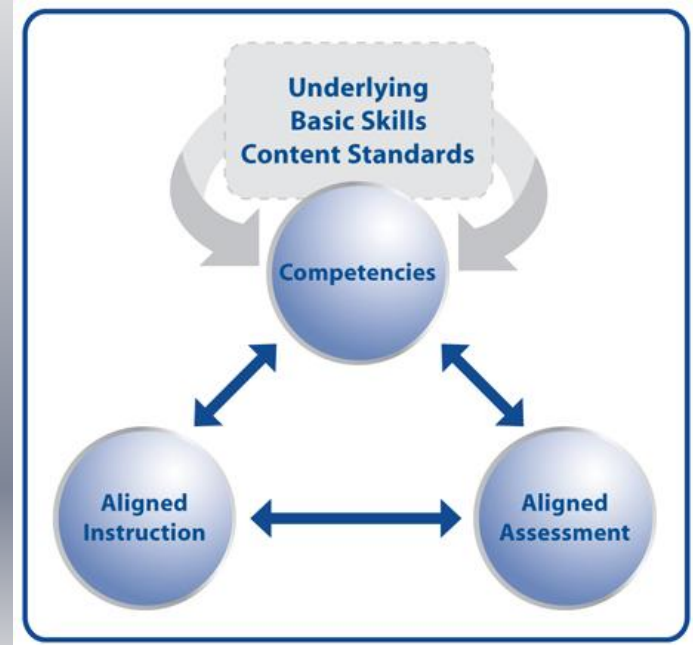
Taken by: Paula

# CASAS Content Standards

“Content standards identify the underlying basic skills associated with CASAS Competencies.

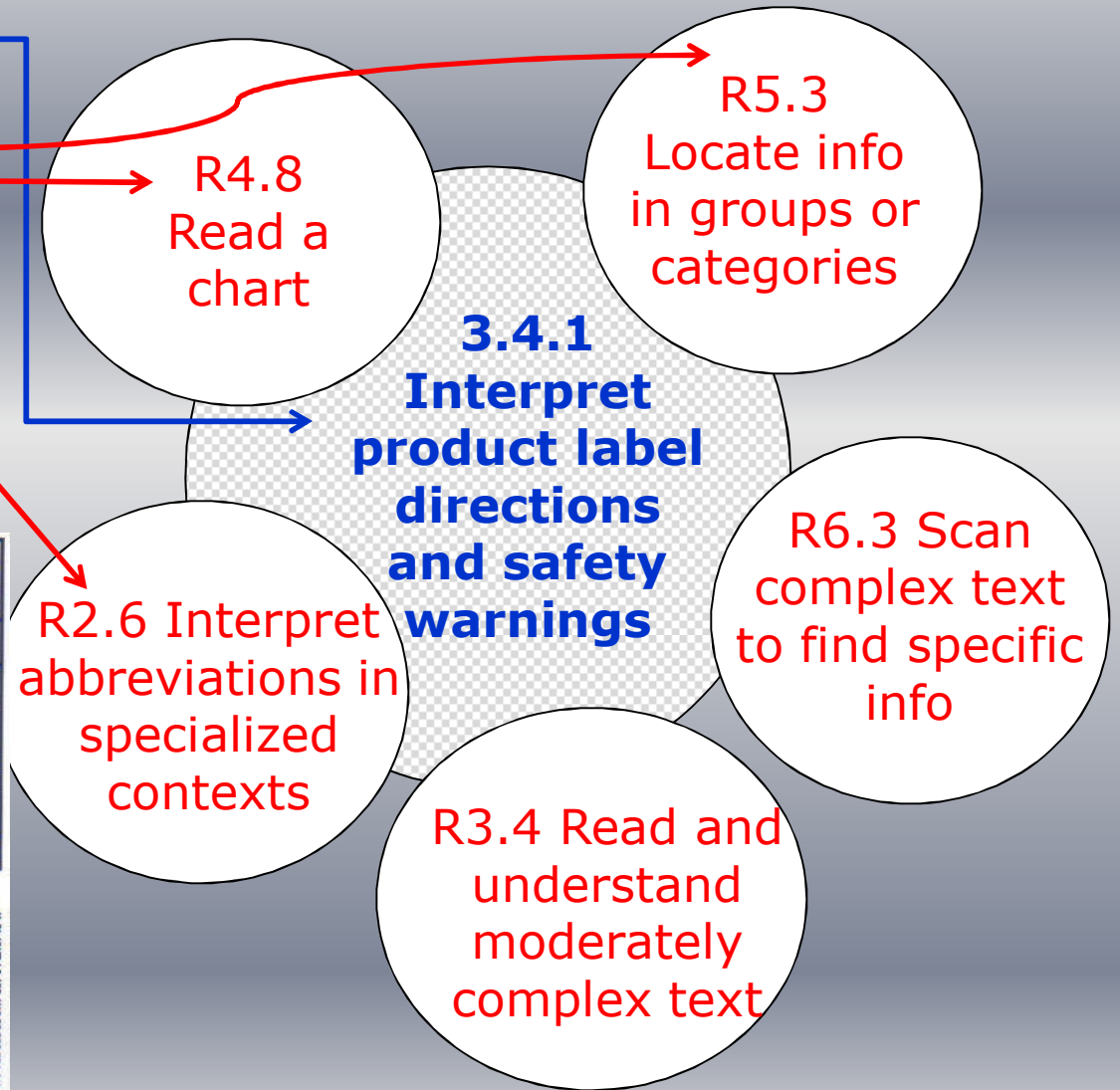
“Content standards support instructional planning that helps students master a specific competency and attain their goals.

“All items in the Life and Work series have been coded to the content standards.



# ABE Reading CASAS Level B

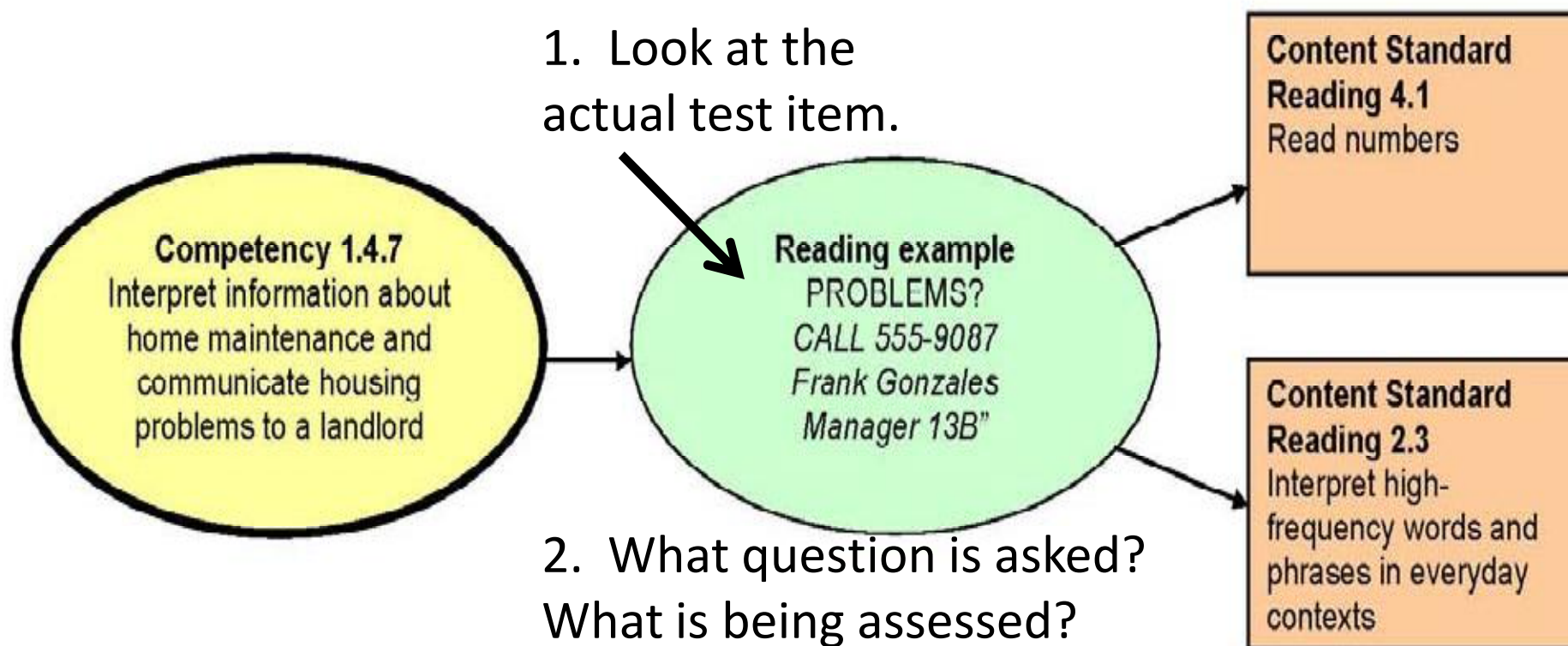
Notice the **CASAS competency** in the center and the **basic skills content standards** in the surrounding circles.



<b>Drug Facts</b>	
<b>Active ingredient (in each tablet)</b> Loratadine 10 mg	<b>Purpose</b> Antihistamine
<b>Uses</b> temporarily relieves these symptoms due to hay fever or other upper respiratory allergies: ■ runny nose ■ itchy, watery eyes ■ sneezing ■ itching of the nose or throat	
<b>Warnings</b> <b>Do not use</b> if you have ever had an allergic reaction to this product or any of its ingredients. <b>Ask a doctor before use</b> if you have liver or kidney disease. Your doctor should determine if you need a different dose. <b>When using this product</b> do not take more than directed. Taking more than directed may cause drowsiness. <b>Stop use and ask a doctor</b> if an allergic reaction to this product occurs. Seek medical help right away. <b>If pregnant or breast-feeding</b> , ask a health professional before use. <b>Keep out of reach of children.</b> In case of overdose, get medical help or contact a Poison Control Center right away.	
<b>Directions</b> ■ place 1 tablet on tongue; tablet disintegrates, with or without water adults and children 6 years and over 1 tablet daily; not more than 1 tablet in 24 hours children under 6 years of age ask a doctor consumers with liver or kidney disease ask a doctor	
<b>Other information</b> ■ Phenylketonurics: contains Phenylalanine 0.9 mg per tablet ■ store between 2° and 25°C (36° and 77°F) ■ keep in a dry place ■ use tablet immediately after opening individual blister	
<b>Inactive ingredients</b> anhydrous citric acid, artificial cherry flavor, aspartame, colloidal silicon dioxide, crospovidone, lactose monohydrate, mannitol, microcrystalline cellulose, povidone, sodium lauryl sulfate, sodium stearate	
<b>Questions?</b> If you have questions of a medical nature, please contact your pharmacist, doctor or health care professional.	

0 96295 11227 6

# Relationship Between Content Standards and CASAS Competencies



Download **CASAS Content Standards** and **Test Item Correlations** at:

<https://www.casas.org/home/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.showContent&MapID=1720>

# How can teachers use the CASAS test results to best provide useful, high-quality instruction?



1. Textbook Scope and Sequence – links to specific competencies in many texts



2. CASAS QuickSearch ([www.casas.org](http://www.casas.org) – click on “Product Overview” then “QuickSearch Online”)








3. Online lesson plans targeted to specific competencies ([www.mnabeassessment.com](http://www.mnabeassessment.com))



4. “Teaching to the test” by **competency, content standard, or task is appropriate**

# Inappropriate Strategies

Do not:

-  1. Teach to a specific test item
-  2. Teach specific vocabulary in a test item
-  3. Limit curriculum to only what the test covers
-  4. Use actual test items in instruction
-  5. Photocopy, scan, or duplicate tests

How do we identify which competencies to target?

Which items were missed by the most students?

#30 and #32

Which competencies do these items relate to?

#30 – 1.1.3, 2.2.5, 1.9.4

#32 – 4.2.3, 3.2.3

CLASS PROFILE BY COMPETENCY

STUDENT NAMES

Form 83 R - Reading - Level B  
Life and Work

Test date: 3 - 17 - 05

Enter names and scores at top of columns and check items answered correctly.

Mark test items answered correctly.

			Anna	Marc	Dimi	Aray	Petr	Ching	Song	Herlinda	Marco	Thrang
Apph	Score											
Raw	Score		18	25	13	3	16	13	23	11	29	27
Scale	Score		210	222								
#	ITEM DESCRIPTION	COMPETENCY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Narrative	0.2.1, 7.2.1	3	+	+	+	+		+	+	+	+
2	"	4.2.1, 7.2.1	3	+	+	+	+		+		+	+
3	Job ad	4.1.3, 4.1.6	4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
4	"	4.1.3, 4.1.6	4	+	+	+		+	+	+	+	+
5	Job application form	4.1.2, 0.2.1,	1	+	+		+	+			+	+
6	"	4.1.2, 0.2.1, 2.3.2	1	+	+	+	+	+	+		+	+
7	Narrative	1.4.7, 7.3.1, 7.2.1	3		+					+	+	+
8	"	1.4.7, 7.2.1	3	+	+	+	+	+	+		+	+
9	"	1.4.6, 7.2.1	3		+			+	+	+	+	
10	House ads	1.4.2	4	+	+	+	+		+			+
11	Rental application	1.4.3	1	+					+	+	+	+
12	"	1.4.3	1		+	+	+			+	+	+
13	"	1.4.3	1	+	+			+	+		+	
14	Medicine label	3.3.2, 3.3.1	4			+			+	+	+	+
15	Narrative	0.2.4, 7.2.1	3		+					+	+	+
16	"	4.1.8, 4.1.9, 7.2.1	3	+	+	+		+	+	+	+	+
17	Work schedule	4.4.3, 7.2.2	2		+			+	+		+	+
18	"	4.4.3, 2.3.1, 7.2.2	2	+	+	+		+			+	+
19	"	4.4.3, 2.3.2, 7.2.2	2		+			+	+	+	+	+
20	Pay stub	4.2.1, 1.1.6	2		+	+				+	+	+
21	"	4.2.1, 7.2.3	2					+	+		+	
22	"	4.2.1, 1.1.6	2	+		+		+	+		+	+
23	Narrative	5.3.8, 7.2.2	3		+					+	+	+
24	"	5.3.8, 7.2.2	3		+			+	+	+	+	+
25	"	5.3.8, 7.2.1	3	+				+	+		+	+
26	Store return policy	1.3.3, 7.2.1	3	+	+			+	+		+	+
27	"	1.3.3	3	+	+			+	+		+	+
28	"	1.3.3	3		+			+	+		+	
29	Street map	1.1.2, 2.2.5, 1.9.4, 2.2.1	2		+			+			+	+
30	"	1.1.3, 2.2.5, 1.9.4	2						+			+
31	Medical history form	3.2.1, 7.2.4	1	+							+	+
32	Explanation of health benefits	4.2.1, 3.2.3	3	+	+							

# Check the CASAS Competency list to learn more about these competencies

## #30

- “ 1.1.3 – Interpret maps and graphs
- “ 2.2.5 – Use maps related to travel needs
- “ 1.9.4 – Interpret maps related to driving

## #32

- “ 4.2.3 – Interpret employment contracts and union agreements
- “ 3.2.3 – Interpret information associated with medical, dental or life insurance

# What are the next steps?

- “ Look at the test item to determine exactly what is being tested.
- “ Look at [www.mnabeassessment.com/competency\\_links.html](http://www.mnabeassessment.com/competency_links.html) to locate lesson plans tied to these competencies
- “ Check the “**Test Item Lesson Plan Links**” document on the above site to discover closely linked plans

# More Online Resources for Teachers

## “ **Reading for Life**

[http://www.themlc.org/Reading for Life Lessons3.html](http://www.themlc.org/Reading_for_Life_Lessons3.html)

Two-volume collection of worksheets and activities published by the Minnesota Department of Education and designed to enhance the teaching of life and work skills to adult ESL and ABE learners. Now available online.

## “ **Reading Skills for Today’s Adults**

<http://www.marshalladulthoodeducation.org/reading-skills-for-todays-adult>

These materials are designed to aid in building learners' fluency and comprehension skills. The materials correspond to CASAS 200 - 235.

# Online Resources for Student Use

“ **English On-the-Web**

[www.english-on-the-web.yolasite.com](http://www.english-on-the-web.yolasite.com)

Links to websites that students can use to study English, many of which focus on the CASAS competencies

“ **GED On-the-Web**

[www.ged-on-the-web.yolasite.com](http://www.ged-on-the-web.yolasite.com)

Links to websites that students can use to improve basic skills for the GED

“ **GCFLearnFree.org – Everyday Life Project**

<http://www.gcfllearnfree.org/EVERYDAYLIFE>

Interactive website that is linked to various CASAS competencies

“ **Reading Skills for Today’s Adults**

<http://www.marshalladulthoodeducation.org/reading-skills-for-todays-adult>

These materials are designed to aid in building learners' fluency and comprehension skills. The materials correspond to CASAS 200 - 235.

“ **Marshall Adult Education – Student Lessons**

<http://www.marshalladulthoodeducation.org/student-lessons>

These online practice exercises for students are organized into the CASAS competency content areas.

“ **Minneapolis Online Activity List**

<https://abeweb.mpls.k12.mn.us/>

Includes ELL and GED activities that can be found on the internet. The activities are arranged according to their CASAS levels and competencies.

# Online Practice Tests

## Printable

- . CASAS Sample Test Items – [www.casas.org](http://www.casas.org) (then click on Product Overview >> Sample Test Items) – printable practice items along with PPT presentations for classroom use
- . CASAS Practice Tests - [http://hubbs.spps.org/CASAS\\_Preparation2.html](http://hubbs.spps.org/CASAS_Preparation2.html) - printable forms that are available in several levels

# Online Practice Tests

## Online

- . Minneapolis ABE Test Preparation Website -  
<http://www.tiolorf.com/CasasPreTest/PreTestLaunch.htm>
- . Form 27 practice -  
<http://www.johnmh.com/ILA/ila27.html>
- . Form 28 practice -  
<http://johnmh.com/ILA/28ILA.doc>
- . Form 81 practice -  
<http://www.johnmh.com/ILA/ila81r.html>
- . Form 81X practice -  
<http://www.johnmh.com/ILA/ila81rx.html>
- . Form 83 practice -  
<http://www.johnmh.com/ILA/ila83r.html>
- . Form 185 practice -  
<http://www.johnmh.com/ILA/ila185.html>

# Practice

- “ Choose a competency from the CASAS test to plan a lesson around.
- “ Look at the actual test item to determine what is being tested.
- “ Look at [www.mnabeassessment.com/competency\\_links.html](http://www.mnabeassessment.com/competency_links.html) and view some lessons associated with the competency.
- “ Check the “**Test Item Lesson Plan Links**” on the above site to locate closely linked lesson plans.
- “ Look at the online resources for students. Do any address the competency you were focusing on?
- “ Share your findings with others at your table.

Questions?