



First STEPS Taken! Assessment and Instructional Insights from Early Adopters of the CASAS ESL Exam.

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Program Facilitator, CT

STEPS TO GOALS

Agenda

Step 1: Student awareness

Step 2: Teach with standards

Step 3: Examine data

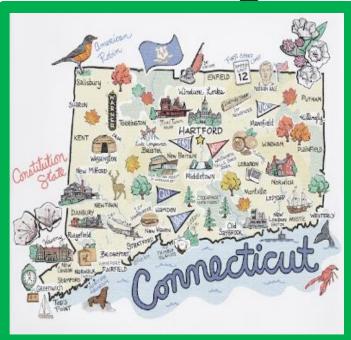
Step 4: Prepare for post testing

Step 5: Success!

10/24/2024

The People...

So much to love about Connecticut...



The History...

he Food!

3

Getting to know you...



Which Connecticut specialty pizza best describes your relationship with CASAS?

New Haven

It's a coal-fired, thin 'apizza' –might require checking to make sure it's done right, maybe a little crusty –a basic traditional pizza that gets the job done.



Getting to know you...



Which Connecticut specialty best describes your relationship with CASAS?

The Sicilian

A thick, fluffy crust that takes a little more time to rise, topped with savory tomato –more sauce than cheese in every square. A great combination!



Getting to know you...





Which Connecticut specialty best describes your relationship with CASAS?

Deep Dish Pizza

Layer upon layer of deliciousness, but a little goes a long way!

All are welcome!





New Haven

- basics and
good to go



new, different but getting used to it

Sicilian



complex and need more time to digest

Deep Dish



Your Turn!

Please turn to your elbow partner and discuss:

What first comes to mind when you recall implementing CASAS STEPS?



Would anyone like to share?

Empower Your Students with Their Assessment and Learning Data

Step 1: Student awareness



June 2024

Step 1: Student Awareness

Some Analogies...





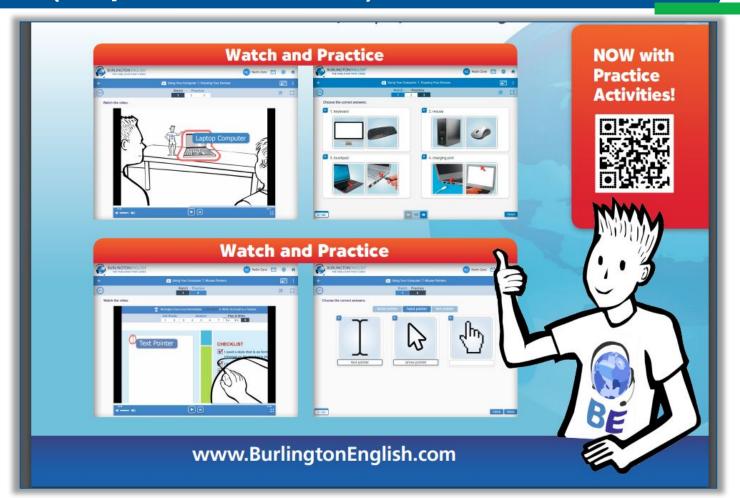
June 2024 10

Step 1: Student Awareness



June 2024 11

Step 1: (Help Teachers Build) Student Awareness



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Your Turn!

Please turn to your elbow partner and discuss:

What has caused the most change in adult education in the past 10 years?



Would anyone like to share?

Empower Your Students with Their Assessment and Learning Data

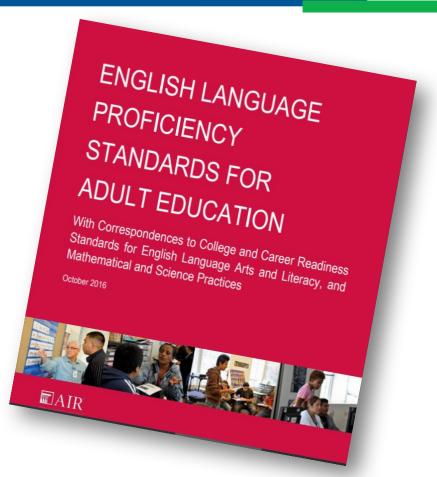
Step 2: Teach With Standards

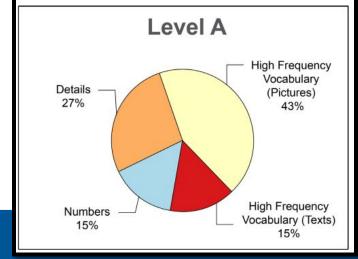


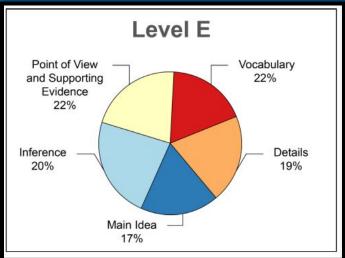
Step 2: Teach With Standards

QUESTION!

What standards guide national Adult ESL programming?





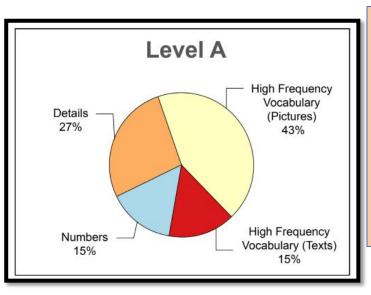


Reading ST FPS for ESL

What do you notice about what skills are assessed in CASAS Level A (beginning) compared to CASAS Level E (advanced)?

Why do you think that might be?

Reading STEPS Content Standard Blueprint: CASAS Level A



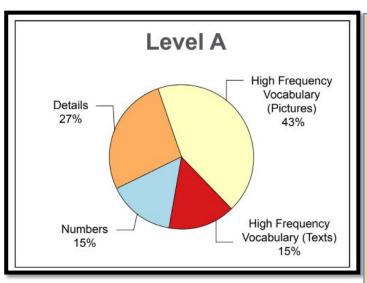
ELP Standard 8:

An ELL can
determine the
meaning of words
and phrases in oral
presentations and
literary and
informational text.

NRS Educational Functioning Levels Levels 1 and 2	English	lish Language Proficiency Stand Level 1		
Content Areas	EL	P Standard	% of test items	
High-frequency Vocabulary (Pictur Photos Symbols	res)	8	43%	
High-frequency Vocabulary (Texts Words on forms Abbreviations)	8	15%	
Numbers Time Number words Money and prices Number formatting		8	15%	
Details Retell key details		1	27%	

Level 1: relying heavily on context, questioning, and knowledge of morphology in their native language(s), • recognize the meaning of a few frequently occurring words, simple phrases, and formulaic expressions in spoken and written texts about familiar topics, experiences, or events.

Reading STEPS Content Standard Blueprint: CASAS Level A



ELP Standard 1:

An ELL can...
construct meaning
from oral
presentations and
literary and
informational text
through
level-appropriate
listening, reading,
and viewing.

NRS Educational Functioning Levels	English Language Proficiency Standards
Levels 1 and 2	Level 1

Content Areas	ELP Standard	% of test items
High-frequency Vocabulary (Pictures) Photos Symbols	8	43%
High-frequency Vocabulary (Texts) Words on forms Abbreviations	8	15%
Numbers Time Number words Money and prices Number formatting	8	15%
Details Retell key details	1	27%

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18

Level 1: use a very limited set of strategies to: • identify a few key words and phrases in oral communications and simple spoken and written texts.

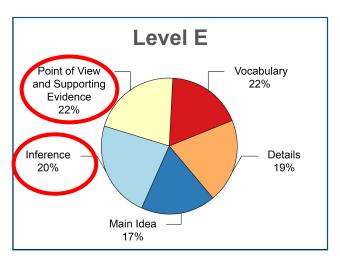
Reading STEPS Sample Item: NRS Level 1



(Pictures) Photo items A. shirts B. shoes	Item	Content Area	ELP Standard	CASAS Competency	Task Area	Key
B. shoes	#1	(Pictures)	8	1.2	4	D
D. socks	B. :	shoes shorts				

Item	Content Area	ELP Standard	CASAS Competency	Task Area	Key
#3	Numbers Number formatting	8	2.3	3	Α
B. C.	3-29-84 5-29-84 7-29-84 9-29-84				
	March	า 29, 1	984		

Reading STEPS Content Standard Blueprint – Level E



ELPS Levels 4 and 5

Content Areas	ELP Standard	% of test items
Vocabulary		
Understand academic vocabulary Understand words with multiple meanings	8	22%
Details		
Retell key details Locate/Compare details	1	19%
Main Idea		
Identify the main topic Identify an author's purpose	1	17%
Inference		
Infer/Draw conclusions	1	20%
Point of View and Supporting Evidence Identify an author's point of view Identify supporting evidence	6	22%

Inference? Drawing Conclusions? (ELPS 1)

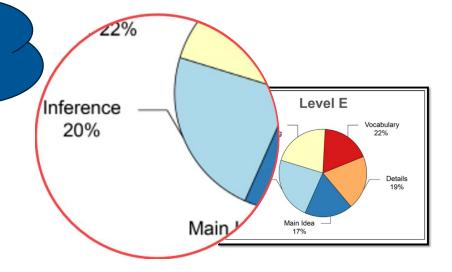
Inference: drawing a conclusion based on the available evidence plus previous knowledge and experience. "Make an educated guess."



- "Read between the lines"
- Higher-order skill
- Leads to deeper comprehension
- Important skill for workplace situations, math, science, etc.



- What clues (evidence) does the text give me?
- What do I know about this topic?
 - What is the logical conclusion?



Point of View? Supporting Evidence? (ELPS 6)

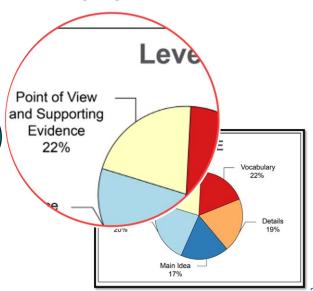


Point of View: the author's unique perspective, beliefs, opinions, and biases that shape their writing.

- ✓ Higher-order skill
- Helps understand deeper meaning of texts and notice bias
- Important skill for understanding workplace situations and texts and encouraging perspective

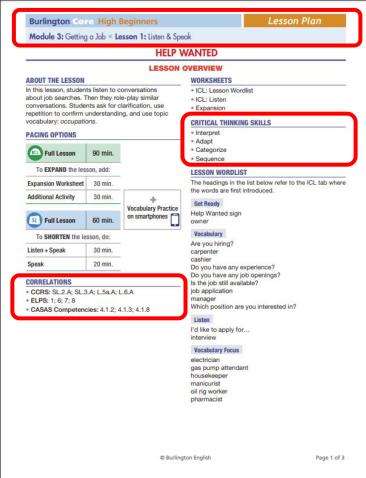


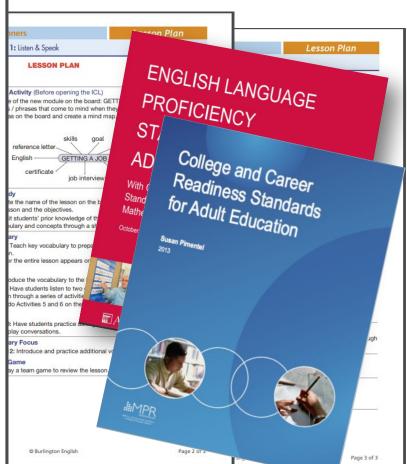
- What is the author's purpose in writing this? To teach me something? Change my mind? Make me laugh? Persuade me?
- Words: strong opinions? Emotional language?
- ☐ Who is the author's audience?



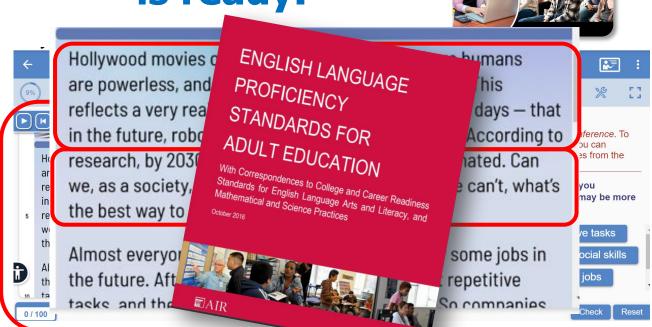












Burlington



give people a purpose in lif

do unpredictable jobs

Making Inferences

reflects very than one correct answer.

Almost e veryo the perfect solution

in the future, r research by 2

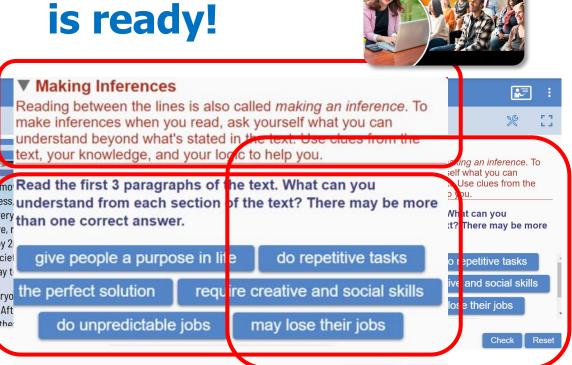
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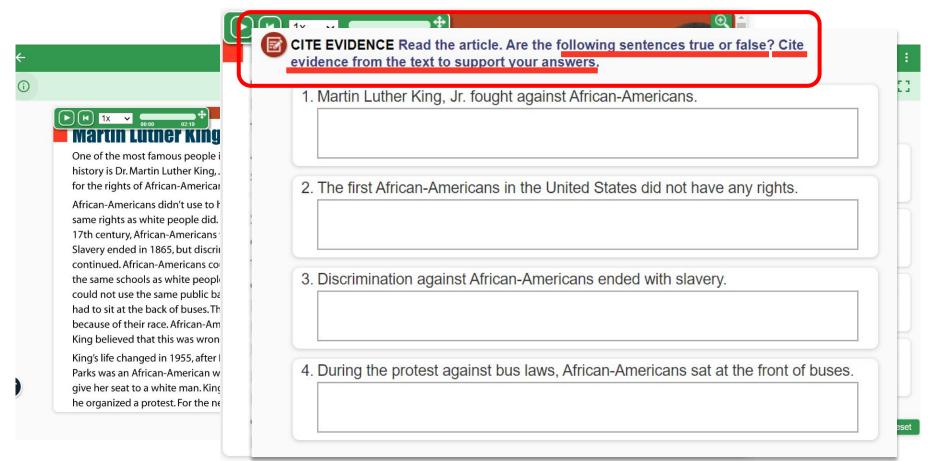
n tasks and the

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Burlington

Core



Step 3: Examine Reports



Step 3: Examine Data





On-Demand Training

On-Demand Training was developed for new users to get started and for current users who would like additional practice and support. You may start, stop, resume, or review any course at any time. A Certificate of Completion is awarded for each completed course.







If you have questions while taking any of these courses, please reach out to your BurlingtonEnglish representative or contact training support at training.support@burlingtonenglish.com.

Select a course below to get started.



Burlington English Overview

Learn about everything BurlingtonEnglish has to offer teachers and students. Completion time: 15 minutes.



Teaching with Burlington Core

Learn how to teach with Burlington Core In-Class Lessons and use Burlington Core resources to support instruction. Completion time: 90 minutes.



Student Lessons in BurlingtonEnglish

Learn how to help students get started with BurlingtonEnglish Student Lessons. Completion time: 60 minutes.



Progress for BurlingtonEnglish Courses

Learn how teachers and students can easily track student Progress in BurlingtonEnglish Student Lessons and Vocabulary Practice. Completion time: 30 minutes.

100%

COMPLETE ⊘

100%

COMPLETE ⊘

100%

COMPLETE ⊘

100%

COMPLETE ⊘



Step 3: Examine Data

2.2: Modeling Progress

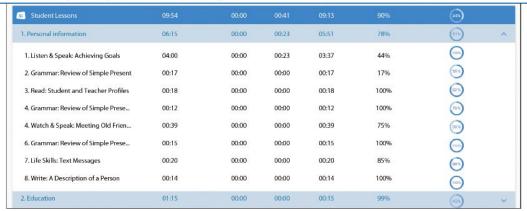
Progress for BurlingtonEnglish Courses > Lesson 2: Getting Students Started with Progress > 2.2: Modeling Progress

COMPLETE

You can model how to locate and interpret information in Progress using work you have completed in the Student Lessons and Vocabulary Practice.

When you complete work in the Student Lessons and Vocabulary Practice, your time, scores, and completion are tracked in My Progress The My Progress icon La is located in the purple bar.

The image below shows an example of Burlington Core High Beginners: My Progress for a sample teacher.



STEPS: Strengths of the New Test Series Reading and Listening Assessments for ESL

- More simplified reporting in TE
- TE menu organized by test series
- Fewer, more directed suggestions related to CASAS Competencies, CCRS, ELPS

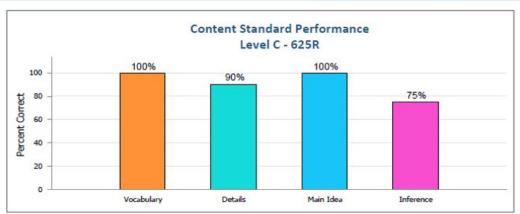


New Content Standard Report

Reading STEPS

Student Content Standard

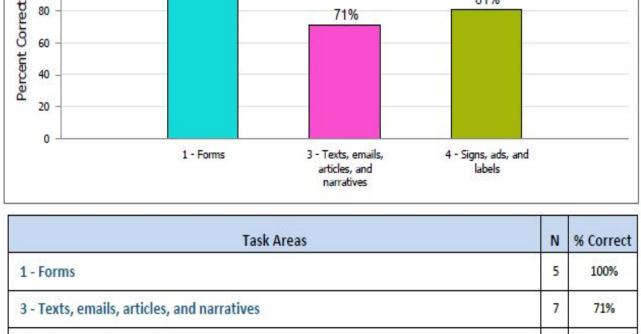




Content Areas	ELP Standard	N	% Correct
Vocabulary Understand high-frequency words Understand academic vocabulary	8	6	100 %
Details Retell key details	1	21	90 %
Main Idea Identify the main topic Identify an author's purpose	1	5	100 %
Inference Infer/Draw conclusions	1	4	75 %

New





Task Area Performance Level A - 622R

71%

81%

21

81%

100%

100

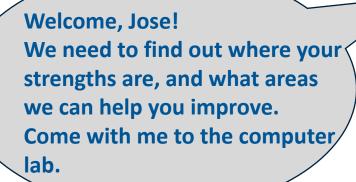
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4 - Signs, ads, and labels



So How Should Programs Use These Reports?

She said I have to take a test. I'm really nervous!





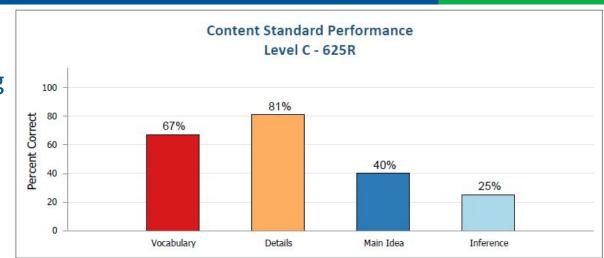




CASAS recommends having a student continue to review at their level if the % correct is **70% or below**

Remember:

Red = Review at level
Green = Go Up a level
during instruction

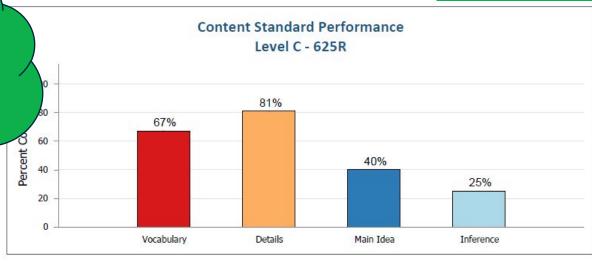


English Language Proficiency Standards Reading Content Areas	ELP Standard	N	% Correct	
Vocabulary Understand high-frequency words Understand academic vocabulary	8	6	67 %	\
Details Retell key details	1	21	81 %	
Main Idea Identify the main topic Identify an author's purpose	1	5	40 %	\
Inference Infer/Draw conclusions	1	4	25 %	

C4545°

Got it.
So, I'll have Jose review
Vocabulary, Main idea
concepts, and Inferences at
NRS 3.

But let's start practicing reading texts and retelling key details at NRS 4.



English Language Proficiency Standards Reading Content Areas	ELP Standard	N	% Correct
Vocabulary Understand high-frequency words Understand academic vocabulary	8	6	67 %
Details Retell key details	1	21	81 %
Main Idea Identify the main topic Identify an author's purpose	1	5	40 %
Inference Infer/Draw conclusions	1	4	25 %





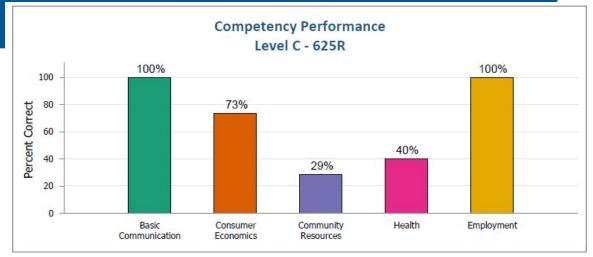
Remember:

Red = Review at level

apply!

Green = **Go Up** a level during

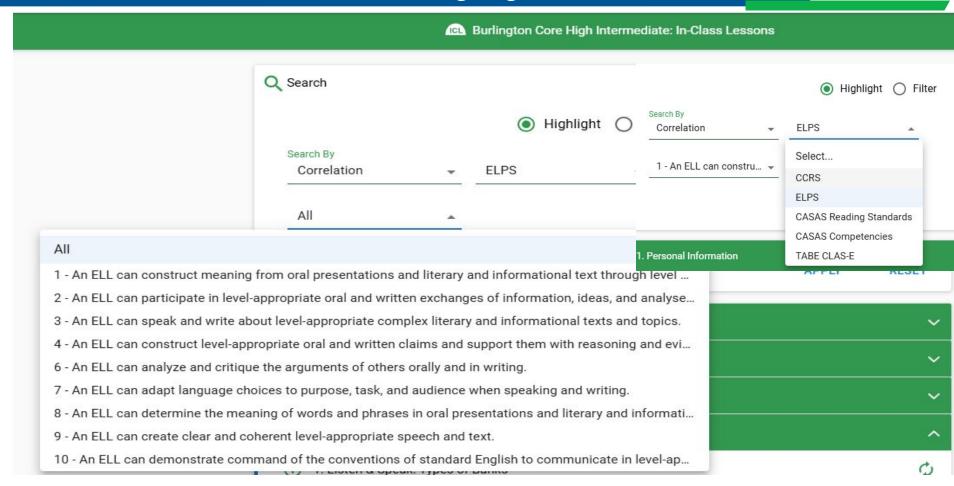
instruction



Competency Areas	N	% Correct
Basic Communication O.1 Communicate in interpersonal interactions	4	100%
1. Consumer Economics 1.1 Use weights, measures, measurement scales, and money 1.3 Understand methods and procedures to buy goods & services 1.4 Understand methods and procedures to obtain housing	15	73%
Community Resources 7.7 Understand aspects of society and culture 8.8 Interpret information about the educational system, from early childhood to post-secondary	7	29%
3. Health 3.1 Understand how to access and utilize the health care system 3.5 Understand basic principles of health maintenance	5	40%
4. Employment 4.2 Understand wages, benefits, and employee organization 4.6 Communicate effectively in the workplace	5	100%



Use the Search Function to Highlight BE Lessons



Step 4: Prepare for post testing

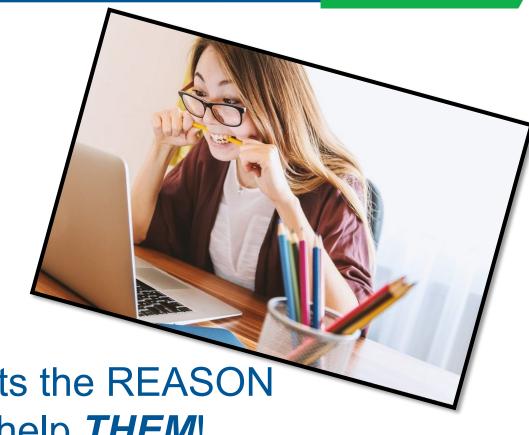


June 2024 3

How can I help my students prepare for testing?

CAS/45°

No matter who we are, testing is



Share with your students the REASON for testing— to help *US* help *THEM*!

How can I help my students prepare for testing?



PRACTICE!

CASAS eTests Sampler and Sample Test Items

- Allow students to explore the Sampler
- Use sample test items in class
- FIELD TESTING! Low-stakes way to get more comfortable with taking tests

PARTNERS!

Burlington English

- Test Prep/Prepare for CASAS
- Burlington CORE

POSITIVE!

Malcolm Knowles

 Maintain a supportive, relevant, and positive learning environment- in person, or virtual

Step 4: Prepare for Post testing



Prepare For



June 2024 42

Step 4: Prepare for post testing



Test Practice

- Builds student confidence to reduce test anxiety
- Practice Mode helps familiarize students with the format of standardized tests without time constraints
- Test Mode helps familiarize students with the format and pacing of the timed test

Step 5: Success



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So what does this mean for your program and instruction?

IT IS **CRUCIAL** THAT CLASSROOM TEACHERS HAVE ACCESS TO REPORTS AND GREAT RESOURCES THAT WILL PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH THE INSTRUCTION THEY NEED TO BE SUCCESSFUL



News & Updates Webinars

Wednesday, December 11

2 pm Eastern / 11 am Pacific https://tinyurl.com/casasnews



While Using **Burlington English**



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Questions Regarding CASAS? info@casas.org (800) 255-1036, Option 4

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