

Using the **BEST** and **BEST Plus** Assessments with **EASY**

BEST is a language skills assessment for ESL students. It covers:

1. Listening Comprehension
2. Oral/Spoken Communication
3. Literacy Skills i.e. Reading and Writing

The **BEST Plus** is a computer adaptive version that supplements the one-on-one teacher administered oral portion of the **BEST**.

BEST scores can be used as an indicator for initial student placement in **EASY “English Academic Success for You”** as below:

<u>English Level</u>	<u>Oral BEST Scores</u>	<u>BEST Plus Scores</u>	<u>EASY start Unit #</u>
Beginning ESL Literacy	0-15	400 or below	1
Beginning ESL	16-41	401-438	1
Low Intermediate ESL	42-50	439-472	4
High Intermediate ESL	51-57	473-506	7
Low Advanced ESL	58-64	507-540	7

Here is the correlation to the **BEST** Literacy skills and the **EASY** unit where covered:

Exam Area	Content	EASY Unit	Exam Area	Content	EASY Unit
Literacy Screener	N/A	1, 2, 4	9	Driving & Clinic appointment	8, 10
1	Personal Background	1, 2, 4, 7	10	Newspaper advertisement	9
2	Calendar	1 & 7	10	Time and date	6, 7
3	Grocery shopping	9	10	Pharmacy	8
4	Clothing shopping	9	10	Motor Vehicle Department	10
5	Check writing	9	10	Bus schedule	7, 10
6	Addressing envelopes	10	10	Apartment advertisement	10
7	Telephone use	10	10	Job advertisement	12
8	Train schedule	6, 10	10	Letter writing	11, 12

The following are benchmarks, correlating **BEST** scores to the **EASY** program as well as the corresponding **CASAS** scores:

Beginning ESL Literacy (If the student is at this level, s/he should begin with EASY 1 Unit 1)	CASAS	180 and below
	SPL (Speaking)	0-1
	SPL (Reading & Writing)	0-1
	Oral BEST	0-15
	Literacy BEST	0-7
	BEST <i>Plus</i>	400 and below
Beginning ESL (If the student is at this level, s/he should begin with EASY 1 Unit 1)	CASAS	181-200
	SPL (Speaking)	2-3
	SPL (Reading & Writing)	2-4
	Oral BEST	16-41
	Literacy BEST	8-46
	BEST <i>Plus</i>	401-438
Low Intermediate ESL (If the student is at this level, s/he should begin with EASY 1 Unit 4)	CASAS	201-210
	SPL (Speaking)	4
	SPL (Reading & Writing)	5
	Oral BEST	42-50
	Literacy BEST	47-53
	BEST <i>Plus</i>	439-472
High Intermediate ESL (If the student is at this level, s/he should begin with EASY 2 Unit 7)	CASAS	211-220
	SPL (Speaking)	5
	SPL (Reading & Writing)	6
	Oral BEST	51-57
	Literacy BEST	54-65
	BEST <i>Plus</i>	473-506
Low Advanced ESL (If the student is at this level, s/he could review with EASY 2)	CASAS	221-235
	SPL (Speaking)	6
	SPL (Reading & Writing)	7
	Oral BEST	58-64
	Literacy BEST	65 and above
	BEST <i>Plus</i>	507-540
High Advanced ESL 245 (If the student is at this level, s/he is beyond EASY)	CASAS	236-
	SPL (Speaking)	7
	SPL (Reading & Writing)	8
	Oral BEST	65 and above
	BEST <i>Plus</i>	541 and above