

**AMERICAN RIVER COLLEGE
ASSESSMENT CENTER**

Ability-To-Benefit (COMPASS/ESL)

The Ability-to-Benefit test is administered to students who do not have a high school diploma (or its equivalent) and are applying for financial aid. Eligible students must be at least 18 years old and must not be currently enrolled in high school. A referral from the Financial Aid Office is required for testing.

- Students enrolled in an ESL course will be given the ATB COMPASS/ESL test. Proof of enrollment in an ESL class must be printed on the day of the test and presented at the counter. **All three sections of the ATB COMPASS/ESL must be taken in one sitting. This multiple-choice test is administered on the computer and is untimed. Allow 3 hours for testing.**
- Students who are not enrolled in an ESL course will be given the ATB COMPASS test.

ATB COMPASS/ESL Sample Test

READING

Read the paragraph about the emporium in Galveston.

Shoppers enter the **emporium**, which is on the ground floor, through the original 14-foot doors. You can eat a sandwich inside while sitting on a wooden seat at an umbrella-covered table, or you can buy meals and cheeses by the pound for a picnic on the beach. There is also a wide selection of Texas foods, beers, chocolates, books, baskets, and specialty coffees and teas. A wine room features Texas, U.S., and international wines.

Adapted from Ann Gallaway, "A Present from the Past." ©1994 by Texas Highways.

1. In the passage, what does the highlighted word "emporium" mean?
 - A. Store
 - B. Beach
 - C. Bar
 - D. Hotel
2. What can you buy at the emporium?
 - A. 14-foot doors
 - B. Wooden seats
 - C. Meats and cheeses
 - D. Ground floors

GRAMMAR/USAGE

SPEAKER A: This soup is too spicy. (1) _____ so much pepper?

SPEAKER B: Maybe the cook (2) _____ it was **hot** pepper.

1.
 - A. Why the cook did use
 - B. Why the cook use
 - C. Why the cook used
 - D. Why did the cook use
2.
 - A. doesn't knows
 - B. didn't know
 - C. didn't knew
 - D. don't know

LISTENING

Listen to the people talking. (Recording)

Female voice: "Excuse me, which bus goes to Central Park?"

Male voice: "Well, the 22 goes there, but it's better to take the 7 express. It will be here in 10 minutes."

1. Which bus does the man say to take?
 - A. The 7 express
 - B. The 10
 - C. The 22 express
 - D. The 22

ANSWERS:

Reading: A, C

Grammar: D, B

Listening: A



Suggested Websites to Review

| ATB for ESL Students |
|---|
| Reading |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ http://www.manythings.org/▪ http://www.5minuteenglish.com |
| Grammar |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ http://www.manythings.org/▪ http://www.5minuteenglish.com |
| Listening |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ http://www.manythings.org/▪ http://www.5minuteenglish.com |