

**AMERICAN RIVER COLLEGE
ASSESSMENT CENTER**

ESL WRITING & COMPUTERIZED ESL (Reading, Grammar/Usage, Listening) TEST

SAMPLE ITEMS

WRITING (ESSAY)

You will have 30 minutes to write about a question given to you. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer. A team of ESL faculty will read your writing sample to help decide which level of ESL writing course will work best for you.

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 meats 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