

Jing studied in Portland Community College's ESOL program for two years (Winter 2003-Winter 2005) starting in level B (high-beginning) and progressing to the highest level in the program, level D (high-intermediate). He had studied English for two months before enrolling in the PCC classes at the Lab School. His teachers considered him a successful student.

Standardized assessments of language proficiency

The assessments given in the in-home interviews (years 1-3) were the BEST Plus (listening comprehension) and the Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test -III (PPVT). In addition, in the classroom, students were given the BEST Literacy test and the CASAS (Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System). Jing's assessments from his time of study at the Lab School and his in-home interviews appear below.

		2003	2004	2005
		3/17/2003	3/11/204	3/19/2005
BEST Plus (listening/speaking)		450 (low intermediate)	417 (beginning)	453 (low intermediate)
PPVT	Raw score	55	70	63
vocabulary	Age equivalency	4.25	5.25	4.75
BEST Literacy		3/11/2003 SPL VII <sup>1</sup> (low advanced)	2/24/2004 SPL VII (low advanced)	
CASAS (listening)		5/22/2003 195 (high-beginning)	3/2/2004 204 (low-intermediate)	2/24/05 206 (low-intermediate)

The chart shows that Jing started his English classes with a much higher level of literacy in English than aural/oral proficiency. The scores show that over the three years in which standardized assessments were given, some gains can be seen in oral/aural skills while literacy proficiency remained fairly static.

Self-report of reading

While we cannot attribute causes for why Jing's literacy remained fairly steady, a self assessment of his reading in English shows that over three years, he read steadily less both for obligation and for pleasure.

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.cal.org/bestplus/spl-nrs-charts.pdf>

	2003	
Reading in English	For obligation	For pleasure
Minutes per week	840	480

2004	
For obligation	For pleasure
180	140

2005	
For obligation	For pleasure
89	111

While he did not say why this was the case, we know that he [worked](#) more as time passed and it may be that Jing simply had less time for reading in English than he had when he first arrived in Portland.