

STUDENT BACKGROUND SURVEY (SBS)

Instructions

Thank you, in advance, for responding to the following questions. This instrument is being administered as part of a long-term research project by WestEd to understand strategies for improving high school economics. WestEd, a research, development, and service agency, works with education and other communities to promote excellence, achieve equity, and improve learning for children, youth, and adults.

This survey is designed to gather your background information, including interest in economics, classroom learning experience, and self-rated learning skills. **There are no right or wrong answers, and you will not be graded on this.** It will take you about 10 minutes to complete it. All your answers will remain confidential and will be used only for statistical purposes.

Please read each question and indicate the response choice (see example 1) or the point on the scale (see example 2) that best represents your position. Select only one (unless otherwise specified) using “√” for each statement.

Example 1

	Never	A few times a semester	Once or twice a month	Once or twice a week	Almost everyday
How often do you watch TV news.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Example 2

	Not At All			Very Much	
	←-----→				
I enjoy learning Math.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Student Background Survey (SBS)

1. Student name: (first) _____ (last) _____

2. Student ID: _____

3. Grade level: _____

4. Teacher name: (first) _____ (last) _____

5. Period #: _____

6. Your gender: Male

Female

7. Your ethnicity (check one or more):

American Indian or Alaska Native

Asian

Black or African American

Hispanic or Latino

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

White

Other (Specify)

8. What language do you usually speak at home?

English

English and another language

A language other than English

9. Do people in your family speak non-English language at home?

No

Seldom

Half the time

Mostly

10. Is reading or writing English ever a problem for you?

Yes, reading or writing in English is difficult for me.

Sometimes reading or writing in English is difficult for me.

No, reading or writing in English is not a problem for me.

15. How many HOURS PER DAY do you expect to do homework this semester, in all your classes?
- No time
 - Half an hour or less
 - 1 hour
 - 2 hours
 - 3-4 hours
 - 5 or more hours
16. What is the course grade you are expecting to receive this semester, in all your classes?
- All A's
 - Mostly A's
 - A's & B's
 - Mostly B's
 - B's & C's
 - Mostly C's or lower
17. What is the highest degree level you would like to achieve? I would like to:
- Leave before graduating from high school
 - Finish high school
 - Technical certificate after high school
 - 2-year college degree
 - 4-year college degree
 - 4-year college degree plus some further training
 - Post graduate degree (medical, law, PhD, MBA)
 - Haven't thought about it

18. On a typical day, are you interested in reading newspaper or magazine articles about:

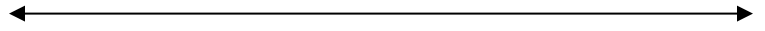


	□	□	□	□	□
a. unemployment	□	□	□	□	□
b. U.S. government politics	□	□	□	□	□
c. economic issues faced by union workers	□	□	□	□	□
d. economic issues faced by workers in other countries	□	□	□	□	□
e. economic issues faced by the poor	□	□	□	□	□
f. economic issues faced by the elderly	□	□	□	□	□
g. why the price of some things is higher than the price of other things.	□	□	□	□	□

19. Are you good at each of the following?

Not very good at

Excellent



a.	Solving complex real world problems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b.	Understanding data, graphs and charts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c.	Working effectively in groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d.	Giving presentations in front of the class	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e.	Writing papers or essays	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f.	Discussing class-related issues with others					

Thank you for completing this survey!!!