## OECD Program for <br> International Student Assessment

OECD PISA

Field Trial PISA 2009
STUDENT (
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FORM B

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[^0]In this booklet you will find questions about:

- You
- Your family and your home
- Your reading activities
- Learning time
- Classroom and school climate
- Your English classes
- Libraries
- Your strategies in reading and understanding texts

In some of the questions you will be asked about reading. We specifically mean by reading the skill to understand, use and think about written texts. This skill is needed to reach one's goals , to develop one's knowledge and potential, and to take part in society.

Please read each question carefully and answer as accurately as you can. In the test you usually circled your answers. For this questionnaire, you will normally answer by checking a box. For a few questions you will need to write a short answer.

If you make a mistake when checking a box, cross out or erase your mistake and mark the correct box. If you make an error when writing an answer, simply cross it out and write the correct answer next to it.

## In this questionnaire, there are no right or wrong answers. Your answers should be the ones that are right for you.

You may ask for help if you do not understand something or are not sure how to answer a question.

Your answers will be combined with others to make totals and averages in which no individual can be identified. All your answers will be kept confidential.

## ABOUT YOU

## Q1 What grade are you in?

grade

Q2 How long have you been in this school?
(Please check only one box)
Less than one year $\square$

One to two years $\square$

Three to four years $\square$

More than four years $\square$

Q3 On what date were you born?
(Please write the month, day, and year you were born)
Month $\quad 19$

## Q4 Are you female or male?

Female Male



## Q5 Which best describes you?

(Please check only one box)
I am Hispanic or Latino

I am not Hispanic or Latino

## Q6 What of these categories best describes your race?

(Please check one or more)

American Indian or Alaskan Native


Asian

Black or African American

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

White $\square$

## Q7 Did you attend pre-school?

$\qquad$

Yes, for one year or less $\qquad$ Yes, for more than one year $\qquad$

## Q8 Did you attend kindergarten?

No $\qquad$

Yes. $\qquad$

## Q9 How old were you when you started first grade?

$\qquad$ Years

## Q10 Have you ever repeated a grade other than kindergarten?

 (Please check only one box in each row)No, never
Yes, once
Yes, twice or more
a) In grades 1-6 $\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
b) In grades 7-9 $\qquad$
$\qquad$
c) In grades 10-12. $\qquad$ $\square, \ldots . . . . . . . . . . . . .$.


## Q11 What is the highest grade or level of school you expect to complete?

(Please check only one box)
Less than high school. $\qquad$ $\square$.

High school $\qquad$

Vocational or technical certificate (such as cosmetology or auto mechanics) $\square{ }_{3}$
$\qquad$

Bachelor's degree (4-year college degree) $\qquad$

Master’s degree $\qquad$

Doctoral or professional degree such as medicine or law $\qquad$

## YOUR FAMILY AND YOUR HOME

In this section you will be asked some questions about your family and your home.
Some of the following questions are about your mother and father or those persons who are like a mother or father to you - for example, guardians, step-parents, foster parents, etc.

If you share your time with more than one set of parents or guardians, please answer the following questions for those parents/guardians you spend the most time with.

## Q12 Who usually lives at home with you?

(Please check one box in each row)

Yes No
a) Mother
b) Other female guardian (e.g., stepmother or foster mother

c) Father
d) Other male guardian (e.g., stepfather or foster father)
e) Brother(s) (including stepbrothers)
f) Sister(s) (including stepsisters)
g) Grandparent(s)
h) Others (e.g. cousin)

## Q13 What is your mother's main job?

 (e.g. school teacher, cook, sales manager)(If she is not working now, please tell us her last main job)

Please write in the job title.

## Q14 What does your mother do in her main job?

(e.g. teaches high school students, helps prepare meals in a restaurant, manages a sales team)

Please use a sentence to describe the kind of work she does or did in that job.

## Q15 What is the highest level of schooling (not including college) completed by your mother?

If you are not sure which box to choose, please ask the test administrator for help.
(Please check only one box)
She completed grade 12 (high school diploma or GED)

She completed grade 9


She completed grade 6
$\square{ }_{3}$

She completed grade 5 or less
$\square$.

## Q16 Does your mother have any of the following degrees, certificates or diplomas?

If you are not sure how to answer this question, please ask the test administrator for help.
(Please check one box in each row)

> Yes No

Bachelor's (4-year college degree),
a) master's, doctoral, or professional degree such as medicine or law
b)

Associate’s degree (2-year degree from a community college)


Vocational or technical certificate/diploma
c) after high school (such as cosmetology or auto mechanics)


## Q17 What is your mother currently doing?

(Please check only one box)
Working full-time for pay $\qquad$

Working part-time for pay $\qquad$

Not working, but looking for a job $\qquad$

Other (e.g. home duties, retired) $\qquad$

## Q18 What is your father's main job?

(e.g. school teacher, cook, sales manager)
(If he is not working now, please tell us his last main job)
Please write in the job title. $\qquad$

Q19 What does your father do in his main job?
(e.g. teaches high school students, helps prepare meals in a restaurant, manages a sales team)

Please use a sentence to describe the kind of work he does or did in that job.
$\qquad$

Q20 In what country were you and your parents born?
(Please check one box in each column)

|  | You | Mother | Father |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| United States | $\square$ | $\square_{1}$ | $\square_{1}$ |
| Other country | $\square_{2}$ | $\square_{2}$ | $\square_{2}$ |

Q21 If you were NOT born in the United States, how old were you
when you arrived in the United States?
If you were less than 12 months old, please write zero (0)
years

Q22 What language do you speak at home most of the time?
(Please check only one box)
English


Spanish $\square$

Other language $\square$

## YOUR READING ACTIVITIES

The questions in this section are mainly about your reading activities outside school.

Q23 About how much time do you usually spend reading for enjoyment?
(Please check only one box)
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { I do not read for enjoyment } & \square \square_{1} \\ \text { 30 minutes or less a day } & \square \square_{2} \\ \text { More than } 30 \text { minutes to less } \\ \text { than } 60 \text { minutes a day } & \square \square_{3} \\ 1 \text { to } 2 \text { hours a day } & \square \square_{4} \\ \text { More than } 2 \text { hours a day } & \square \square_{5}\end{array}$

## Q24 How much do you agree or disagree with these statements about reading?

(Please check only one box in each row)
a) I read only if I have to
b) Reading is one of my favorite hobbies
c) I like talking about books with other people
d) I find it hard to finish books
e) I feel happy if I receive a book as a present
f) For me, reading is a waste of time
g) I enjoy going to a bookstore or a library
h) I read only to get information that I need
i) I cannot sit still and read for more than a few minutes
j) I like to express my opinions about books I have read



k) I like to select books on topics I am interested in
l) I like to exchange books with my friends
m) I prefer to read and think about books by myself

## Q25 When you are studying, how often do you do the following?

(Please check only one box in each row)
 to clarify this.

## LEARNING TIME

Q26 How many minutes, on average, are there in a class period for the subject of English? (English classes may include those in literature, creative writing, journalism, etc.)

Minutes in a class period: $\qquad$ Minutes

Q27 How many class periods per week do you typically have for the subject of English?

Number of class periods per week: $\qquad$ class periods

Q28 In a normal, full week at school, how many class periods do you have in total?

Number of ALL class periods (including your English classes): $\qquad$ class periods

## YOUR SCHOOL

Q29 Thinking about what you have learned in school: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
(Please check only one box in each row)
Strongly

disagree Disagree Agree | Strongly |
| :---: |
| agree |

a) School has done little to prepare me for adult life when I leave school.
b) School has been a waste of time.




c) School has helped give me confidence to make decisions.

d) School has taught me things which could be useful in a job.$\square$.

## Q30 On average, about how many students attend your

## English class?

$\qquad$ students

## Q31 To what extent do you agree or disagree with these statements about your English classes?

(Please check only one box in each row.)

| Strongly |
| :--- |
| disagree | Disagree Agree | Strongly |
| :---: |
| agree |

a) The English teacher helps us relate the stories we read to our lives
b) The English teacher shows how the information in texts builds on what we already know.
c) The texts that we read for English classes are interesting from my point of view.
d) The English teacher asks for our opinions about the texts we have read.
e) The English teacher gives us a choice about what we read for English.




f) The English teacher gives a choice about how to show what we have learned from reading.



## Q32 <br> In your English classes, how often does the following occur?

(Please check only one box in each row)
a) The teacher explains beforehand what is expected of the students.
b) The teacher checks that students are concentrating while working on the reading assignment.
c) The teacher discusses students' work, after they have finished the reading assignment.
d) The teacher tells students in advance how their work is going to be judged.
e) The teacher asks whether every student has understood how to complete the reading assignment.
f) The teacher grades students’ work.
g) The teacher gives students the chance to ask questions about the reading assignment.
h) The teacher poses questions that motivate students to participate actively.
i) The teacher tells students how well they did on the reading assignment immediately after.

Never
or
hardly In some In most In all
ever classes classes classes



























## Q33 When students have to read or study texts in your English classes, how often does the following occur?

(Please check only one box in each row)

| Never <br> or |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| hardly | In some | In most | In all |
| ever | classes | classes | classes |

a) The teacher only helps after we have tried to understand a difficult text ourselves.
b) We have to discover by ourselves what is important in the text.
c) The teacher only helps, after we have tried to do the reading assignment ourselves.
d) We have to explain how we have gone about understanding the text and answering the questions.

## LIBRARIES

In this section you are asked questions about libraries. These may be in your school and/or outside your school.

Q34 How often do you visit a public library for the following activities?
(Please check only one box in each row)
a) Borrow books to read for pleasure.
b) Borrow books for school work.
c) Read magazines or newspapers in the public library.
d) Read books for pleasure in the public library.


| Afew | About | Several |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| times $a$ | once a | times $a$ |
| year | month | month |

Never year month month



 $\square 3$

e) Work on homework or assignments in the public library.

f) Use the Internet in the public library.
$\square_{2}$$\square$,

## Q35 Does your school have a school library or media center?

No

Yes


If your school has a school library or media center, please go to the next question.

If your school does NOT have a school library or media center, please go to the beginning of the next section.

## Q36 How often do you visit the school library or media center for the following activities?

(Please check only one box in each row)
Afew

times a \begin{tabular}{c}
About <br>
once a <br>
Never <br>
year

 

Several <br>
times a <br>
month

$\quad$

Several <br>
times a <br>
week
\end{tabular}

a) Borrow books to read for pleasure.





b) Borrow books for school work.

c) Work on homework, course assignments or research papers.




d) Read magazines or newspapers.
e) Read books for fun.
f) Learn about things that are not course-related, such as sports, hobbies, people or music.
g) Use the Internet.


## Q37 How would you describe your school library or media center?

 (Please check only one box in each row)a) It has books that are interesting and useful to me.
b) It has a good collection of reference materials for doing schoolwork.

Yes
No


c) It is a place I like to go to read or to study.
d) It is available during all/almost all school hours.
e) It has helpful library staff. $\square$

## YOUR STRATEGIES IN READING AND UNDERSTANDING TEXTS

There are several approaches to studying and understanding texts. Some of them are more useful than others, depending on the kind of reading task. The next six questions present a number of reading tasks, followed by a list of these approaches or "strategies". We want to know your opinion about the usefulness of these strategies for the different reading tasks.

Each of the six questions starts with a short description of a particular reading task. Then several possible reading strategies are listed. Think about the usefulness of each of the strategies in relation to the given reading task only. Some strategies may be useful for one reading task but not for another.

Give a score between 1 and 6 to every strategy. A score of 1 means you think it is not a useful strategy at all for this reading task. A score of 6 means you think it is a very useful strategy for this reading task.

You can use the same score more than once if you think two or more strategies are similarly useful, but please check only one box in each row.

Here is an example question that a student has completed. (This example is about playing table tennis, not reading.)

## Example Question

Task: You want to improve at playing table tennis so you can win a local competition.
How do you rate the usefulness of the following strategies for improving at playing table tennis?

| Score |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| not useful |  |  |  |  |  |
| at all |  |  |  |  | very <br> useful |
| $\square$ | $\mathbb{X}$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |
| $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\mathbb{X}$ |
| $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\mathbb{X}$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |
| $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\mathbb{X}$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |

## Q38 Reading task: You have just read a long and rather difficult two-page text about fluctuations in the water level of a lake in Africa. You have to write a summary.

How do you rate the usefulness of the following strategies for writing a summary of this two-page text?

## Possible strategy

Score

Very useful
(1)
(2)
(3)
(4)
(5)
a) I write a summary. Then I check that each paragraph is covered in the summary, because the content of each paragraph should be included.
b) I try to copy out accurately as many sentences as possible.
$\square_{1} \quad \square_{2}$

$\square_{4}$


c) I write a summary. Then I check whether a friend understands my summary without reading the
 original text.
d) Before writing the summary, I read the text as many times as possible.



e) When summarizing the text, I try to visualize the content of the
$\square_{4}$

 text.
f) I carefully check whether the most important facts in the text
 are represented in the summary.
g) I read through the text, underlining the most important sentences. Then I write them in

 my own words as a summary.

## Q39 Reading task: You want to help a 12-year-old student to understand a three-page text about animals and plants of the forest.

How do you rate the usefulness of the following strategies for helping the 12 -year old student to understand the three-page text?

## Possible strategy

## Score

Not useful at
a) First the 12 -year-old student writes a summary of the text.

After that we check together whether the summary covers the most important points
$\square_{1} \quad \square_{2} \quad \square_{3} \quad \square_{2} \quad \square_{3} \quad \square_{\mathrm{s}}$
b) I ask the 12 -year-old student to read the text out loud twice, and then to copy it out
c) After the 12-year-old student has read the text aloud, we discuss difficult words that he did not understand
d) I provide a second text about the same topic which we read together immediately after reading the first one.


e) I read the text aloud while the 12-year-old student underlines words he doesn't understand. I then try to help him clear up what he doesn't understand. Then he writes a summary.





(1)
(2)
(3)
(4)
(5)
(6)
f) The 12-year-old student reads the text aloud and I correct him whenever he makes a mistake. Then I explain the meaning of the words that he did not read correctly.

## Thank you very much for your co-operation in completing this questionnaire!


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