

OECD Program for International Student Assessment



Learning

for Living

		Field	USA Trial PISA 2009
Date of Test		/	/ 2008
STUDENT (Month	Day	

FORM B			
r — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —	ace Label	Here	
Student ID			i
Participation Status English 313			
Multiple coding			
Office Use Only	MCS.	MCR	MCM

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Core B Consortium

Cito Institute for Educational Measurement

University of Twente

University of Jyväskyla, Institute for Educational Research

Direction de l'Evaluation de la Prospective et de la Performance (DEPP)

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

ST01

grade		
How long have you been	in this school?	
(Please check only one box)		
Less than one year		
One to two years		
Three to four years		
More than four years		
On what date were you bo	orn?	
(Please write the month, day,	and year you were born)	

Q4	Are you female or male?		
	Female Male \square_1 \square_2		
			ST04a
Q5	Which best describes you?		
	(Please check only one box)		
	I am Hispanic or Latino		
	I am <u>not Hispanic or Latino</u>		
			ST04b
Q6	What of these categories best de	escribes your race?	
	(Please check one or more)		
	American Indian or Alaskan Native		
	Asian		
	Black or African American		
	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		
	White		

Q7	Did you attend pre-school?
	No
	Yes, for one year or less
	Yes, for more than one year \square_3
	ST05b
Q8	Did you attend kindergarten?
	No
	Yes
	ST06
Q9	How old were you when you started first grade?
	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		2	3
, •			
b) In grades 7-9		2	3
c) In grades 10-12	1	2	3

ST07b

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

Doctoral or professional degree such as medicine or law

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.

ST08

Q12 Who usually lives at home with you?

	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 ma	ınager)
	(If she is not working now, please tell u	s her last main job)
	Please write in the job title.	
		ST09(2)
Q14	What does your mother do in her (e.g. teaches high school students, restaurant, manages a sales team)	-
	Please use a sentence to describe the k job.	aind of work she does or did in that
		ST10
Q15	What is the highest level of school completed by your mother?	oling (not including college)
	If you are not sure which box to choos for help.	se, please ask the test administrator
	(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	

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.

	The state of the s			
	(Please check one box in each row)			
		Yes	No	
a)	Bachelor's (4-year college degree), master's, doctoral, or professional degree such as medicine or law			
b)	Associate's degree (2-year degree from a community college)			
c)	Vocational or technical certificate/diploma after high school (such as cosmetology or auto mechanics)			
				ST12
	What is your mother currently do	ing?		
	(Please check only one box)			
	Working full-time for pay			
	Working part-time for pay	2		
	Not working, but looking for a job			
	Other (e.g. home duties, retired)			

Q17

Q18	What is your father's main job? (e.g. school teacher, cook, sales mar	nager)		
	(If he is not working now, please tell us l	his last mo	ıin job)	
	Please write in the job title			
				ST13(2)
Q19	What does your father do in his ma (e.g. teaches high school students, h restaurant, manages a sales team)	•	oare meals in	a
	Please use a sentence to describe the k job.	ind of wo	rk he does or o	did in that
				ST17
Q20	In what country were you and you	r parents	s born?	
	(Please check one box in each column)			
		You	Mother	Father
	United States			
	Other country			

Q21 If <u>you</u> 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, p	lease write zero (0)	
		<u>years</u>	
			ST19
Q22	What language do you speak at	home most of the time?	
	(Please check only one box)		
	English	313	
	Spanish	156	
	Other language	859	

YOUR READING ACTIVITIES

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

ST23

Q23 About how much time do you usually spend reading for enjoyment?

(Please check only one box)	
I do not read for enjoyment	
30 minutes or less a day	
More than 30 minutes to less than 60 minutes a day	
1 to 2 hours a day	
More than 2 hours a day	

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

		Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a)	I read only if I have to			\square_3	4
b)	Reading is one of my favorite hobbies			$\square_{_3}$	
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			\square_3	4
f)	For me, reading is a waste of time			\square_3	
g)	I enjoy going to a bookstore or a library			$\square_{_3}$	
h)	I read only to get information that I need				
i)	I cannot sit still and read for more than a few minutes			3	
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?

		Almost never	Sometimes	Often	Almost always
a)	When I study, I try to memorize everything that is covered in the text.			\square_3	
b)	When I study, I start by figuring out what exactly I need to learn.				4
c)	When I study, I try to memorize as many details as possible.				4
d)	When I study, I try to relate new information to prior knowledge acquired in other subjects.				
e)	When I study, I read the text so many times that I can recite it.				
f)	When I study, I check if I understand what I have read.				
g)	When I study, I read the text over and over again.				
h)	When I study, I figure out how the information might be useful outside school.				
i)	When I study, I try to figure out which concepts I still haven't really understood.				
j)	When I study, I try to understand the material better by relating it to my own experiences.			\square_3	
k)	When I study, I make sure that I remember the most important points in the text.			$\square_{_3}$	
l)	When I study, I figure out how the text information fits in with what happens in real life.				
m)	When I study and I don't understand something, I look for additional information to clarify this.				

LEARNING TIME

ST28

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:	Minutes				
		ST29				
Q27	How many class periods per week do you ty for the subject of English?	pically have				
	Number of class periods per week:	class periods				
		ST30				
Q28	In a normal, full week at school, how many o do you have in total?	lass periods				
	Number of ALL class periods (including your English classes):	class periods				

YOUR SCHOOL

ST35

Q29 Thinking about what you have learned in school: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

		Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a) School has done little to for adult life when I lea	1 1				
b) School has been a wast	e of time.			\square_3	
c) School has helped give confidence to make dec					
d) School has taught me the could be useful in a job	O				

YOUR ENGLISH CLASSES

ST36

Q30	On average, about how many students attend your English class?								
	students								
					ST4				
Q31	To what extent do you agree or dis about your English classes?	agree w	ith these	e state	ments				
	(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				4				
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.				4				
ď	The English teacher asks for our opinions about the texts we have read.				4				
e)	The English teacher gives us a choice about what we read for English.				4				
f	The English teacher gives a choice about how to show what we have learned from reading.								

Q32 In your English classes, how often does the following occur?

		Never or hardly ever	In some classes	In most classes	In all classes
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.				4
d)	The teacher tells students in advance how their work is going to be judged.				4
e)	The teacher asks whether every student has understood how to complete the reading assignment.			\square_3	
f)	The teacher grades students' work.			\square_3	
g)	The teacher gives students the chance to ask questions about the reading assignment.				4
h)	The teacher poses questions that motivate students to participate actively.				4
i)	The teacher tells students how well they did on the reading assignment immediately after.				

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

	Never or hardly ever	In some classes	In most classes	In all classes
a) The teacher only helps after we have tried to understand a difficult text ourselves.				4
b) We have to discover by ourselves what is important in the text.			3	4
c) The teacher only helps, after we have tried to do the reading assignment ourselves.			\square_3	4
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.

ST45

Q34 How often do you visit a public library for the following activities?

	Never	A few times a year	About once a month	Severa times c month
a) Borrow books to read for pleasure.				4
b) Borrow books for school work.				4
c) Read magazines or newspapers in the public library.			3	
d) Read books for pleasure in the public library.				4
e) Work on homework or assignments in the public library.				4
f) Use the Internet in the public library.				

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

No	
Yes	
If your school has a school libit the next question.	rary or media center, please go to

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?

	Never	A few times a year	About once a month	Several times a month	Severa times o week
a) Borrow books to read for pleasure.			\square_3	4	
b) Borrow books for school work.			3	4	5
c) Work on homework, course assignments or research papers.			\square_3	4	
d) Read magazines or newspapers.				4	5
e) Read books for fun.			3	4	5
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?

	Yes	No
a) It has books that are interesting and useful to me.		
b) It has a good collection of reference materials for doing schoolwork.		
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.		

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?

	Possible strategy	Score					
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
		not useful					very
		at all					useful
a)	I read a book about table tennis technique.		X				
b)	I practice playing table tennis against a friend as often as possible.						X
c)	I do general fitness exercises every morning.				X		
d)	I watch expert players and try to figure out their techniques.				X		

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 Not useful at all				Very usefu	
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
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.			3	4	₅	
b)	I try to copy out accurately as many sentences as possible.					5	6
c)	I write a summary. Then I check whether a friend understands my summary without reading the original text.						6
d)	Before writing the summary, I read the text as many times as possible.					5	6
e)	When summarizing the text, I try to visualize the content of the text.					5	6
f)	I carefully check whether the most important facts in the text are represented in the summary.					5	6
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 all			Very useful				
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	<i>(</i> 5 <i>)</i>	(6)		
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					₅	6		
b)	I ask the 12-year-old student to read the text out loud twice, and then to copy it out			\square_3	4	5			
c)	After the 12-year-old student has read the text aloud, we discuss difficult words that he did not understand					5	6		
d)	I provide a second text about the same topic which we read together immediately after reading the first one.					5			
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.					₅			

	Not useful at all			Very useful		
	(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.			\square_3	4		6

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