



OECD Program for International Student Assessment

ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

USA
Field Trial PISA 2009

Date of Test

/

/ 2008

STUDENT (

Month

Day

FORM A

Place Label Here

Student ID

Participation Status

☐

English₃₁₃

Multiple coding
Office Use Only

MCS

MCR

MCM

U.S. participation in this study is sponsored by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), U.S. Department of Education.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is xxxx-xxxx. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. **If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving the form, please write to:** U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651. **If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, write directly to:** National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006-5650.

O.M.B. No. xxxx-xxxx, Approval Expires xx/xx/200x

Core B Consortium

Cito Institute for Educational Measurement

University of Twente

University of Jyväskylä, Institute for Educational Research

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

Learning
for Living

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

Q1 **What grade are you in?**

grade

ST01b

Q2 **How long have you been in this school?**

(Please check only one box)

Less than one year

☐ ₁

One to two years

☐ ₂

Three to four years

☐ ₃

More than four years

☐ ₄

ST03

Q3 **On what date were you born?**

(Please write the month, day, and year you were born)

_____ 19____

Month Day Year

Q4 Are you female or male?*Female*☐ ₁*Male*☐ ₂

ST04a

Q5 Which best describes you?*(Please check only one box)*

I am Hispanic or Latino

☐ ₁I am not Hispanic or Latino☐ ₂

ST04b

Q6 What of these categories best describes your race?*(Please check one or more)*

American Indian or Alaskan Native

☐ ₁

Asian

☐ ₁

Black or African American

☐ ₁

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

☐ ₁

White

☐ ₁

ST05a

Q7 Did you attend pre-school?

No ☐ ₁

Yes, for one year or less ☐ ₂

Yes, for more than one year ☐ ₃

ST05b

Q8 Did you attend kindergarten?

No ☐ ₁

Yes..... ☐ ₂

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	☐ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3
b) In grades 7-9	☐ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3
c) In grades 10-12.....	☐ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3

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

(Please check only one box)

Less than high school.....	☐ 1
High school	☐ 2
Vocational or technical certificate (such as cosmetology or auto mechanics).....	☐ 3
Associate's degree (2-year degree from a community college)	☐ 4
Bachelor's degree (4-year college degree)	☐ 5
Master's degree	☐ 6
Doctoral or professional degree such as medicine or law	☐ 7

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.

ST09(1)

Q12 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. _____

ST09(2)

Q13 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.

- Q14 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. _____

- Q15 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.
- _____

- Q16 What is the highest level of schooling (not including college) completed by your father?**
If you are not sure how to answer this question, please ask the test administrator for help.
(Please check only one box)

He completed grade 12 (high school diploma or GED) ☐ ₁

He completed grade 9 ☐ ₃

He completed grade 6 ☐ ₄

He completed grade 5 or less ☐ ₅

Q17 Does your father have any of the following degrees, certificates or diplomas?

If you are not sure which box to choose, please ask the test administrator for help.

(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	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
b) Associate's degree (2-year degree from a community college)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
c) Vocational or technical certificate/diploma after high school (such as cosmetology or auto mechanics)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂

ST16

Q18 What is your father currently doing?

(Please check only one box)

Working full-time for pay ☐₁

Working part-time for pay ☐₂

Not working, but looking for a job ☐₃

Other (e.g. home duties, retired) ☐₄

Q19 In what country were you and your parents born?*(Please check one box in each column)*

	<i>You</i>	<i>Mother</i>	<i>Father</i>
United States	☐ ₁	☐ ₁	☐ ₁
Other country	☐ ₂	☐ ₂	☐ ₂

Q20 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*

Q21 How many of these are there at your home?*(Please check only one box in each row)*

	<i>None</i>	<i>One</i>	<i>Two</i>	<i>Three or more</i>
a) Cellular phones	☐	☐	☐	☐ ₄
b) Television sets	☐	☐	☐	☐ ₄
c) Computers	☐	☐	☐	☐ ₄
d) Cars	☐	☐	☐	☐ ₄
e) Rooms with a bath or shower	☐	☐	☐	☐ ₄

Q22 How many books are there in your home?*There are usually about 44 books per yard of shelving. Do not include magazines, newspapers, or your schoolbooks.**(Please check only one box.)*

0-10 books	☐ ₁
11-25 books	☐ ₂
26-100 books	☐ ₃
101-200 books	☐ ₄
201-500 books	☐ ₅
More than 500 books	☐ ₆

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 ☐ ₁

30 minutes or less a day ☐ ₂

More than 30 minutes to less than 60 minutes a day ☐ ₃

1 to 2 hours a day ☐ ₄

More than 2 hours a day ☐ ₅

Q24 How often are you involved in the following online reading activities?

(Please check only one box in each row. If you don't know what the activity is check "I don't know what it is.")

	<i>I don't know what it is</i>	<i>Never or almost never</i>	<i>Several times a month</i>	<i>Several times a week</i>	<i>Several times a day</i>
a) Reading emails	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
b) Chat on line (e.g. MSN®)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
c) Reading online news	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
d) Reading online information about music, cinema, DVDs, video games or books	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
e) Reading comics online	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
f) Using an online dictionary or encyclopedia (e.g. Wikipedia®)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
g) Searching online information to learn about a particular topic	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
h) Using text messages / SMS	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
i) Taking part in online group discussions or forums	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
j) Shopping online	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
k) Searching for practical information online (e.g. schedules, events, tips, recipes)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅

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

(Please check only one box in each row)

	<i>Almost never</i>	<i>Sometimes</i>	<i>Often</i>	<i>Almost always</i>
a) When I study, I try to memorize everything that is covered in the text.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
b) When I study, I start by figuring out what exactly I need to learn.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
c) When I study, I try to memorize as many details as possible.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
d) When I study, I try to relate new information to prior knowledge acquired in other subjects.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
e) When I study, I read the text so many times that I can recite it.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
f) When I study, I check if I understand what I have read.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
g) When I study, I read the text over and over again.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
h) When I study, I figure out how the information might be useful outside school.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
i) When I study, I try to figure out which concepts I still haven't really understood.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
j) When I study, I try to understand the material better by relating it to my own experiences.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
k) When I study, I make sure that I remember the most important points in the text.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
l) When I study, I figure out how the text information fits in with what happens in real life.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
m) When I study and I don't understand something, I look for additional information to clarify this.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄

YOUR ENGLISH CLASSES

ST38

Q26 In your English classes, how often does the following occur?

(Please check only one box in each row)

	<i>Never or hardly ever</i>	<i>In some classes</i>	<i>In most classes</i>	<i>In all classes</i>
a) Students work together in pairs or in small groups.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
b) The teacher places students who have good grades and students who have poor grades in English in different groups.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
c) The teacher provides students who have poor grades in English with easier texts and books than students who have good grades in English	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
d) The teacher allows students who have poor grades in English more time to read texts and books than students who have good grades in English	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
e) Students who have good grades in English receive more difficult assignments or homework than students who have poor grades in English.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
f) Groups are composed on the basis of students' reading interest, e.g. their preference for a particular author, novels, poems, plays, newspapers.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄

Q27 In your English classes, how often does the following occur?*(Please check only one box in each row)*

	<i>Never or hardly ever</i>	<i>In some classes</i>	<i>In most classes</i>	<i>In all classes</i>
a) The English teacher sits or stands in front of the classroom and teaches all students the same thing at the same time.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
b) Students in English classes are grouped on the basis of their achievements, e.g. high-achieving students are in one group, average students are in a second group, and the others are in a third group.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
c) Students in English classes are grouped according to their interests or preferences.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
d) Students in English classes work individually on assignments.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄

Q28 To what extent do you agree or disagree with these statements about your English classes?

(Please check only one box in each row.)

	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly agree</i>
a) The English teacher helps us relate the stories we read to our lives	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
b) The English teacher shows how the information in texts builds on what we already know.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
c) The texts that we read for English classes are interesting from my point of view.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
d) The English teacher asks for our opinions about the texts we have read.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
e) The English teacher gives us a choice about what we read for English.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
f) The English teacher gives a choice about how to show what we have learned from reading.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄

Q29 In your English classes, how often does the following occur?

(Please check only one box in each row)

	<i>Never or hardly ever</i>	<i>In some classes</i>	<i>In most classes</i>	<i>In all classes</i>
a) The teacher explains beforehand what is expected of the students.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
b) The teacher checks that students are concentrating while working on the reading assignment.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
c) The teacher discusses students' work, after they have finished the reading assignment.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
d) The teacher tells students in advance how their work is going to be judged.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
e) The teacher asks whether every student has understood how to complete the reading assignment.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
f) The teacher grades students' work.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
g) The teacher gives students the chance to ask questions about the reading assignment.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
h) The teacher poses questions that motivate students to participate actively.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
i) The teacher tells students how well they did on the reading assignment immediately after.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄

LIBRARIES

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

ST45

Q30 How often do you visit a public library for the following activities?

(Please check only one box in each row)

	<i>Never</i>	<i>A few times a year</i>	<i>About once a month</i>	<i>Several times a month</i>
a) Borrow books to read for pleasure.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
b) Borrow books for school work.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
c) Read magazines or newspapers in the public library.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
d) Read books for pleasure in the public library.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
e) Work on homework or assignments in the public library.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
f) Use the Internet in the public library.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄

Q31 Does your school have a school library or media center?

No ☐ ₁

Yes ☐ ₂

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.

Q32 How often do you visit the school library or media center for the following activities?

(Please check only one box in each row)

	<i>Never</i>	<i>A few times a year</i>	<i>About once a month</i>	<i>Several times a month</i>	<i>Several times a week</i>
a) Borrow books to read for pleasure.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
b) Borrow books for school work.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
c) Work on homework, course assignments or research papers.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
d) Read magazines or newspapers.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
e) Read books for fun.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
f) Learn about things that are not course-related, such as sports, hobbies, people or music.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
g) Use the Internet.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅

Q33 How would you describe your school library or media center?*(Please check only one box in each row)*

	Yes	No
a) It has books that are interesting and useful to me.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
b) It has a good collection of reference materials for doing schoolwork.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
c) It is a place I like to go to read or to study.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
d) It is available during all/almost all school hours.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
e) It has helpful library staff.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂

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

Q34 Reading task: You have to understand and remember the information in a text.

How do you rate the usefulness of the following strategies for understanding and memorizing the text?

Possible strategy	Score					
	<i>Not useful at all</i>			<i>Very useful</i>		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
a) I concentrate on the parts of the text that are easy to understand.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆
b) I quickly read through the text twice.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆
c) After reading the text, I discuss its content with other people.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆
d) I underline important parts of the text.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆
e) I summarize the text in my own words.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆
f) I read the text aloud to another person.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆

Q35 Reading task: Your class has to learn about the origin of rain from a particular text. Different strategies can be used to help the class to learn from this text.

How do you rate the usefulness of the following strategies to help the class learn from the text about the origin of rain?

Possible strategy	Score											
	Not useful at all						Very useful					
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)						
a) The class watches a short film that illustrates the content of the text with specific examples.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆						
b) The class reads the text silently while the teacher reads it aloud.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆						
c) Students first read the text independently, and then look at an illustration that explains the origin of rain.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆						
d) The teacher reads the text to the students, and at the same time shows some photos illustrating the content of the text.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆						
e) A student reads the text aloud, while the other students listen.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆						
f) The teacher reads aloud a different text on the same topic.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆						

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