

**Do Not Turn Page Until Instructed To Do So.**

**TIMSS 2011**

**Student  
Questionnaire**

**Grade 8**



**TIMSS & PIRLS**  
International Study Center  
Lynch School of Education, Boston College

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# Directions

In this booklet, you will find questions about yourself. Some questions ask for facts while other questions ask for your opinion.

Each question is followed by a number of answers. Fill in the oval next to or under the answer of your choice as shown in Examples 1, 2, and 3.

## Example 1

Do you go to school?

Fill in **one** oval only.

Yes --

No --

## Example 2

How often do you do these things?

Fill in **one** oval for each line.

	Every day or almost every day	Once or twice a week	Once or twice a month	Never or almost never
a) I talk with my friends .....	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b) I play sports .....	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c) I ride a skateboard .....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## Example 3

What do you think? Tell how much you agree with these statements.

Fill in **one** oval for each line.

	Agree a lot	Agree a little	Disagree a little	Disagree a lot
a) Watching movies is fun .....	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b) I like eating ice cream .....	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c) I do not like waking up early .....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d) I enjoy doing chores .....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

- Read each question carefully, and pick the answer you think is best.
- Fill in the oval next to or under your answer.
- If you decide to change your answer, completely erase your first choice. Then, fill in the oval next to or under your new answer.
- Ask for help if you do not understand something or are not sure how to answer.

# About you

1

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A. Are you a girl or a boy?

*Fill in one oval only.*

Girl -- ①

Boy -- ②

B. Are you Hispanic or Latino?

*Fill in one oval only.*

Yes, I am Hispanic or Latino -- ①

No, I am not Hispanic or Latino -- ②

C. Which of the following best describes you?

*Fill in one or more ovals.*

White -- ①

Black or African American -- ①

Asian -- ①

American Indian or Alaska Native -- ①

Native Hawaiian or other  
Pacific Islander -- ①

## 2

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### When were you born?

*Fill in the ovals next to the month and year you were born.*

<b>a) Month</b>	<b>b) Year</b>
January -- ①	1993 -- ①
February -- ②	1994 -- ②
March -- ③	1995 -- ③
April -- ④	1996 -- ④
May -- ⑤	1997 -- ⑤
June -- ⑥	1998 -- ⑥
July -- ⑦	1999 -- ⑦
August -- ⑧	2000 -- ⑧
September -- ⑨	2001 -- ⑨
October -- ⑩	Other -- ⑩
November -- ⑪	
December -- ⑫	

### 3

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#### A. How often do you speak English at home?

Fill in **one** oval only.

Always-----① *If Always, please go to question 4* →

Almost always -----②

Sometimes-----③

Never -----④

*If Almost always, Sometimes, Never, please go to question 3B* ↓

#### B. What language do you speak at home (other than English)?

Fill in **one** oval only.

Spanish -----①

Other -----② Please specify \_\_\_\_\_

## 4

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- A. Was your mother (or stepmother or female legal guardian) born in the United States? (“United States” includes the 50 states, its territories, the District of Columbia, and U.S. military bases abroad.)

*Fill in one oval only.*

Yes -- ①

No -- ②

- B. Was your father (or stepfather or male legal guardian) born in the United States?

*Fill in one oval only.*

Yes -- ①

No -- ②

## 5

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- A. Were you born in the United States?

*Fill in one oval only.*

Yes -- ①

No -- ②

- B. If you were not born in the United States, how old were you when you came to the United States?

*Fill in one oval only.*

Older than 10 years old -- ①

5 to 10 years old -- ②

Younger than 5 years old -- ③

**6**

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**How many days were you absent from school in the last month?**

*Fill in **one** oval only.*

None -- ①

1 or 2 days -- ②

3 or 4 days -- ③

5 to 10 days -- ④

More than 10 days -- ⑤

**7**

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**Have you ever repeated a grade?**

*Fill in **one** oval for each line.*

Yes

No



a) In elementary school ..... ① ————— ②

b) In middle or junior high school ..... ① ————— ②



# 8

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**About how many books are there in your home? (Do not count magazines, newspapers, or your school books.)**

*Fill in **one** oval only.*

None or very few  
(0–10 books) -- ①

Enough to fill one shelf  
(11–25 books) -- ②

Enough to fill one bookcase  
(26–100 books) -- ③

Enough to fill two bookcases  
(101–200 books) -- ④

Enough to fill three or more bookcases  
(more than 200) -- ⑤

# 9

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**Do you have any of these things at your home?**

*Fill in **one** oval for each line.*

- |  | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| a) Computer .....  | ①   | ②  |
| b) Study desk/table for your use .....   | ①   | ②  |
| c) Books of your very own (do not count your school books) .....   | ①   | ②  |
| d) Your own room .....   | ①   | ②  |
| e) Internet connection .....   | ①   | ②  |
| f) Encyclopedia (a book or CD) .....   | ①   | ②  |
| g) PlayStation <sup>®</sup> , Game Cube <sup>®</sup> , Xbox <sup>®</sup> , or other TV/Video game system ..... | ①   | ②  |
| h) VCR, DVD or Blu-ray player .....  | ①   | ②  |

# 10

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**A. What is the highest level of education completed by your mother (or stepmother or female legal guardian)?**

*Fill in **one** oval only.*

Some elementary or  
junior/high middle school ----- ①

Completed junior  
high/middle school ----- ②

Some high school ----- ③

Completed high school ----- ④

Completed a vocational/technical  
certificate after high school ----- ⑤

Completed an Associate's degree  
(AA) in vocational/technical program ----- ⑥

Completed a 2-year or 4-year  
college or university degree (i.e.,  
Associate's or Bachelor's degree) ----- ⑦

Completed an academic Master's  
degree, teaching certificate program,  
or first professional degree (e.g., law,  
medicine, dentistry) or higher ----- ⑧

I don't know ----- ⑨

**10** (continued)

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**B. What is the highest level of education completed by your father (or stepfather or male legal guardian)?**

*Fill in **one** oval only.*

- Some elementary or junior/high middle school ----- ①
- Completed junior high/middle school ----- ②
- Some high school ----- ③
- Completed high school ----- ④
- Completed a vocational/technical certificate after high school ----- ⑤
- Completed an Associate's degree (AA) in vocational/technical program ----- ⑥
- Completed a 2-year or 4-year college or university degree (i.e., Associate's or Bachelor's degree) ----- ⑦
- Completed an academic Master's degree, teaching certificate program, or first professional degree (e.g., law, medicine, dentistry) or higher ----- ⑧
- I don't know ----- ⑨

# 11

How far in your education do you expect to go?

Fill in **one** oval only.

Finish junior high/middle school ..... ①

Finish high school ..... ②

Finish a vocational/technical  
certificate after high school ..... ③

Finish an Associate's degree (AA)  
in vocational/technical program ..... ④

Complete a 2-year or 4-year  
college or university degree (i.e.,  
Associate's or Bachelor's degree) ..... ⑤

Beyond a bachelor's degree ..... ⑥

I don't know ..... ⑦

# 12

How often do you use a computer in each of these  
places?

Fill in **one** oval for each line.

	Every day or almost every day	Once or twice a week	Once or twice a month	Never or almost never
a) At home .....	①	②	③	④
b) At school .....	①	②	③	④
c) Some other place .....	①	②	③	④

# 13

How often do the following things happen at home?

Fill in **one** oval for each line.

	Every day or almost every day	Once or twice a week	Once or twice a month	Never or almost never
a) My parents ask me what I am learning in school .....	①	②	③	④
b) I talk about my schoolwork with my parents .....	①	②	③	④
c) My parents make sure that I set aside time for my homework .....	①	②	③	④
d) My parents check if I do my homework .....	①	②	③	④

# Your School

## 14

What do you think about your school? Tell how much you agree with these statements.

Fill in **one** oval for each line.

- |  | Agree<br>a lot | Agree<br>a little | Disagree<br>a little | Disagree<br>a lot |
|--|----------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| a) I like being in school .....              | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| b) I feel safe when I am at school .....     | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| c) I feel like I belong at this school ..... | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |

## 15

During this year, how often have any of the following things happened to you at school?

Fill in **one** oval for each line.

- |   | At least<br>once a<br>week | Once or<br>twice<br>a month | A few<br>times<br>a year | Never |
|---|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| a) I was made fun of or called names -  | ①                          | ②                           | ③                        | ④     |
| b) I was left out of games or activities<br>by other students .....                 | ①                          | ②                           | ③                        | ④     |
| c) Someone spread lies about me .....   | ①                          | ②                           | ③                        | ④     |
| d) Something was stolen from me .....   | ①                          | ②                           | ③                        | ④     |
| e) I was hit or hurt by other student(s)<br>(e.g., shoving, hitting, kicking) ..... | ①                          | ②                           | ③                        | ④     |
| f) I was made to do things I didn't<br>want to do by other students .....           | ①                          | ②                           | ③                        | ④     |

## 16

How much do you agree with these statements about learning mathematics?

Fill in **one** oval for each line.

- |   | Agree<br>a lot | Agree<br>a little | Disagree<br>a little | Disagree<br>a lot |
|---|----------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| a) I enjoy learning mathematics -----                   | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| b) I wish I did not have to study mathematics -----     | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| c) Mathematics is boring -----                          | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| d) I learn many interesting things in mathematics ----- | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| e) I like mathematics -----                             | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| f) It is important to do well in mathematics -----      | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |

## 17

How much do you agree with these statements about your mathematics lessons?

Fill in **one** oval for each line.

- |   | Agree<br>a lot | Agree<br>a little | Disagree<br>a little | Disagree<br>a lot |
|---|----------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| a) I know what my teacher expects me to do -----      | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| b) I think of things not related to the lesson -----  | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| c) My teacher is easy to understand --                | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| d) I am interested in what my teacher says -----      | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| e) My teacher gives me interesting things to do ----- | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |

# 18

**How much do you agree with these statements about mathematics?**

*Fill in **one** oval for each line.*

- |  | Agree<br>a lot | Agree<br>a little | Disagree<br>a little | Disagree<br>a lot |
|--|----------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| a) I usually do well in mathematics ---  | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| b) Mathematics is more difficult for me than for many of my classmates -----             | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| c) Mathematics is not one of my strengths -----  | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| d) I learn things quickly in mathematics -----   | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| e) Mathematics makes me confused and nervous -----                                       | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| f) I am good at working out difficult mathematics problems -----                         | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| g) My teacher thinks I can do well in mathematics classes with difficult materials ----- | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| h) My teacher tells me I am good at mathematics -----                                    | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| i) Mathematics is harder for me than any other subject -----                             | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |



# 18 (continued)

How much do you agree with these statements about mathematics?

Fill in **one** oval for each line.

- |  | Agree<br>a lot | Agree<br>a little | Disagree<br>a little | Disagree<br>a lot |
|--|----------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| j) I think learning mathematics will help me in my daily life .....                          | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| k) I need mathematics to learn other school subjects .....                                   | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| l) I need to do well in mathematics to get into the college or university of my choice ..... | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| m) I need to do well in mathematics to get the job I want .....                              | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| n) I would like a job that involves using mathematics .....                                  | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |

## 19

How much do you agree with these statements about learning science?

Fill in **one** oval for each line.

	Agree a lot	Agree a little	Disagree a little	Disagree a lot
a) I enjoy learning science .....	①	②	③	④
b) I wish I did not have to study science .....	①	②	③	④
c) I read about science in my spare time .....	①	②	③	④
d) Science is boring .....	①	②	③	④
e) I learn many interesting things in science .....	①	②	③	④
f) I like science .....	①	②	③	④
g) It is important to do well in science .....	①	②	③	④

# 20

How much do you agree with these statements about your science lessons?

Fill in **one** oval for each line.

	Agree a lot	Agree a little	Disagree a little	Disagree a lot
a) I know what my teacher expects me to do .....	①	②	③	④
b) I think of things not related to the lesson .....	①	②	③	④
c) My teacher is easy to understand --	①	②	③	④
d) I am interested in what my teacher says .....	①	②	③	④
e) My teacher gives me interesting things to do .....	①	②	③	④

# 21

How much do you agree with these statements about science?

Fill in **one** oval for each line.

- |  | Agree<br>a lot | Agree<br>a little | Disagree<br>a little | Disagree<br>a lot |
|--|----------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| a) I usually do well in science .....  | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| b) Science is more difficult for me<br>than for many of my classmates ----                 | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| c) Science is not one of<br>my strengths .....   | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| d) I learn things quickly<br>in science .....  | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| e) Science makes me confused<br>and nervous .....  | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| f) I am good at working out<br>difficult science problems .....                            | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| g) My teacher thinks I can do<br>well in science classes with<br>difficult materials ..... | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| h) My teacher tells me I am good<br>at science .....                                       | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| i) Science is harder for me than<br>any other subject .....                                | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |

## 21 (continued)

How much do you agree with these statements about science?

Fill in **one** oval for each line.

- |  | Agree<br>a lot | Agree<br>a little | Disagree<br>a little | Disagree<br>a lot |
|--|----------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| j) I think learning science will help me in my daily life .....                          | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| k) I need science to learn other school subjects .....                                   | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| l) I need to do well in science to get into the college or university of my choice ..... | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| m) I need to do well in science to get the job I want .....                              | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |
| n) I would like a job that involves using science .....                                  | ①              | ②                 | ③                    | ④                 |

# Homework

22

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**A. How often does your teacher give you homework in mathematics?**

*Fill in **one** oval only.*

Every day -- ①

3 or 4 times a week -- ②

1 or 2 times a week -- ③

Less than once a week -- ④

Never -- ⑤

**B. When your teacher gives you mathematics homework, about how many minutes do you usually spend on your homework?**

*Fill in **one** oval only.*

My teacher never gives me homework in mathematics -- ①

1–15 minutes -- ②

16–30 minutes -- ③

31–60 minutes -- ④

61–90 minutes -- ⑤

More than 90 minutes -- ⑥

## 23

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**A. How often does your teacher give you homework in science?**

*Fill in **one** oval only.*

- Every day -- ①
- 3 or 4 times a week -- ②
- 1 or 2 times a week -- ③
- Less than once a week -- ④
- Never -- ⑤

**B. When your teacher gives you science homework, about how many minutes do you usually spend on your homework?**

*Fill in **one** oval only.*

- My teacher never gives me homework in science -- ①
- 1–15 minutes -- ②
- 16–30 minutes -- ③
- 31–60 minutes -- ④
- 61–90 minutes -- ⑤
- More than 90 minutes -- ⑥

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**Thank You!**

**Thank you for filling out the questionnaire!**



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# TIMSS 2011

## Student Questionnaire

Grade 8



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