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TRENDS IN INTERNATIONAL MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE STUDY

Student Questionnaire

Grade 8

National Center for Education Statistics

U.S. Department of Education Potomac Center Plaza (PCP), 550 12th St., SW, 4th floor Washington, DC 20202 USA

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OMB No. 1850-0695, Approval Expires 01/31/2021.

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200301-001:321 Printed in the USA by Pearson ISD19885

International Study Center
Lynch School of Education
BOSTON COLLEGE

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 -- ②

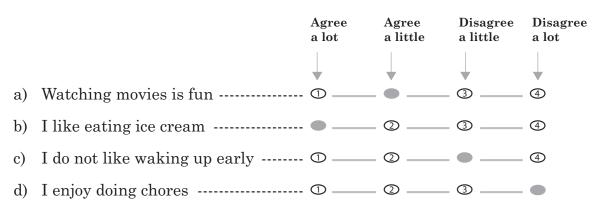
Example 2

How often do you do these things?

		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	•	2	3 —	4
b)	I play sports	①	•	3 —	4
c)	I ride a skateboard	① ———	2 —		4

Example 3

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



- 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

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 oval(s) for **all** that apply.

White -- ①

Black or African American -- ①

Asian -- ①

American Indian or Alaska Native -- ①

Native Hawaiian or other

Pacific Islander -- ①

When were you born?

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

a) Month	b) Year
January 🖎	2001 🛈
February ®	2002 ②
March ©	2003 ③
April 👁	2004 ④
May ©	2005 ⑤
June ©	2006 ⑤
July ©	2007 🗇
August ⊕	2008 ③
September \bigcirc	2009 ⑨
October •	Other ©
November ©	
December ©	

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

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) -- ③

5

Do you have any of these things at your home?

- a) A computer or tablet ----- ① ____ ②
- b) Study desk/table for your use ----- ① ____ ②
- c) Your own room ----- ① ____ ②
- d) Internet connection ----- ① ____ ②
- e) Your own cell phone ----- ① ____ ②
- f) A gaming system (e.g., PlayStation, Wii, Xbox) ----- ①
- g) VCR, DVD, or Blu-ray player ----- ①

The following questions are about your Parent/Guardian A and Parent/Guardian B. If you have only one parent/guardian, answer for Parent/Guardian A. If you have two parents/guardians, choose one for Parent/Guardian A and the other for Parent/Guardian B.

6

What is the highest level of education completed by your parents/guardians?

A. Parent/Guardian A

Fill in one oval only.

Less than high school -- ①

Some high school -- ②

High school graduate -- ③

Associate's degree (2-year college program) -- ④

Bachelor's degree (4-year college program) -- ③

Master's degree or professional degree (MD, DDS, lawyer, minister) -- ©

Doctorate (Ph.D., or Ed.D.) -- ②

I don't know -- ®

Not applicable -- ①

6 (continued)

What is the highest level of education completed by your parents/guardians?

B. Parent/Guardian B

Fill in one oval only.

- Less than high school -- ①
 - Some high school -- ②
- High school graduate -- ③
- Associate's degree (2-year college program) -- @
- Bachelor's degree (4-year college program) -- ③
 - Master's degree or professional
 - degree (MD, DDS, lawyer, minister) -- ©
 - Doctorate (Ph.D., or Ed.D.) -- ♥
 - I don't know -- ®
 - Not applicable -- ①

7

How far in your education do you expect to go?

Fill in one oval only.

Finish middle school -- ①

Finish high school -- ②

Finish Associate's degree (2-year college program) -- ③

Finish Bachelor's degree (4-year college program) -- ④

Finish Master's degree or professional degree (MD, DDS, lawyer, minister) -- ③

Finish Doctorate (Ph.D., Ed.D.) -- ©

8

Were your parents/guardians born in the United States? ("United States" includes the 50 states, its territories, the District of Columbia, and U.S. military bases abroad.)

A. Parent/Guardian A

Fill in **one** oval only.

Yes -- ①

No -- 2

I don't know -- ③

Not applicable -- @

B. Parent/Guardian B

Fill in **one** oval only.

Yes -- ①

No -- ②

I don't know -- ③

Not applicable -- @

9

A. Were you born in the United States?

Fill in one oval only.

Yes -- ①

(If Yes, go to question 10)

No -- ②

If No,

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

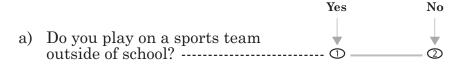
5 to 10 years old -- \bigcirc

Younger than 5 years old -- 3

10-

The following questions ask about activities you do outside of school.

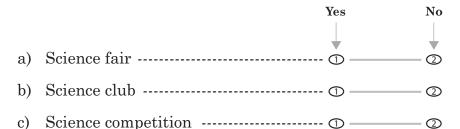
Fill in only one oval for each row.



- b) Do you often play a musical instrument outside of school? ----- ①
- c) Are you studying something in a class outside of school? ----- ①
- d) Do you belong to a club outside of school (like Boy/Girl Scouts, 4-H, or Boys and Girls Club)? ----- ① ____ ②

11

In this school year, are you preparing for or have you participated in any of the following activities?



A. About how often are you absent from school?

Fill in **one** oval only.

- Once a week -- ①
- Once every two weeks -- ②
 - Once a month -- ③
- Once every two months -- ④
- Never or almost never -- ⑤

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

Fill in one oval only.

None -- ①

Yes

- 1 or 2 days -- ②
- 3 or 4 days -- ③
- 5 to 10 days -- ④
- More than 10 days -- \circ

13.

Have you ever repeated a grade?

- a) In elementary school ----- ① ____ ②
- b) In middle or junior high school ---- ① ____ ②

14_

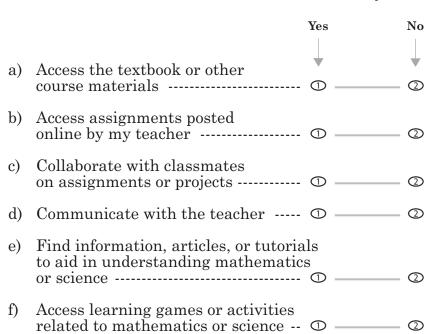
How often do you feel this way when you arrive at school?

Fill in only one oval for each row.

a)	I feel tired	Every day	Almost every day	Sometimes	Never
	I feel hungry		② ——	3 —	4

15

Do you use the Internet to do any of the following tasks for schoolwork (including classroom tasks, homework, studying outside of class)?



Your School

16

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

		Agree a lot	Agree a little	Disagree a little	Disagree a lot
a)	I like being in school	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	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	. 	②	3 —	4
d)	Teachers at my school are fair to me	①	②	3 ——	4
e)	I am proud to go to this school	①	②	3	4

17_____

During this school year, how often have other students from your school done any of the following things to you (including through texting or social media)?

		At least once a week	Once or twice a month	A few times a year	Never
a)	Said mean things about my physical appearance (e.g., my hair, my size)	- ①	②	3	4
b)	Spread lies about me	- ①	②	3	4
c)	Shared my secrets with others	- ①	②	3	4
d)	Refused to talk to me	- ①	②	3	4
e)	Insulted a member of my family	- ①	②	3	4
f)	Stole something from me	- ①	②	3	4
g)	Made me do things I didn't want to do	- ①	②	3	4
h)	Sent me nasty or hurtful messages online	- ①	②	3	4
i)	Shared nasty or hurtful things about me online	- ①	②	3	4
j)	Shared embarrassing photos of me	- ①	②	3	4
k)	Threatened me	- ①	②	3	4
1)	Physically hurt me	- ①	②	3	4
m)	Excluded me from their group (e.g., parties, messaging)	- ①	②	3	4
n)	Damaged something of mine on purpose	- ①	②	3	4

Mathematics in School

18

In mathematics lessons, how often do you work problems on your own?

Fill in one oval only.

Every or almost every lesson-- ①

About half the lessons-- ②

Some lessons-- ③

Never-- @

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

		Agree a lot	Agree a little	Disagree a little	Disagree 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)	I like any schoolwork that involves numbers	- ① ——	2 ——	3 ——	4
g)	I like to solve mathematics problems	- ① ——	2	3 —	4
h)	I look forward to mathematics class	- ① ——	2	3 —	4
i)	Mathematics is one of my favorite subjects	. ①	2	3	4

How much do you agree with these statements about your <u>mathematics lessons</u>?

		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)	My teacher is easy to understand -	- ① ——	2	3 —	4
c)	My teacher has clear answers to my questions	- ① ——	② ——	3 —	4
d)	My teacher is good at explaining mathematics	- ① ——	② ——	3 —	4
e)	My teacher does a variety of things to help us learn	- ① ——	② ——	3 —	4
f)	My teacher links new lessons to what I already know	- ① ——	② ——	3 —	4
g)	My teacher explains a topic again when we don't understand	- ①	②	3	- 4

How often do these things happen in your mathematics lessons?

		Every or almost every lesson	About half the lessons	Some lessons	Never
a)	Students don't listen to what the teacher says	- ① ——	2 —	3	4
b)	There is disruptive noise	. ① ——	2	3 —	4
c)	It is too disorderly for students to work well	. ① ——	② ——	3 —	4
d)	My teacher has to wait a long time for students to quiet down	. ① ——	② ——	3 ——	- 4
e)	Students interrupt the teacher	. ①	2	3 —	4
f)	My teacher has to keep telling us to follow the classroom rules	. ① ——	② ——	3 —	4

How much do you agree with these statements about mathematics?

		Agree a lot	Agree a little	Disagree a little	Disagree a lot
a)	I usually do well in mathematics	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	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 nervous	. ①	② ——	3 ——	4
f)	I am good at working out difficult mathematics problems	. ①	② ——	3	4
g)	My teacher tells me I am good at mathematics	. ①	②	3	4
h)	Mathematics is harder for me than any other subject	. ①	②	3	4
i)	Mathematics makes me confused	. ①	②	3	4

How much do you agree with these statements about mathematics?

		Agree a lot	Agree a little	Disagree a little	Disagree a lot
a)	I think learning mathematics will help me in my daily life		- 2	3	4
b)	I need mathematics to learn other school subjects		_ ②	- 3	- 4
c)	I need to do well in mathematics to get into the college or universit of my choice	y ① ——	_ ②	_ 3	- 4
d)	I need to do well in mathematics to get the job I want	①	- ②	- 3	- 4
e)	I would like a job that involves using mathematics	①	- ②	- 3	_ 4
f)	It is important to learn about mathematics to get ahead in the world	··· ①	_ ②	_ 3	- 4
g)	Learning mathematics will give me more job opportunities when I am an adult	··· ① ———	_ ②	_ 3	- 4
h)	My parents think that it is important that I do well in mathematics	①	- ②	- 3	— 4
i)	It is important to do well in mathematics	··· ①	_ ②	- 3	- 4

Science in School

24

In science lessons, how often does your teacher ask you to conduct science experiments?

Fill in one oval only.

At least once a week -- ①

Once or twice a month -- ②

A few times a year -- ③

Never -- ④

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

		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)	Science is boring	- ① ——	2 —	3 —	4
d)	I learn many interesting things in science	- ① ——	2 —	3 ——	- 4
e)	I like science	- ① —	2 —	3 —	4
f)	I look forward to learning science in school	- ① ——	② ——	3 —	- 4
g)	Science teaches me how things in the world work	- ①	②	3	4
h)	I like to conduct science experiments	- ①	②	3	4
i)	Science is one of my favorite subjects	- ①	②	3	4

How much do you agree with these statements about your <u>science lessons</u>?

		Agree a lot	Agree a little	Disagree a little	Disagree a lot
a)	I know what my teacher expects me to do	- O	*	3	4
b)	My teacher is easy to understand	- ①	_ ②	_ 3	_4
c)	My teacher has clear answers to my questions	- ①	_ ②	_ 3	_ 4
d)	My teacher is good at explaining science	- ①	_ ②	_ 3	_ 4
e)	My teacher does a variety of things to help us learn	- ①	_ ②	_ ③	_ 4
f)	My teacher links new lessons to what I already know	- ①	_ ②	_ 3	_ 4
g)	My teacher explains a topic again when we don't understand -	- ①	_ ②	_ 3	_ 4

How much do you agree with these statements about science?

		Agree a lot	Agree a little	Disagree a little	Disagree a lot
a)	I usually do well in science	D	② ——	3 —	4
b)	Science is more difficult for me than for many of my classmates	① ——	② ——	3 ——	4
c)	Science is not one of my strengths	① ——	② ——	3 ——	4
d)	I learn things quickly in science	① ——	② ——	3 ——	4
e)	I am good at working out difficult science problems	① ——	② ——	3 ——	4
f)	My teacher tells me I am good at science	① ——	② ——	3 ——	4
g)	Science is harder for me than any other subject	①	②	3	4
h)	Science makes me confused	(1)	②	3	4

How much do you agree with these statements about science?

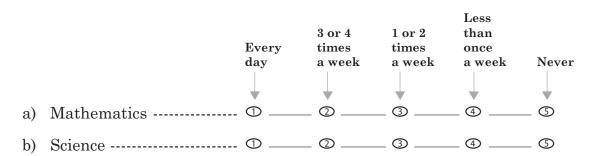
		Agree a lot	Agree a little	Disagree a little	Disagree a lot
a)	I think learning science will help me in my daily life	①	-2	3	4
b)	I need science to learn other school subjects	··· ① ——	- ②	- 3	- 4
c)	I need to do well in science to get into the college or university of my choice	·- ①	- ②	- 3	- 4
d)	I need to do well in science to get the job I want	·· ① ——	- 2	- 3	- 4
e)	I would like a job that involves using science	·· ① ——	- 2	_ 3	— 4
f)	It is important to learn about science to get ahead in the world	··· ① ———	- ②	- 3	- 4
g)	Learning science will give me more job opportunities when I am an adult	··· ① ———	_ ②	- 3	— 4
h)	My parents think that it is important that I do well in science	··· ①	- 2	- 3	— 4
i)	It is important to do well in science	·· ① ——	- 2	_ 3	- 4

Homework

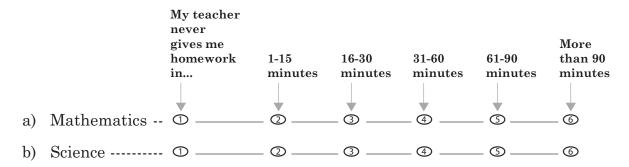
29

A. How often does your teacher give you homework in the following subjects?

Fill in only **one** oval for each row.



B. When your teacher gives you homework in the following subjects, about how many minutes do you usually spend on your homework?



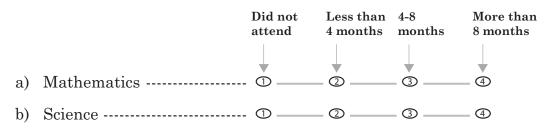
30-

A. During the last 12 months, have you attended extra lessons or tutoring not provided by the school in the following subjects?

Fill in only **one** oval for each row.



B. For how many of the last 12 months have you attended extra lessons or tutoring?



31

How hard was this test compared to most other tests you have taken this year in school?

Fill in **one** oval only.

Easier than other tests -- ①

About as hard as other tests -- ②

Harder than other tests -- ③

Much harder than other tests -- ④

32_

How hard did you try on this test compared to how hard you tried on most other tests you have taken this year in school?

Fill in one oval only.

Not as hard as on other tests -- ①

About as hard as on other tests -- ②

Harder than on other tests -- ③

Much harder than on other tests -- @

33

How important was it to you to do well on this test?

Fill in **one** oval only.

Not very important -- ①

Somewhat important -- ②

Important -- ③

Very important -- @

Thank You! Thank you for filling out the questionnaire!



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Grade 8



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