



# Teacher Background Questionnaire

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## 2000 Reading Grade 4

## **TEACHER QUESTIONNAIRE**

### **GRADE 4 – READING**

During the 1999–2000 school year, a sample of students across the country, including some of your 4th-grade students, will participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The current assessment focuses on achievement in various subjects, including reading, mathematics, and science. To investigate the relationship between students' achievement and various school, teacher, and home factors, NAEP is also collecting information from schools and teachers.

This questionnaire collects information about teachers' backgrounds and instructional practices as they relate to students selected for the assessment. Since you teach reading to one or more students selected for the reading assessment, you are being asked to answer questions about these students' classes.

Obviously, only you can provide this important information. So, although we realize that you are very busy, we urge you to complete this questionnaire as accurately as possible. The information you provide is being collected for research purposes only and will be kept strictly confidential.

NAEP is authorized under Public Law 103-382. While your participation is voluntary, your responses to these questions are needed to make this survey accurate and complete.

#### **Instructions**

This questionnaire contains two parts.

Part I – Background, Education, and Resources  
Part II – Reading Preparation and Instruction

**You should complete both parts. Please record your answers directly in this questionnaire by filling in the appropriate ovals.**

When you are finished, please return the questionnaire to your school's NAEP coordinator.

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH.**

## Part I: Background, Education, & Resources

PJ000120

**Questions 1–3.** Which of the following subjects do you teach? Fill in **all** ovals that apply.

- |                  |                         |          |
|------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| 1. Reading       | <input type="radio"/> A | PJ000121 |
| 2. Writing       | <input type="radio"/> A | PJ000122 |
| 3. Language Arts | <input type="radio"/> A | PJ000123 |

PJ000126

4. Counting this year, how many years in total (include part-time teaching) have you taught at the elementary level?
- A 2 years or less
  - B 3-5 years
  - C 6-10 years
  - D 11-24 years
  - E 25 years or more

ID100357

**Questions 5–7.** Counting this year, how many years in total have you taught the following subjects? (Include any permanent full-time or part-time assignments, but not substitute assignments.) Fill in **one** oval on each line.

- |                  | 2 Years<br>or Less      | 3 – 5<br>Years          | 6 –10<br>Years          | 11 – 24<br>Years        | 25 Years<br>or More     |          |
|------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| 5. Reading       | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> C | <input type="radio"/> D | <input type="radio"/> E | PJ000128 |
| 6. Writing       | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> C | <input type="radio"/> D | <input type="radio"/> E | PJ000129 |
| 7. Language Arts | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> C | <input type="radio"/> D | <input type="radio"/> E | PJ000130 |

8. What is your main assignment field?

- Ⓐ Regular classroom
- Ⓑ Special education
- Ⓒ ESL/Bilingual education
- Ⓓ Other

9. What type of teaching certificate do you have in this state in your main assignment field?

- Ⓐ Advanced professional certificate
- Ⓑ Regular or standard state certificate (standard certificate offered in state)
- Ⓒ Probationary state certificate (the initial certificate issued after satisfying all requirements except completion of a probationary period)
- Ⓓ Temporary, provisional, or emergency state certificate
- Ⓔ Certification by an accreditation body other than the state
- Ⓕ I don't have a certificate in my main assignment field.

10. What is the highest academic degree you hold?

- Ⓐ High-school diploma
- Ⓑ Associate's degree/vocational certification
- Ⓒ Bachelor's degree
- Ⓓ Master's degree
- Ⓔ Education specialist's or professional diploma based on at least one year's work past master's degree
- Ⓕ Doctorate
- Ⓖ Professional degree (e.g., M.D., LL.B., J.D., D.D.S.)

The following question asks you to fill in a specific number. Please print the appropriate number in the boxes provided. Please PRINT LEGIBLY, using one number per box. Keep all printing within the boxes. Do not make any stray marks. Use only a No. 2 pencil.

Examples of numerals are:

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 0 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

11. What year was your most recent degree awarded? PJ000136

19

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  |  |
|--|--|

**Questions 12–21.** What were your undergraduate major and minor fields of study? Fill in **one** oval on each line. PJ000137

|                                    | Undergraduate<br>major field<br>of study | Undergraduate<br>minor field<br>of study | I did not major<br>or minor in<br>this subject. |          |
|------------------------------------|--|--|---|----------|
| 12. Elementary education           | <input type="radio"/> A                  | <input type="radio"/> B                  | <input type="radio"/> C                         | PJ000138 |
| 13. Secondary education            | <input type="radio"/> A                  | <input type="radio"/> B                  | <input type="radio"/> C                         | PJ000139 |
| 14. Special education              | <input type="radio"/> A                  | <input type="radio"/> B                  | <input type="radio"/> C                         | PJ000140 |
| 15. Bilingual education or ESL     | <input type="radio"/> A                  | <input type="radio"/> B                  | <input type="radio"/> C                         | PJ000141 |
| 16. Administration and supervision | <input type="radio"/> A                  | <input type="radio"/> B                  | <input type="radio"/> C                         | PJ000142 |
| 17. Curriculum and instruction     | <input type="radio"/> A                  | <input type="radio"/> B                  | <input type="radio"/> C                         | PJ000143 |
| 18. Counseling                     | <input type="radio"/> A                  | <input type="radio"/> B                  | <input type="radio"/> C                         | PJ000144 |
| 19. English                        | <input type="radio"/> A                  | <input type="radio"/> B                  | <input type="radio"/> C                         | PJ000145 |
| 20. Reading and/or language arts   | <input type="radio"/> A                  | <input type="radio"/> B                  | <input type="radio"/> C                         | PJ000146 |
| 21. Other (specify) _____          | <input type="radio"/> A                  | <input type="radio"/> B                  | <input type="radio"/> C                         | PJ000149 |

PJ000150

**Questions 22–31.** What were your graduate major and minor fields of study?  
Fill in **one** oval on each line.

|                                    | <b>Graduate<br/>major field<br/>of study</b> | <b>Graduate<br/>minor field<br/>of study</b> | <b>I did not major<br/>or minor in<br/>this subject.</b> |          |
|------------------------------------|--|--|--|----------|
| 22. Elementary education           | Ⓐ  | Ⓑ  | Ⓒ  | PJ000151 |
| 23. Secondary education            | Ⓐ  | Ⓑ  | Ⓒ  | PJ000152 |
| 24. Special education              | Ⓐ  | Ⓑ  | Ⓒ  | PJ000153 |
| 25. Bilingual education or ESL     | Ⓐ  | Ⓑ  | Ⓒ  | PJ000154 |
| 26. Administration and supervision | Ⓐ  | Ⓑ  | Ⓒ  | PJ000155 |
| 27. Curriculum and instruction     | Ⓐ  | Ⓑ  | Ⓒ  | PJ000156 |
| 28. Counseling                     | Ⓐ  | Ⓑ  | Ⓒ  | PJ000157 |
| 29. English                        | Ⓐ  | Ⓑ  | Ⓒ  | PJ000158 |
| 30. Reading and/or language arts   | Ⓐ  | Ⓑ  | Ⓒ  | PJ000159 |
| 31. Other (specify)_____           | Ⓐ  | Ⓑ  | Ⓒ  | PJ000162 |

ID100356

**Questions 32–33.** In the past twelve months, how many hours in total have you spent in professional development workshops or seminars in the areas listed below? Include attendance at professional meetings and conferences, district-sponsored or external workshops, and college or university courses.

|  | <b>None</b> | <b>Less than<br/>6 hours</b> | <b>6–15<br/>hours</b> | <b>16–35<br/>hours</b> | <b>More than<br/>35 hours</b> |          |
|--|-------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| 32. Reading and writing or the teaching of reading and writing | Ⓐ           | Ⓑ                            | Ⓒ                     | Ⓓ                      | Ⓔ                             | ID100358 |
| 33. Social studies or the teaching of social studies           | Ⓐ           | Ⓑ                            | Ⓒ                     | Ⓓ                      | Ⓔ                             | ID100147 |

**Questions 34-40.** How well prepared are you in the following? (Fill in **one** oval on each line.)

|   | <b>Well<br/>Prepared</b> | <b>Moderately<br/>Prepared</b> | <b>Not Well<br/>Prepared</b> |          |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| 34. Use of telecommunications                             | <input type="radio"/> A  | <input type="radio"/> B        | <input type="radio"/> C      | PJ000169 |
| 35. Use of computers                                      | <input type="radio"/> A  | <input type="radio"/> B        | <input type="radio"/> C      | ID100360 |
| 36. Cooperative group instruction                         | <input type="radio"/> A  | <input type="radio"/> B        | <input type="radio"/> C      | PJ000171 |
| 37. Teaching students from different cultural backgrounds | <input type="radio"/> A  | <input type="radio"/> B        | <input type="radio"/> C      | PJ000176 |
| 38. Teaching students who are Limited English Proficient  | <input type="radio"/> A  | <input type="radio"/> B        | <input type="radio"/> C      | PJ000177 |
| 39. Teaching students with disabilities                   | <input type="radio"/> A  | <input type="radio"/> B        | <input type="radio"/> C      | PJ000178 |
| 40. Classroom management and organization                 | <input type="radio"/> A  | <input type="radio"/> B        | <input type="radio"/> C      | PJ000179 |

HE001022

41. Which of the following statements is true about how well your school system provides you with the instructional materials and other resources you need to teach your class?

- A I get all the resources I need.
- B I get most of the resources I need.
- C I get some of the resources I need.
- D I don't get any of the resources I need.

## Part IIA: Reading Preparation

ID100416

**Questions 1–2.** How well prepared do you feel to teach the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

|            | <b>Well<br/>Prepared</b> | <b>Moderately<br/>Prepared</b> | <b>Not Well<br/>Prepared</b> |          |
|------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Reading | <input type="radio"/> A  | <input type="radio"/> B        | <input type="radio"/> C      | ID100417 |
| 2. Writing | <input type="radio"/> A  | <input type="radio"/> B        | <input type="radio"/> C      | ID100418 |

ID100415

**Questions 3–12.** Through training received in college or university courses or professional development workshops, how prepared are you to implement the following curricular approaches or instructional techniques? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

|   | <b>Well<br/>Prepared</b> | <b>Moderately<br/>Prepared</b> | <b>Not Well<br/>Prepared</b> |          |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| 3. Literature-based reading instruction                   | <input type="radio"/> A  | <input type="radio"/> B        | <input type="radio"/> C      | PJ000182 |
| 4. Content area reading                                   | <input type="radio"/> A  | <input type="radio"/> B        | <input type="radio"/> C      | PJ000183 |
| 5. Combining reading and writing                          | <input type="radio"/> A  | <input type="radio"/> B        | <input type="radio"/> C      | PJ000184 |
| 6. The whole language approach to teaching reading        | <input type="radio"/> A  | <input type="radio"/> B        | <input type="radio"/> C      | PJ000185 |
| 7. Phonics in the teaching of reading                     | <input type="radio"/> A  | <input type="radio"/> B        | <input type="radio"/> C      | PJ000186 |
| 8. Teaching multicultural literature                      | <input type="radio"/> A  | <input type="radio"/> B        | <input type="radio"/> C      | PJ000187 |
| 9. Computer software for teaching reading                 | <input type="radio"/> A  | <input type="radio"/> B        | <input type="radio"/> C      | PJ000188 |
| 10. Writing across the curriculum                         | <input type="radio"/> A  | <input type="radio"/> B        | <input type="radio"/> C      | PJ000190 |
| 11. Using computer software for teaching writing          | <input type="radio"/> A  | <input type="radio"/> B        | <input type="radio"/> C      | PJ000191 |
| 12. Teaching spelling, grammar, and punctuation/mechanics | <input type="radio"/> A  | <input type="radio"/> B        | <input type="radio"/> C      | PJ000192 |

## Part IIB: Reading Instructional Information

ID100368

1. What is your average reading class size?

- Ⓐ 1–20 students
- Ⓑ 21–25 students
- Ⓒ 26–30 students
- Ⓓ 31–35 students
- Ⓔ 36 or more students

HE001284

2. Are students assigned to this class by ability?

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No

HE001201

3. What is the reading ability level of the students in this class?

- Ⓐ Primarily high ability
- Ⓑ Primarily average ability
- Ⓒ Primarily low ability
- Ⓓ Widely mixed ability

PJ000196

4. About how much time do you spend with this class for reading instruction on a typical day?

- Ⓐ Less than 30 minutes
- Ⓑ 30 to 44 minutes
- Ⓒ 45 to 59 minutes
- Ⓓ 60 to 90 minutes
- Ⓔ More than 90 minutes

5. On what basis do you create instructional groups for reading in this class?

- (A) Ability
- (B) Interest
- (C) Diversity
- (D) Other
- (E) I don't create groups for reading in this class.

6. Into how many instructional groups do you usually divide the class when you teach reading to this class?

- (A) I teach reading as a whole-class activity.
- (B) I use whole-class instruction with flexible grouping.
- (C) Two groups
- (D) Three groups
- (E) Four groups
- (F) Five or more groups
- (G) I generally use individualized instruction for reading.

**Questions 7–11.** How often do you use the following resources to teach reading in this class? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

|  | Almost<br>Every Day       | Once or<br>Twice a<br>Week | Once or<br>Twice a<br>Month | Never or<br>Hardly<br>Ever |          |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| 7. Children's newspapers and/or magazines                                | <input type="radio"/> (A) | <input type="radio"/> (B)  | <input type="radio"/> (C)   | <input type="radio"/> (D)  | PJ000202 |
| 8. Reading kits  | <input type="radio"/> (A) | <input type="radio"/> (B)  | <input type="radio"/> (C)   | <input type="radio"/> (D)  | PJ000203 |
| 9. Computer software for reading instruction                             | <input type="radio"/> (A) | <input type="radio"/> (B)  | <input type="radio"/> (C)   | <input type="radio"/> (D)  | PJ000204 |
| 10. A variety of books (e.g., novels, collections of poetry, nonfiction) | <input type="radio"/> (A) | <input type="radio"/> (B)  | <input type="radio"/> (C)   | <input type="radio"/> (D)  | PJ000205 |
| 11. Materials from other subjects  | <input type="radio"/> (A) | <input type="radio"/> (B)  | <input type="radio"/> (C)   | <input type="radio"/> (D)  | PJ000206 |

12. What type of materials form the core of your reading program?

- (A) Primarily basal
- (B) Primarily trade books
- (C) Both basal and trade books
- (D) Other

PJ000207

13. Which best describes the availability of computers for use in your class?

- (A) Not available
- (B) Available in a lab or library, but difficult to access
- (C) Readily available in a lab or library
- (D) One computer available in the classroom
- (E) Several computers available in the classroom

PJ000208

**Questions 14–16.** About what proportion of your reading instruction time is focused on having students read for the following purposes? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

|  | Almost all<br>of the Time | At Least<br>Two-Thirds<br>of the Time | At Least<br>One-Third of<br>the Time | Little or<br>No Time      |          |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------|
| 14. Reading for literary experience<br>(e.g., stories, poetry, science<br>fiction, folktales)                    | <input type="radio"/> (A) | <input type="radio"/> (B)             | <input type="radio"/> (C)            | <input type="radio"/> (D) | PJ000209 |
| 15. Reading to gain information<br>(e.g., science articles, historical<br>sources, textbook chapters,<br>essays) | <input type="radio"/> (A) | <input type="radio"/> (B)             | <input type="radio"/> (C)            | <input type="radio"/> (D) | PJ000210 |
| 16. Reading to perform a task<br>(e.g., documents, forms,<br>directions)   | <input type="radio"/> (A) | <input type="radio"/> (B)             | <input type="radio"/> (C)            | <input type="radio"/> (D) | PJ000211 |

**Questions 17–18.** Do you use any of the following instructional approaches? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

|                                     | <b>Yes, as a central part<br/>of instruction</b> | <b>Yes, as a supplemental<br/>instruction</b> | <b>No</b>               |          |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|-------------------------|----------|
| 17. Integrating reading and writing | <input type="radio"/> A                          | <input type="radio"/> B                       | <input type="radio"/> C | PJ000219 |
| 18. Writing about literature        | <input type="radio"/> A                          | <input type="radio"/> B                       | <input type="radio"/> C | PJ000220 |

**Questions 19–20.** How often do you do each of the following with the students in this class? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

|   | <b>Almost<br/>Every Day</b> | <b>Once or<br/>Twice a<br/>Week</b> | <b>Once or<br/>Twice a<br/>Month</b> | <b>Never or<br/>Hardly<br/>Ever</b> |          |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| 19. Have parents review or sign students' homework  | <input type="radio"/> A     | <input type="radio"/> B             | <input type="radio"/> C              | <input type="radio"/> D             | PJ000226 |
| 20. Assign homework for students to do with parents | <input type="radio"/> A     | <input type="radio"/> B             | <input type="radio"/> C              | <input type="radio"/> D             | PJ000227 |

**Questions 21–36.** How often do you do the following things as a part of reading instruction with this class? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

|   | <b>Almost<br/>Every Day</b> | <b>Once or<br/>Twice a<br/>Week</b> | <b>Once or<br/>Twice a<br/>Month</b> | <b>Never or<br/>Hardly<br/>Ever</b> |          |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| 21. Ask students to read aloud  | Ⓐ                           | Ⓑ                                   | Ⓒ                                    | Ⓓ                                   | PJ000231 |
| 22. Ask students to talk with each other about what they have read                              | Ⓐ                           | Ⓑ                                   | Ⓒ                                    | Ⓓ                                   | PJ000233 |
| 23. Ask students to write about something they have read  | Ⓐ                           | Ⓑ                                   | Ⓒ                                    | Ⓓ                                   | PJ000234 |
| 24. Ask students to work in a reading workbook or on a worksheet                                | Ⓐ                           | Ⓑ                                   | Ⓒ                                    | Ⓓ                                   | PJ000235 |
| 25. Ask students to read silently   | Ⓐ                           | Ⓑ                                   | Ⓒ                                    | Ⓓ                                   | PJ000232 |
| 26. Give students time to read books they have chosen themselves                                | Ⓐ                           | Ⓑ                                   | Ⓒ                                    | Ⓓ                                   | PJ000236 |
| 27. Ask students to do a group activity or project about what they have read                    | Ⓐ                           | Ⓑ                                   | Ⓒ                                    | Ⓓ                                   | PJ000237 |
| 28. Ask students to discuss different interpretations of what they have read                    | Ⓐ                           | Ⓑ                                   | Ⓒ                                    | Ⓓ                                   | ID100371 |
| 29. Ask students to explain or support their understanding of what they have read               | Ⓐ                           | Ⓑ                                   | Ⓒ                                    | Ⓓ                                   | PJ000238 |
| 30. Give reading quizzes or tests   | Ⓐ                           | Ⓑ                                   | Ⓒ                                    | Ⓓ                                   | ID100372 |
| 31. Watch movies, videos, filmstrips, television; or listen to tapes, compact discs, or records | Ⓐ                           | Ⓑ                                   | Ⓒ                                    | Ⓓ                                   | PJ000239 |
| 32. Help students understand new words  | Ⓐ                           | Ⓑ                                   | Ⓒ                                    | Ⓓ                                   | PJ000229 |
| 33. Ask students to answer questions about what they have read in writing                       | Ⓐ                           | Ⓑ                                   | Ⓒ                                    | Ⓓ                                   | PJ000240 |
| 34. Ask students to make predictions about what they read as they are reading it                | Ⓐ                           | Ⓑ                                   | Ⓒ                                    | Ⓓ                                   | PJ000241 |
| 35. Ask students to make generalizations and draw inferences based on what they have read       | Ⓐ                           | Ⓑ                                   | Ⓒ                                    | Ⓓ                                   | PJ000242 |
| 36. Ask students to describe the style or structure of the text they have read                  | Ⓐ                           | Ⓑ                                   | Ⓒ                                    | Ⓓ                                   | PJ000243 |

**Questions 37–39.** How often do you ask students in this class to do each of the following on a computer? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

|  | <b>Almost<br/>Every Day</b> | <b>Once or<br/>Twice a<br/>Week</b> | <b>Once or<br/>Twice a<br/>Month</b> | <b>Never or<br/>Hardly<br/>Ever</b> |          |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| 37. Do spelling, punctuation, or grammar exercises         | <input type="radio"/> A     | <input type="radio"/> B             | <input type="radio"/> C              | <input type="radio"/> D             | PJ000263 |
| 38. Write drafts or final versions of stories or reports   | <input type="radio"/> A     | <input type="radio"/> B             | <input type="radio"/> C              | <input type="radio"/> D             | PJ000264 |
| 39. Read stories or do work related to reading instruction | <input type="radio"/> A     | <input type="radio"/> B             | <input type="radio"/> C              | <input type="radio"/> D             | PJ000265 |

**Questions 40–46.** How often do you use each of the following to assess student progress in reading? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

|  | <b>Once or<br/>Twice a<br/>Week</b> | <b>Once or<br/>Twice a<br/>Month</b> | <b>Once or<br/>Twice a<br/>Year</b> | <b>Never or<br/>Hardly<br/>Ever</b> |          |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| 40. Multiple-choice tests  | <input type="radio"/> A             | <input type="radio"/> B              | <input type="radio"/> C             | <input type="radio"/> D             | ID100373 |
| 41. Short-answer tests   | <input type="radio"/> A             | <input type="radio"/> B              | <input type="radio"/> C             | <input type="radio"/> D             | ID100375 |
| 42. Paragraph length written responses about what students have read | <input type="radio"/> A             | <input type="radio"/> B              | <input type="radio"/> C             | <input type="radio"/> D             | PJ000269 |
| 43. Individual or group projects or presentations                    | <input type="radio"/> A             | <input type="radio"/> B              | <input type="radio"/> C             | <input type="radio"/> D             | PJ000270 |
| 44. Reading portfolios   | <input type="radio"/> A             | <input type="radio"/> B              | <input type="radio"/> C             | <input type="radio"/> D             | PJ000272 |
| 45. Extended essays/papers on assigned topics                        | <input type="radio"/> A             | <input type="radio"/> B              | <input type="radio"/> C             | <input type="radio"/> D             | PJ000271 |
| 46. Oral reading assessment  | <input type="radio"/> A             | <input type="radio"/> B              | <input type="radio"/> C             | <input type="radio"/> D             | PJ000273 |