



# Writing Student Questionnaire

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**2016  
Grade 8  
(Pilot)**

**Pilot**

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1. When you work on a **longer writing assignment** (for example, an assignment of two or more pages), how often do you typically do each of the following? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never or hardly ever	Less than half of the time	About half of the time	More than half of the time	All or almost all of the time	
a. Organize my ideas before I write (for example, by creating an outline)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312137
b. Write a first draft	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312140
c. Reread and revise my draft writing	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312141
d. Use word processing software to revise my own writing (for example, to use the backspace key or cut, copy, and paste text using the computer keyboard)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312791
e. Use a spell-check in word processing software	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312792
f. Use a thesaurus or dictionary in word processing software	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312795

2. In your English/language arts class this year, how often do you get the following **writing** assignments? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never	About once or twice a year	About once or twice a month	About once or twice a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. Assignments that you have to complete under a strict time limit	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH311859
b. Assignments that you have to complete within one session	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH311876
c. Assignments that you can work on over extended periods of time (for example, several class periods)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH311881
d. Assignments that you have to complete together with other students	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312058
e. Assignments that you have to complete on a desktop or laptop computer	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312062
f. Assignments of two or more pages (for example, a paper or report)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312074

3. In your English/language arts class this year, how often do you **practice** each of the following? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never	About once or twice a year	About once or twice a month	About once or twice a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. Using correct grammar in writing	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312797
b. Using new vocabulary in writing	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312801
c. Typing on a keyboard	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312802
d. Using word processing software to edit and revise text	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312803
e. Organizing ideas in writing (for example, outlining the order of my ideas before writing, re-organizing my ideas when I revise)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312806
f. Writing for different audiences or readers	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312807
g. Writing for different purposes (for example, writing to persuade or writing to explain)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312808
h. Writing different forms of text (for example, an essay, letter, or story)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH313344
i. Citing sources correctly in writing	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH313380
j. Improving writing by revising first drafts	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH313384
k. Using details to develop ideas in writing	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH313385

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4. In your English/language arts class this year, how often do you use each of the following for writing? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never	About once or twice a year	About once or twice a month	About once or twice a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. Paper and pen/pencil	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH314232
b. Desktop or laptop computer	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH314234
c. Tablet (for example, Surface Pro, iPad, Kindle Fire)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH314235
d. Other digital device (Please specify): _____	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH314238

5. How often do you use each of the following for writing **outside of school**? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never	About once or twice a year	About once or twice a month	About once or twice a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. Paper and pen/pencil	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH314383
b. Desktop or laptop computer	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH314385
c. Tablet (for example, Surface Pro, iPad, Kindle Fire)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH314386
d. Other digital device (Please specify): _____	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH314387

6. During this school year, how often do you do each of the following **outside of school**? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never	About once or twice a year	About once or twice a month	About once or twice a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. Participate in online discussions on a website (for example, in forums or social networks)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH314694
b. Write for a blog, website, or online newspaper	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH314695
c. Practice my keyboarding skills	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH314701
d. Write journal entries	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH314702
e. Get tutoring to improve my writing	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH314703
f. Help others with their writing	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH314708
g. Engage in other writing activities outside of school (Please specify): _____	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH314715

7. In a typical week, how many days do you spend writing **on your own and not for school**—for example, writing stories or keeping a journal at home? Fill in a number **between 0 and 7**.

days

8. In a typical school week, on about how many days do you get **writing assignments of a paragraph or more** during each of the following classes? Fill in a number **between 0 and 5** on each row.

English/language arts class \_\_\_\_ days

Social studies class such as history, civics, government, or geography \_\_\_\_ days

Science class \_\_\_\_ days

Mathematics class \_\_\_\_ days

9. During this school year, how often do you get **writing assignments of a paragraph or more** during each of the following classes? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	I don't take this class.	Never	About once or twice a year	About once or twice a month	About once or twice a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. English/language arts class	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	VH312230
b. Social studies class such as history, civics, government, or geography	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	VH312231
c. Science class	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	VH312232
d. Mathematics class	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	VH312233

10. For school this year, how often do you typically write for each of the following purposes? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never	About once or twice a year	About once or twice a month	About once or twice a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. To explain something that you know or have read	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312245
b. To convince or persuade someone	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312246
c. To describe a real experience (for example, write about factual events or personal experiences)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312247
d. To describe an imagined experience (for example, tell a fictional story)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312248
e. To summarize (for example, write a summary of a longer text or story)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312249
f. To analyze (for example, collect and describe evidence for an issue or argument)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312250

11. For school this year, how often do you write for each of the following purposes? The writing could be on paper or on a computer. Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never or hardly ever	A few times a year	Once or twice a month	At least once a week	
a. To explain something that you know or have read	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VH242614
b. To convince or persuade someone	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VH242615
c. To convey a real or imagined experience	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VH242616

12. For school this year, how often do you use each of the following when you write a paper or report? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never or hardly ever	Once in a while	Sometimes	Often	Always or almost always	
a. Use the Internet to look for information to include in the paper or report	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312325
b. Use a computer or other digital device from the beginning to write the paper or report (for example, use a computer to write the first draft and final draft)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312326
c. Use a computer or other digital device to make changes to the paper or report (for example, spell-check or cut and paste)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312327
d. Use a computer or other digital device to complete your writing	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312328

13. For school this year, how often do you use each of the following when you write a paper or report? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never or hardly ever	Sometimes	Very often	Always or almost always	
a. Use the Internet to look for information to include in the paper or report	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VH242653
b. Use a computer from the beginning to write the paper or report (for example, use a computer to write the first draft)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VH242651
c. Use a computer to make changes to the paper or report (for example, spell-check or cut and paste)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VH242654
d. Use a computer to complete your writing	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VH242652

14. In a typical week, how many pages are you assigned to write for homework in each of the following subjects? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	I don't take this class.	None	Up to one page	One to three pages	Four to five pages	More than five pages	
a. English/language arts	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	VH312340
b. Social studies	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	VH312341
c. Science	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	VH312342
d. Mathematics	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	VH312343

15. Do you think that you would be able to do each of the following? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	I definitely can't	I probably can't	Maybe	I probably can	I definitely can	
a. Write a paper using correct grammar	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH315010
b. Write a paper without spelling mistakes	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH315014
c. Write clear and complete sentences	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH315016
d. Choose words in my writing that will effectively communicate my ideas	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH315032
e. Judge the reliability of an online source for use in my writing (for example, whether a source from the Internet is biased)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312010
f. Cite others for their ideas in my writing (for example, citing sources, providing the references I used in my reports)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312011

16. Do you think that you would be able to do each of the following? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	I definitely can't	I probably can't	Maybe	I probably can	I definitely can	
a. Create an outline prior to writing	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH311951
b. Write a well-organized essay with an introduction, body, and conclusion	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH311952
c. Write a paragraph with a clear topic sentence	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH311953
d. Quickly come up with ideas about what to write for a timed writing task	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH311954
e. Start an essay with a clear introduction	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH311956
f. End an essay with a strong conclusion	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH311957
g. Complete a first draft of an essay within a class period	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH311958

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17. Do you think that you would be able to do each of the following? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	I definitely can't	I probably can't	Maybe	I probably can	I definitely can	
a. Explain something in my writing	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH311982
b. Convince someone about something in my writing	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH311983
c. Tell an imaginary story in my writing	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH311984
d. Present a clear position in my writing	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH311985
e. Support a position with reasons and examples in my writing	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH311986
f. Take different points of view into account in my persuasive writing	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH311987

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18. Thinking about your English/language arts class this year, how much does each of the following statements describe a person like you? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Not at all like me	A little bit like me	Somewhat like me	Quite a bit like me	Exactly like me	
a. I want to improve how I express my ideas.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312038
b. I want to keep people from thinking I'm a poor writer.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312039
c. I want to get a good grade in the class.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312040
d. I want to hide that I have a hard time writing.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312041
e. I want to become a better writer.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312042
f. I want to have my classmates believe I can write well.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312043
g. I want to pass my English/language arts class.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312044
h. I want to avoid making mistakes in front of my classmates.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312045
i. I want to be a better writer than my classmates.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312048
j. I want to hide how nervous I am about writing.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312049
k. I want my teacher to think I am a good writer.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312050
l. I want to better organize my ideas when writing.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312051

19. How much does each of the following statements describe a person like you? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Not at all like me	A little bit like me	Somewhat like me	Quite a bit like me	Exactly like me	
a. Writing is one of my favorite activities.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312353
b. Writing is easy for me.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312356
c. I don't like to write.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH312358
d. I enjoy expressing my thoughts in writing.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH314723
e. I try to avoid writing as much as possible.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH314729
f. I enjoy sharing my writing with others.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH314733

20. Which best describes the way you type on a keyboard?

- (A) I don't know how to type using a keyboard.
- (B) I have to search for where the letter keys are.
- (C) I know where most of the letter keys are.
- (D) I can type without looking at the keyboard.
- (E) I type using a way other than both hands.

21. Which best describes the way you type on a keyboard?

- (A) I don't know how to type using a keyboard.
- (B) I can type with one or two fingers, but I have to search for where the letter keys are.
- (C) I can type with one or two fingers, and I know where most of the letter keys are.
- (D) I can type with all ten fingers when I look at the keyboard.
- (E) I can type with all ten fingers without looking at the keyboard.
- (F) I type using a way other than both hands.

VH242642

22. Did you use the paper and pencil you were given to make notes, plan, or organize your writing for this test? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Yes	No	
a. For the first writing task on this test	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH242643
b. For the second writing task on this test	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH242645

VH242646

23. Did you use the computer to make notes, plan, or organize your writing for this test? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Yes	No	
a. For the first writing task on this test	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH242647
b. For the second writing task on this test	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH242649

VH240001

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

- A Easier than other tests
- B About as hard as other tests
- C Harder than other tests
- D Much harder than other tests

VH240002

25. 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?

- A Not as hard as on other tests
- B About as hard as on other tests
- C Harder than on other tests
- D Much harder than on other tests

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

- Ⓐ Not very important
- Ⓑ Somewhat important
- Ⓒ Important
- Ⓓ Very important

27. How easy or difficult was this test?

- Ⓐ Extremely difficult
- Ⓑ Quite difficult
- Ⓒ Somewhat difficult
- Ⓓ Somewhat easy
- Ⓔ Quite easy
- Ⓕ Extremely easy

28. How similar were the questions on this test to the questions on your **writing** quizzes and tests at school?

- Ⓐ Not similar at all
- Ⓑ Not similar
- Ⓒ Somewhat similar
- Ⓓ Quite similar
- Ⓔ Extremely similar

29. How much do you agree with each of the following statements? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree	
a. I applied a lot of effort to succeed on this test.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	VH260334
b. Taking this test was stressful.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	VH260335
c. Taking this test was challenging.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	VH260336
d. I felt time pressure when taking this test.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	VH260338

30. How much effort did you apply to succeed on this test?

- (A) No effort at all
- (B) Very little effort
- (C) Some effort
- (D) Quite a bit of effort
- (E) A lot of effort

31. How stressful was taking this test?

- (A) Not stressful at all
- (B) A little stressful
- (C) Somewhat stressful
- (D) Quite stressful
- (E) Extremely stressful

32. How challenging was taking this test?

- Ⓐ Not challenging at all
- Ⓑ A little challenging
- Ⓒ Somewhat challenging
- Ⓓ Quite challenging
- Ⓔ Extremely challenging

33. How much time pressure did you feel when taking this test?

- Ⓐ No time pressure at all
- Ⓑ A little bit of time pressure
- Ⓒ Some time pressure
- Ⓓ Quite a bit of time pressure
- Ⓔ A lot of time pressure