

GRADE 8

CIVICS | GEOGRAPHY | U.S. HISTORY | SCIENCE

Sample Questions

General Information About The Nation's Report Card

2014

National Assessment of Educational Progress

2014 Sample Questions Booklet

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I. About This Sample Questions Booklet

On behalf of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), I want to thank you for your participation in this essential measure of student achievement in the United States. NAEP tells us what students in our country know and can do. In the coming year, eighth-graders will participate in NAEP and will be assessed in civics, geography, and U.S. history. Some eighth-graders will also be assessed in science as part of a pilot study in preparation for the 2015 science assessment. It will take about 90 minutes for most students to participate in the assessment, and each student answers questions in only one subject. The test booklet contains 50 minutes of test questions and brief student questionnaires.

NAEP is voluntary and individual student scores are not reported. Answers to all student questions are confidential, and student names are removed from all assessment materials before the materials leave the school. Results of the 2014 civics, geography, and U.S. history assessments will be reported in The Nation's Report Card. Assessment results are widely discussed in the press and are used by policymakers, educators, and researchers to make decisions about education policy and funding.

The national assessment results are more useful when parents, educators, and policymakers are able to study the proficiencies (or scores) and gain information about student experience, the school environment, and learning opportunities available to students. The questionnaires provide educators and policymakers with contextual information for the assessment, as well as information about factors that may be related to students' learning. This booklet includes these questionnaires to promote understanding of the assessment.

If you have any questions or comments regarding NAEP or would like to view previous report cards, please visit the NAEP website at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard>. Also available through the website is a Questions Tool (<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/itmlsx>), which allows you to review additional sample questions with sample answers.

Peggy G. Carr, Ph.D.
Associate Commissioner for Assessment
National Center for Education Statistics
Institute of Education Sciences

II. The Assessments

The Civics Assessment

Grade 8

The NAEP civics assessment encompasses three interrelated components: civics knowledge, intellectual and participatory skills, and civic dispositions. The knowledge component of the assessment is expressed in five fundamental questions.

- What are civic life, politics, and government?
- What are the foundations of the American political system?
- How does the government established by the U.S. Constitution embody the purposes, values, and principles of American democracy?
- What is the relationship of the United States to other nations and to world affairs?
- What are the roles of citizens in American democracy?

The NAEP civics assessment is designed to measure the intellectual and participatory skills students need to face the challenges of public life in a constitutional democracy. Central among these are the abilities to describe, explain, and analyze information and arguments, and to evaluate, take, and defend positions on public issues. The third area of the assessment, civic dispositions and participatory skills, refers to the rights and responsibilities of citizens as members of society.

The assessment is made up of multiple-choice, short constructed-response, and extended constructed-response questions. The constructed-response questions make up approximately 40 percent of the assessment time. For more information regarding the civics assessment framework, please visit the National Assessment Governing Board's website at <http://nagb.org/publications/frameworks.htm>.

NAEP Civics Framework Distribution of Question Pool Across Areas of Civics Knowledge

Grade	Civic life, politics, and government	Foundations of the American political system	The Constitution and the purposes, values, and principles of American democracy	Relationship of the United States to other nations and to world affairs	Roles of citizens in American democracy
8	15%	25%	25%	15%	20%

The Geography Assessment

Grade 8

The assessment is organized along both content and cognitive skills dimensions. The content areas include the following:

- Space and Place
- Environment and Society
- Spatial Dynamics and Connections

The cognitive areas include the following:

- Knowing (observe and recall)
- Understanding (attribute meaning and explain events)
- Applying (use knowledge and understanding to solve geographic problems)

Questions include multiple-choice, short constructed-response, and extended constructed-response formats. Constructed-response questions make up approximately 50 percent of the assessment. In some cases, students will engage in production exercises where they will draw or modify maps and diagrams. A large percentage of questions in the assessment are based on visual or textual stimuli. A portion of the assessment questions refer entirely to a student atlas and are meant to measure both geography content and atlas skills. For more information regarding the geography assessment framework please visit the National Assessment Governing Board's website at <http://nagb.org/publications/frameworks.htm>.

NAEP Geography Framework **Distribution of Question Pool Across Areas of Geography Knowledge**

Grade	Space and Place	Environment and Society	Spatial Dynamics and Connections
8	40%	30%	30%

The U.S. History Assessment

Grade 8

The assessment is organized around three concepts or dimensions: major themes of U.S. history, chronological periods of U.S. history, and ways of knowing and thinking about U.S. history. The themes and periods of U.S. history function as a matrix, with the assessment addressing the role of the themes across the periods.

Eight chronological periods that overlap and vary in depth of coverage are included in the assessment.

- Beginnings to 1607
- Colonization, settlement, and communities (1607 to 1763)
- The Revolution and the new nation (1763 to 1815)
- Expansion and reform (1801 to 1861)
- Crisis of the Union: Civil War and Reconstruction (1850 to 1877)
- The development of modern America (1865 to 1920)
- Modern America and the World Wars (1914 to 1945)
- Contemporary America (1945 to present)

Questions include multiple-choice, short constructed-response, and extended constructed-response formats. The cognitive dimension of historical thinking is measured by the inclusion of test questions divided between those measuring historical knowledge and perspective (35 percent) and those measuring historical analysis and interpretation (65 percent). Constructed-response questions make up approximately 50 percent of the assessment. Many questions in the assessment are based on visual or textual stimuli. A portion of the assessment questions may be organized around a single historical issue. For more information regarding the U.S. history assessment framework please visit the National Assessment Governing Board’s website at <http://nagb.org/publications/frameworks.htm>.

NAEP U.S. History Framework

Grade	Change & Continuity in American Democracy	Gathering & Interactions of Peoples, Cultures, & Ideas	Economic & Technological Changes & Their Relation to Society, Ideas, & the Environment	Changing Role of America in the World
8	30%	30%	20%	20%

The Science Pilot Study

The 2014 NAEP pilot in science for grade 8 contains multiple-choice questions, as well as short and extended constructed-response exercises. At least 50 percent of the pilot time is devoted to constructed-response exercises. These questions measure students' knowledge of facts, ability to integrate this knowledge into larger constructs, and capacity to use the tools, procedures, and reasoning processes of science to develop an increased understanding of the natural world.

The 2014 NAEP science pilot is organized according to science content and practices. For more information regarding the framework used to design the pilot, please visit the National Assessment Governing Board's website at <http://nagb.org/publications/frameworks.htm>.

Science Content

Physical Science (30%)*	Life Science (30%)	Earth and Space Science (40%)
<p>Matter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Properties of Matter • Changes in Matter <p>Energy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forms of Energy • Energy Transfer • Conservation <p>Motion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion at the Macroscopic Level • Forces Affecting Motion 	<p>Structures and Functions of Living Systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organization and Development • Matter and Energy Transformations • Interdependence <p>Changes in Living Systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heredity and Reproduction • Evolution and Diversity 	<p>Earth in Space and Time</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objects in the Universe • History of the Earth <p>Earth Structures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Properties of Earth Materials • Tectonics <p>Earth Systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy in Earth Systems • Climate and Weather • Biogeochemical Cycles

* Item distribution for the content areas is measured by percentage of student response time.

Science Practices

The frameworks reflect these four science practices:

- Identifying Science Principles (25%)**
- Using Science Principles (35%)
- Using Scientific Inquiry (30%)
- Using Technological Design (10%)

** Item distribution for the science practices is measured by percentage of student response time.

Civics, Geography, and U.S. History Booklet Directions

DIRECTIONS

In each of the next two sections, you will have 25 minutes to answer a series of questions about civics, geography, or United States history. You should think carefully about your answers, and you should use the entire 25 minutes to complete each section.

You will be asked to respond to several different types of questions. Some of the questions will require you to choose the best answer and fill in the oval for that answer in your booklet.

For other questions, you will be asked to write short answers on the blank lines provided in your booklet. Here is an example of a question that requires you to provide a short answer.

Example 1

Who was Thomas Jefferson and why was he important? Try to identify two reasons.

Jefferson was the third U.S.
President. He was the main
writer of the Declaration of
Independence.

Also, you will be asked to answer other questions by writing longer, more detailed responses on a full page of blank lines. For example, here is a question that requires you to provide a longer answer.

Example 2

Explain the three most important reasons that the United States fought in the first World War on the side of France and Great Britain.

The U.S. entered World War I for
3 important reasons. German
attacks on American ships
threatened safety and trade.
Because France and Britain were
democracies, the U.S. believed
that it should help them.
Finally, the U.S. had a closer
historical relationship with France
and Britain than with Germany.

When you are asked to write your response be sure that your handwriting is clear. Think carefully about each question and make your answers as complete as possible, using as many lines as you need.

Finally, in some questions you may be asked to draw maps, graphs, charts, tables, or timelines.

If you finish before time is called, be sure to read your work again and change anything that you think will make your answers better.



Science Booklet Directions

In each of sections 1 and 2, you will have 25 minutes to answer a series of questions about science.

You will be asked to respond to several different types of questions. Some of the questions will require you to choose the best answer and fill in the oval for that answer in your booklet. On questions like this, be sure to mark your answers clearly and darken the oval completely. If you make a mistake or want to change your answer, be sure to erase any unwanted marks. Here is an example of a question that requires you to fill in an oval.

Example 1

For some questions, you will be asked to write short answers on the blank lines provided in your booklet. Here is an example of a question that requires you to provide a short answer.

How hot is it on the surface of the Sun?

- Ⓐ Not quite as hot as boiling water
- Ⓑ About as hot as fire
- Ⓒ About 100°F
- Ⓓ Much hotter than almost anything on Earth

Example 2

Also, you will be asked to answer some questions by writing longer, more detailed responses. For example, here is a question that requires you to provide a longer answer.

Describe one important difference between plants and animals.

Most plants make their
own food, while animals
eat plants and other
animals for food.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

Describe three things that animals do to survive in areas that have cold winters.

Some animals store a lot of fat so that they can go into a deep sleep all winter.
Some animals grow a thick coat of fur to keep them warm. Some birds and butterflies fly away from a cold area and spend the winter in a place that is warm and has a lot of food.

Example 3

When you are asked to write your response be sure that your handwriting is clear. Think carefully about each question and make your answers as complete as possible, using as many lines as you need. If you finish a section before time is called, you may go back and check your work on that section only.

Finally, in some questions you may be asked to draw a diagram or fill in a table.

Sample Civics Questions

Grade 8

1. The President of the United States is elected to a term of
 - Ⓐ 2 years.
 - Ⓑ 4 years.
 - Ⓒ 6 years.
 - Ⓓ 8 years.
2. In the United States, an individual citizen has the right to
 - Ⓐ impeach the President.
 - Ⓑ vote for government officials.
 - Ⓒ make new laws.
 - Ⓓ collect taxes.
3. The term “separation of powers” refers to
 - Ⓐ state powers and duties that are not given to the central government.
 - Ⓑ division of authority among the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government.
 - Ⓒ division of the legislature into two houses.
 - Ⓓ creation of a national capital that is not a part of any State.
4. According to the Bill of Rights, which of the following is NOT allowed?
 - Ⓐ A jury trial in criminal cases
 - Ⓑ The testimony of witnesses who are relatives of the accused
 - Ⓒ A trial held too soon after the defendant has been accused
 - Ⓓ Cruel and unusual punishment
5. United States Senators are a part of which branch of the government?
 - Ⓐ Legislative
 - Ⓑ Executive
 - Ⓒ Treasury Department
 - Ⓓ Supreme Court
6. The powers of Congress are set forth in the
 - Ⓐ Declaration of Independence.
 - Ⓑ Articles of Confederation.
 - Ⓒ Constitution of the United States.
 - Ⓓ Bill of Rights.



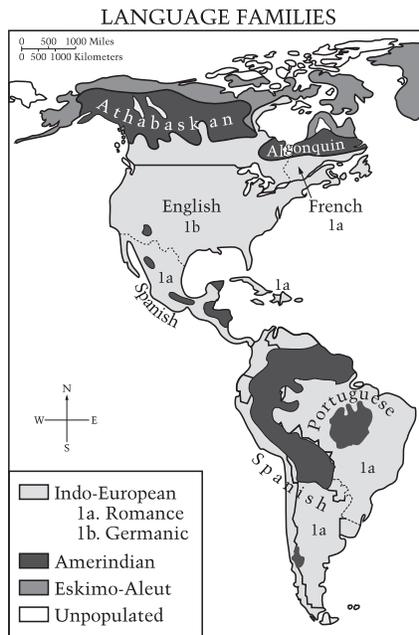
Sample Geography Questions

Grade 8

1. What would a scientist probably study to predict where acid rain would fall?

- Ⓐ the atomic structures of sulphur, nitrogen, and oxygen
- Ⓑ mass-transit systems that serve major cities
- wind patterns that prevail over major manufacturing areas
- Ⓓ the location of sewage-treatment plants

KJ000617

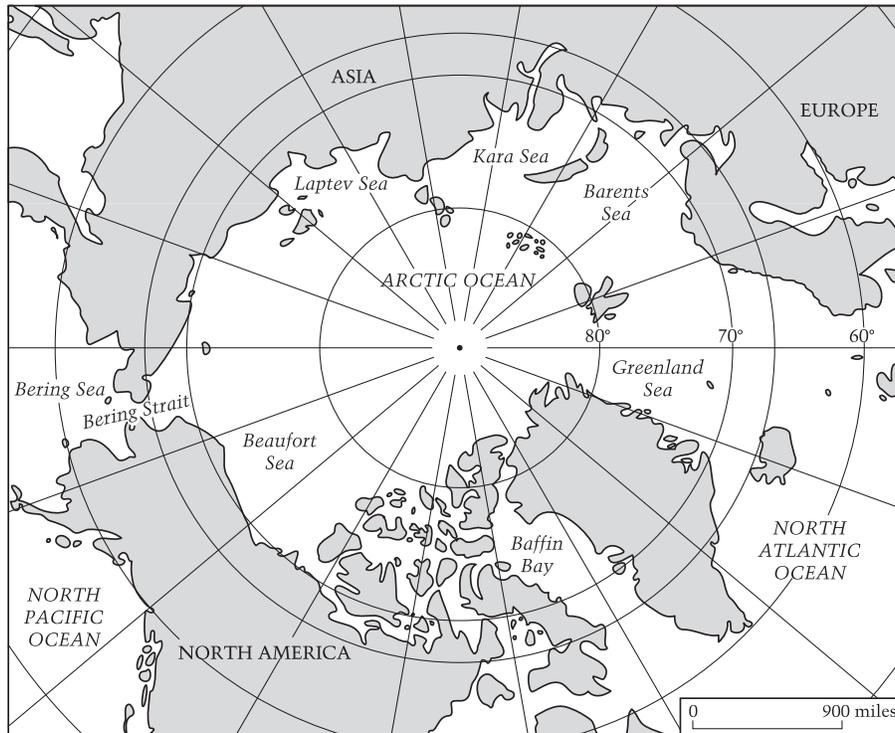


2. What historical trends explain the language patterns shown in the map above?
Be as specific as possible in your answer.



Questions 3–4 refer to the map below.

KJ000800



SE000689

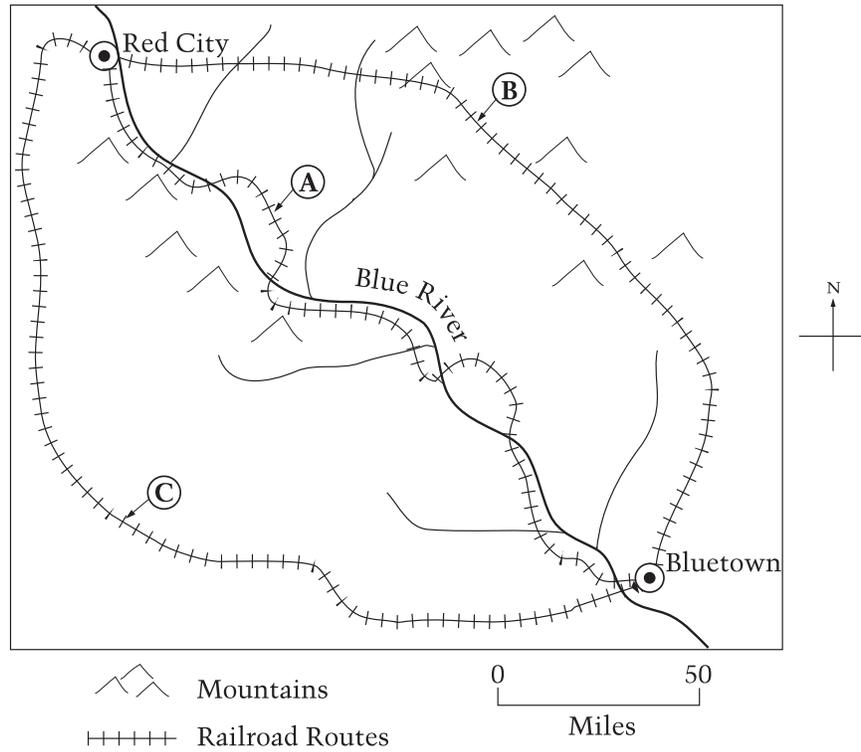
3. This map would be most useful to a
- Ⓐ pilot flying from Europe to South America.
 - pilot flying from Canada to Scandinavia.
 - Ⓒ person sailing to Antarctica.
 - Ⓓ person sailing in tropical seas.

BO001953

4. Latitude on this map is represented by
- circles.
 - Ⓑ shaded areas.
 - Ⓒ straight lines.
 - Ⓓ convergent lines.

SE000691

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE



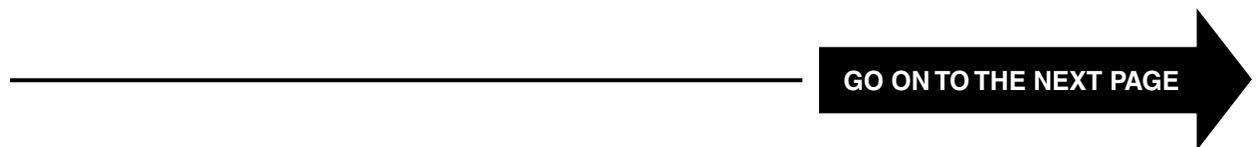
5. Look at the map above, which shows three possible routes for a railroad line that will be built to connect Red City with Bluetown.
Which route would be the least expensive to construct?

Give two reasons why the route you chose would be the least expensive.

1 _____

2 _____

KJ000860



6. In the mid-nineteenth century, before railroads were constructed, people in the United States transported commercial materials, such as timber and coal, over long distances primarily by means of

- rivers and canals.
- Ⓑ turnpikes and freeways.
- Ⓒ pack horses and mule trains.
- Ⓓ ox carts and Conestoga wagons.

KJ000854

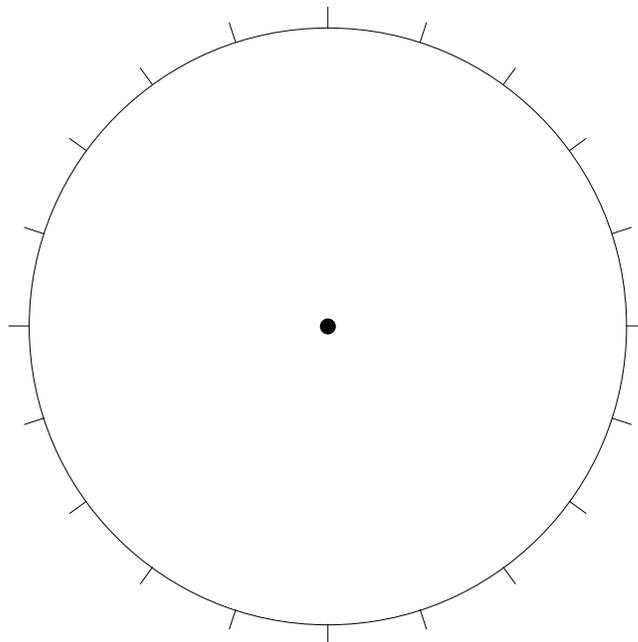
KJ000533

AVERAGE ANNUAL PRECIPITATION FOR LAKESIDE

<u>Season</u>	<u>Average Inches</u>	<u>Percent of Total</u>
Spring	5.0	25
Summer	7.0	35
Fall	4.0	20
Winter	4.0	20
Total	20.0	100

7. Use the information in the table above to construct a pie chart on the figure below. Be sure to label all information. You may use your ruler to draw the chart.

KJ000514



Sample U.S. History Questions

Grade 8

Questions 1–3 refer to the passage below.

We hold these truths to be self-evident: That all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that, whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute a new government.

—1776

1. The quotation is from the
 - Ⓐ Articles of Confederation.
 - Ⓑ Constitution.
 - Ⓒ Declaration of Independence.
 - Ⓓ Missouri Compromise.
2. The primary author of the document was
 - Ⓐ George Washington.
 - Ⓑ John Marshall.
 - Ⓒ Robert E. Lee.
 - Ⓓ Thomas Jefferson.
3. Explain why the document quoted was written.

4. Why was the invention of the steel plow important in United States history?

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE 

Questions 5–6 refer to the first census of the United States, shown below.

FIRST CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES 1790

District	Free White Males of 16 Years and Up	Free White Males Under 16 Years	Free White Females	All Other Free Persons	Slaves	Total
Vermont	22,435	22,323	40,505	255	16	85,539
New Hampshire	36,036	34,351	70,160	630	158	141,385
Maine	24,384	24,748	46,870	538	None	96,540
Massachusetts	95,453	87,289	190,582	5,463	None	378,787
Rhode Island	16,019	15,799	32,652	3,407	948	68,825
Connecticut	60,523	54,403	117,448	2,808	2,764	237,946
New York	83,700	78,122	152,320	4,654	21,324	340,120
New Jersey	45,251	41,416	83,287	2,762	11,423	184,139
Pennsylvania	110,783	106,948	206,363	6,537	3,737	434,373
Delaware	11,783	12,143	22,384	3,899	8,387	59,094
Maryland	55,915	51,339	101,395	8,043	103,036	319,723
Virginia	110,936	116,135	215,046	12,866	292,627	747,610
Kentucky	15,154	17,057	28,922	114	12,430	73,677
North Carolina	69,988	77,506	140,710	4,975	100,572	393,751
South Carolina	35,576	37,722	66,380	1,801	107,094	249,073
Georgia	13,103	14,044	25,739	393	29,264	82,548
Total Number of Inhabitants of the United States Exclusive of Other Territories	807,094	791,850	1,541,263	59,150	694,280	3,893,635

5. The information in the census could be used to answer which questions?

- Ⓐ Which state had the highest official population?
- Ⓑ How many people moved to the United States in 1790?
- Ⓒ Which state was the largest in area?
- Ⓓ How many more male than female slaves were there in 1790?

6. The census was important in 1790 because it

- Ⓐ helped determine which citizens were eligible to vote.
- Ⓑ told people which states had the most members of American Indian nations.
- Ⓒ told people whether men or women tended to live longer.
- Ⓓ helped determine state representation in the House of Representatives.



Sample Science Questions

Grade 8

HE001509

1. Pat has two kinds of plant food, “Quickgrow” and “Supergrow.” What would be the best way for Pat to find out which plant food helps a particular type of houseplant grow the most?
- Ⓐ Put some Quickgrow on a plant in the living room, put some Supergrow on a plant of the same type in the bedroom, and see which one grows the most.
 - Ⓑ Find out how much each kind of plant food costs, because the more expensive kind is probably better for growing plants.
 - Put some Quickgrow on a few plants, put the same amount of Supergrow on a few other plants of the same type, put all the plants in the same place, and see which group of plants grows the most.
 - Ⓓ Look at the advertisements for Quickgrow, look at the advertisements for Supergrow, and see which one says it helps plants grow the most.

JL001094

2. If you go outside on a sunny day, you will make a shadow. At some times of day your shadow is longer than you are. At other times of day it is shorter than you are.

How can this difference in the length of your shadow be explained? (You can use a drawing to help explain your answer.)



GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

HE001834

3. While practicing for a play, a student standing on the stage of a large, empty auditorium shouts loudly and hears her voice echo throughout the room. Later, the same student is on the stage of the same auditorium, which is now full of quiet people. The student shouts again, just as loudly. This time, however, she does not hear an echo. Explain why she hears an echo the first time and why she does not hear an echo the second time.

III. Student Questionnaire

Grade 8

In this section, please tell us about yourself and your family. Please answer questions about your home based on where you live most of the time during the school year. The section has 13 questions. Mark your answers in your booklet. Fill in only **one** oval for each question except where instructed otherwise.

VB331330

1. Are you Hispanic or Latino? Fill in **one** or **more** ovals.

- Ⓐ No, I am not Hispanic or Latino.
- Ⓑ Yes, I am Mexican, Mexican American, or Chicano.
- Ⓒ Yes, I am Puerto Rican or Puerto Rican American.
- Ⓓ Yes, I am Cuban or Cuban American.
- Ⓔ Yes, I am from some other Hispanic or Latino background.

VB331331

2. Which of the following best describes you? Fill in **one** or **more** ovals.

- Ⓐ White
- Ⓑ Black or African American
- Ⓒ Asian
- Ⓓ American Indian or Alaska Native
- Ⓔ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

3. About how many books are there in your home? VB331335
- Ⓐ Few (0–10)
 - Ⓑ Enough to fill one shelf (11–25)
 - Ⓒ Enough to fill one bookcase (26–100)
 - Ⓓ Enough to fill several bookcases (more than 100)
4. Is there a computer at home that you use? VB331336
- Ⓐ Yes
 - Ⓑ No
5. Do you have the following in your home? Fill in ovals for **all** that apply. VF098664
- Ⓐ Access to the Internet
 - Ⓑ Clothes dryer just for your family
 - Ⓒ Dishwasher
 - Ⓓ More than one bathroom
 - Ⓔ Your own bedroom
6. About how many pages a day do you have to read in school and for homework? TB001101
- Ⓐ 5 or fewer
 - Ⓑ 6–10
 - Ⓒ 11–15
 - Ⓓ 16–20
 - Ⓔ More than 20
7. How often do you talk about things you have studied in school with someone in your family? VB331339
- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
 - Ⓑ Once every few weeks
 - Ⓒ About once a week
 - Ⓓ Two or three times a week
 - Ⓔ Every day
8. How many days were you absent from school in the last month? VB331447
- Ⓐ None
 - Ⓑ 1 or 2 days
 - Ⓒ 3 or 4 days
 - Ⓓ 5 to 10 days
 - Ⓔ More than 10 days

VB330870

9. How far in school did your mother go?

- Ⓐ She did not finish high school.
- Ⓑ She graduated from high school.
- Ⓒ She had some education after high school.
- Ⓓ She graduated from college.
- Ⓔ I don't know.

VB330871

10. How far in school did your father go?

- Ⓐ He did not finish high school.
- Ⓑ He graduated from high school.
- Ⓒ He had some education after high school.
- Ⓓ He graduated from college.
- Ⓔ I don't know.

VB331451

11. How often do people in your home talk to each other in a language other than English?

- Ⓐ Never
- Ⓑ Once in a while
- Ⓒ About half of the time
- Ⓓ All or most of the time

VF095730

12. Do the following people live in your home? Fill in ovals for **all** that apply.

- Ⓐ Mother
- Ⓑ Stepmother
- Ⓒ Foster mother or other female legal guardian
- Ⓓ Father
- Ⓔ Stepfather
- Ⓕ Foster father or other male legal guardian

VE102537

13. Write the ZIP code of your home address in the boxes.

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IV. Subject Questionnaires

Civics Questionnaire

Grade 8

This section has 12 questions. Mark your answers in your booklet. Fill in only **one** oval for each question except where instructed otherwise.

1. In which of the following grades did you learn about civics or government? Fill in **one** oval on each line. VC467353

	Yes	No	I don't know.	
a. 5th grade	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VC467355
b. 6th grade	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VC467356
c. 7th grade	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VC467357
d. 8th grade	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VE131733

2. How often do you study social studies in school? VB594977

- A Never or hardly ever
- B Once or twice a month
- C Once or twice a week
- D Almost every day

3. During this school year, have you studied any of the following topics? Fill in **one** oval on each line. ID100216

	Yes	No	I don't know.	
a. The United States Constitution	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	ID100217
b. Congress	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	ID100218
c. The President and the cabinet	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	ID100219
d. How laws are made	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	ID100220
e. The court system	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	ID100221
f. Political parties, elections, and voting	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	ID100222
g. State and local government	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	ID100223
h. Other countries' governments	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	ID100224
i. International organizations (such as the United Nations)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	ID100225

4. Indicate how often you do each of the following when you study social studies or civics or government in school. Fill in **one** oval on each line.

VE132250

	Never	A few times a year	Once or twice a month	Once or twice a week	Almost every day	
a. Read material from a textbook	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132269
b. Read extra material not in the regular textbook (e.g., newspapers, magazines, maps, charts, or cartoons)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132303
c. Discuss the material studied	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132307
d. Write short answers (a paragraph or less) to questions	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132309
e. Write a report	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132316
f. Work on a group project	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132322
g. Give a presentation to the class on the topic being studied	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132323
h. Watch movies or videos	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132324
i. Take a test or quiz	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132326
j. Go on field trips or have outside speakers	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132327
k. Use the books or computers in the library to do schoolwork	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132330
l. Write a letter to give your opinion or help solve a community problem	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132333
m. Discuss current events	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132335
n. Take part in debates or panel discussions	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132338
o. Take part in role-playing, mock trials, or dramas	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132340

5. This year in school, how often have you been asked to write long answers to questions or assignments that involved social studies? VB594978
- Ⓐ Never
- Ⓑ Once or twice this year
- Ⓒ Once or twice a month
- Ⓓ At least once a week
6. How often do you use computers at school for social studies? VB594979
- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once every few weeks
- Ⓒ About once a week
- Ⓓ Two or three times a week
- Ⓔ Every day
7. When you study social studies, to what extent do you use computers to do research projects about social studies topics using a CD or the Internet? Include both class work and homework assignments. VE112830
- Ⓐ Not at all
- Ⓑ Small extent
- Ⓒ Moderate extent
- Ⓓ Large extent

8. When you study social studies or civics or government, how often do you agree with the following statements? Fill in **one** oval on each line. VC681400
- | | Never
or hardly
ever | Sometimes | Often | Always
or almost
always | |
|---|----------------------------|-----------|-------|-------------------------------|----------|
| a. I have a clear understanding of what my social studies or civics or government teacher is asking me to do. | Ⓐ | Ⓑ | Ⓒ | Ⓓ | VC681401 |
| b. The social studies or civics or government work is easy. | Ⓐ | Ⓑ | Ⓒ | Ⓓ | VC681402 |
| c. The social studies or civics or government work is difficult. | Ⓐ | Ⓑ | Ⓒ | Ⓓ | VC681403 |
| d. The social studies or civics or government work is interesting. | Ⓐ | Ⓑ | Ⓒ | Ⓓ | VC681404 |

9. How much do you agree that social studies or civics or government is one of your favorite subjects?^{VE132747}

- Ⓐ Not at all
- Ⓑ A little
- Ⓒ A lot

10. How hard was this test compared to most other tests you have taken this year in school?^{VB595182}

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

11. 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?^{VC034559}

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

12. How important was it to you to do well on this test?^{VB595184}

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



Geography Questionnaire

Grade 8

This section has 12 questions. Mark your answers in your booklet. Fill in only **one** oval for each question except where instructed otherwise.

1. Did you take or do you expect to take a geography course in the following grades?
Fill in **one** oval on each line.

VB345592

	Yes	No	I don't know.	
a. 5th grade	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VE101297
b. 6th grade	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VB345593
c. 7th grade	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VB345594
d. 8th grade	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VB345595

2. In this school year, how often have you learned about geography?

VC472881

- A Never or hardly ever
- B A few times a year
- C Once or twice a month
- D Once or twice a week
- E Every day or almost every day

3. How often have you studied the following geography skills and topics in school? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

VB345597

	Almost every day	Once or twice a week	Once or twice a month	Never or hardly ever	
a. Using maps and globes	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VB345598
b. Natural resources (for example, oil, forests, and water)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VB345599
c. Countries and cultures	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VB345600
d. Environmental issues (for example, pollution and recycling)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VB345601

4. Indicate how often you do each of the following when you study social studies or geography in school. Fill in **one** oval on each line.

VE117406

	Never	A few times a year	Once or twice a month	Once or twice a week	Almost every day	
a. Read material from a textbook	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE117427
b. Read extra material not in the regular textbook (e.g., newspapers, magazines, maps, charts, or cartoons)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE117428
c. Discuss the material studied	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE117429
d. Write short answers (a paragraph or less) to questions	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE117430
e. Write a report	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE117431
f. Work on a group project	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE117432
g. Give a presentation to the class on the topic being studied	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE117433
h. Watch movies or videos	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE117435
i. Take a test or quiz	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE117437
j. Go on field trips or have outside speakers	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE117438
k. Use the books or computers in the library to do schoolwork	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE117439
l. Listen to information presented online	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE131746



5. This year in school, how often have you been asked to write long answers to questions or assignments that involved social studies? VB594978
- A Never
 B Once or twice this year
 C Once or twice a month
 D At least once a week
6. How often do you use a computer at school for social studies? VB333396
- A Every day
 B Two or three times a week
 C About once a week
 D Once every few weeks
 E Never or hardly ever
-

7. When you study social studies, to what extent do you use computers to do any of the following? For this question, include both class work and homework assignments. Fill in **one** oval on each line. VE131505
- | | Not at all | Small extent | Moderate extent | Large extent | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| a. Do research projects about social studies topics using a CD or the Internet | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> C | <input type="radio"/> D | VE131526 |
| b. Use computer programs in which you play the role of an explorer, geographer, anthropologist, or historian | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> C | <input type="radio"/> D | VE131527 |
| c. Create or use maps using geographic information systems (GIS) | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> C | <input type="radio"/> D | VE131528 |
| d. Organize social studies information by making tables, charts, or graphs on the computer | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> C | <input type="radio"/> D | VE131530 |
| e. Write reports or other things about social studies on the computer | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> C | <input type="radio"/> D | VE131531 |
| f. Combine words, images, and sounds to create multimedia reports or projects about social studies | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> C | <input type="radio"/> D | VE131533 |
| g. Use e-mail or the Internet to communicate with others about social studies | <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> C | <input type="radio"/> D | VE131537 |

8. When you study social studies or geography, how often do you agree with the following statements? Fill in **one** oval on each line. VC629461

	Never or hardly ever	Sometimes	Often	Always or almost always	
a. I have a clear understanding of what my social studies or geography teacher is asking me to do.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VC629462
b. The social studies or geography work is easy.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VC629463
c. The social studies or geography work is difficult.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VC629465
d. The social studies or geography work is interesting.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VC629473

9. How much do you agree that social studies or geography is one of your favorite subjects? VE131544

- Ⓐ Not at all
- Ⓑ A little
- Ⓒ A lot

10. How hard was this test compared to most other tests you have taken this year in school? VB595182

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

11. 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? VC034559

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

12. How important was it to you to do well on this test? VB595184

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



U.S. History Questionnaire

Grade 8

This section has 12 questions. Mark your answers in your booklet. Fill in only **one** oval for each question except where instructed otherwise.

- LC000105
1. Did you take a United States history course in the following grades? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Yes	No	I don't know.	
a. 5th grade	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VE132582
b. 6th grade	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	LC000106
c. 7th grade	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	LC000107
d. 8th grade	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VE132588

- WP000118
2. Are you taking a United States history course now?

- A Yes
- B No

3. Since the beginning of middle school or junior high school, how much have you studied the following periods of United States history? Fill in **one** oval on each line. VB598171

	Not at all	Some	A lot	
a. The period before 1815: beginnings through the Revolution (e.g., colonization, settlement, revolution)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	VB598172
b. The period between 1815 and 1865: the new nation through the Civil War (e.g., expansion, reform, crisis of the Union)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	VB598173
c. The period between 1865 and 1945: the development of modern America (e.g., Reconstruction, industrial growth, United States' role in world affairs, the Great Depression, the First and Second World Wars, immigration)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	VB598174
d. The period between 1945 and the present: contemporary America (e.g., civil rights movement, women's rights movement, Korean and Vietnam wars, environmental movement)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	VB598175



VE132663

4. When you study history or social studies in school, how often do you do each of the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never	A few times a year	Once or twice a month	Once or twice a week	Almost every day	
a. Read material from a textbook	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132669
b. Read extra material not in the regular textbook (e.g., biographies or historical stories)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132671
c. Use letters, diaries, or essays written by historical people	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132685
d. Discuss the material studied	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132686
e. Write short answers (a paragraph or less) to questions	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132687
f. Write a report	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132692
g. Work on a group project	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132697
h. Give a presentation to the class on the topic being studied	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132698
i. Watch movies or videos	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132699
j. Take a test or quiz	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132700
k. Go on field trips or have outside speakers	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132701
l. Use the books or computers in the library to do schoolwork	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132704
m. Listen to information presented online	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VE132706

- VB598168
5. This year in school, how often have you been asked to write long answers to questions or assignments for history or social studies?
- Ⓐ Never
 - Ⓑ Once or twice this year
 - Ⓒ Once or twice a month
 - Ⓓ At least once a week

- VB598169
6. How often do you use computers at school for history or social studies?
- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
 - Ⓑ Once every few weeks
 - Ⓒ About once a week
 - Ⓓ Two or three times a week
 - Ⓔ Every day

- VE132600
7. When you study history or social studies, to what extent do you use computers to do research projects about history or social studies topics using a CD or the Internet? Include both class work and homework assignments.
- Ⓐ Not at all
 - Ⓑ Small extent
 - Ⓒ Moderate extent
 - Ⓓ Large extent

- VC471044
8. When you study social studies or history, how often do you agree with the following statements? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never or hardly ever	Sometimes	Often	Always or almost always	
a. I have a clear understanding of what my social studies or history teacher is asking me to do.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VC471046
b. The social studies or history work is easy.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VE132507
c. The social studies or history work is difficult.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VC471049
d. The social studies or history work is interesting.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VC471051



9. How much do you agree that history or social studies is one of your favorite subjects?
VE098853

- Ⓐ Not at all
- Ⓑ A little
- Ⓒ A lot

10. How hard was this test compared to most other tests you have taken this year in school?
VB595182

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

11. 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?
VC034559

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

12. How important was it to you to do well on this test?
VB595184

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



Science Questionnaire

Grade 8

This section has 16 questions. Mark your answers in your booklet. Fill in only **one** oval for each question except where instructed otherwise.

- VC304978
1. In your science class this year, which of the following topics have been covered? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Yes	No	
a. Life science (for example, biology, the human body, or ecology)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VC304982
b. Physical science (for example, energy, physics, or chemistry)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VC304983
c. Earth and space science (for example, geology or astronomy)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VC304984
d. Engineering and technology (for example, designing solutions to problems)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VC304985

- VF633079
2. In your science class this year, how often have you done hands-on activities or projects with any of the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	
a. Living things (for example, plants, animals, bacteria)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VF633080
b. Electricity (for example, circuits, batteries, and light bulbs)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VF633083
c. Chemicals (for example, mixing or dissolving sugar or salt in water)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VF633082
d. Rocks or minerals (for example, identifying types)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VF633087
e. Simple machines (for example, pulleys and levers)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VF633086
f. Magnifying glass or microscope (for looking at small things)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VF633084
g. Thermometer or barometer (for making measurements)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VF633085



VC305292

3. In your science class this year, how often do you do each of the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never or hardly ever	Once every few weeks	About once a week	Two or three times a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. Read a science textbook, in class or at home	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VC546510
b. Read a book or magazine about science topics	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VF633095
c. Use the Internet to learn about science topics	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VF633097
d. Watch a movie, video, or DVD about science topics	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VF633099

VC304769

4. In your science class this year, how often do you do each of the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never or hardly ever	Once every few weeks	About once a week	Two or three times a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. Discuss events in the news that are related to what you are learning in science class	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VC304771
b. Work with other students on a science project or activity	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VC304772
c. Present what you learned about science to your class	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VC304778
d. Take a science test or quiz	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VC720564

VC720622

5. In your science class this year, how often do you do each of the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never or hardly ever	Once every few weeks	About once a week	Two or three times a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. Identify questions that can be addressed through science experiments	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VC720623
b. Design a science experiment	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VC720634
c. Talk about measurements you took for your science project or activity	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VC720635
d. Talk about the results of your science project or activity	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VC720636
e. Watch your teacher do a science experiment or activity	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VC720638
f. Make graphs or charts of the results from your science project or activity	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VC720639
g. Write about your science activities or projects (such as reports, science journals, or lab write-ups)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VF633111



VC315289

6. In this school year, how often have you been asked to write long answers to questions on tests or assignments for science?

- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once every few weeks
- Ⓒ About once a week
- Ⓓ Two or three times a week
- Ⓔ Every day or almost every day

VC546453

7. In this school year, how often have you talked with your teacher about how you are doing in science?

- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once every few weeks
- Ⓒ About once a week
- Ⓓ Two or three times a week
- Ⓔ Every day or almost every day

VF653623

8. In this school year, how often have you used your school library resources for science (such as books, magazines, computers, and audio-video materials)?

- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once every few weeks
- Ⓒ About once a week
- Ⓓ Two or three times a week
- Ⓔ Every day or almost every day

VC546463

9. In this school year, how often have you used computers for science?

- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once every few weeks
- Ⓒ About once a week
- Ⓓ Two or three times a week
- Ⓔ Every day or almost every day

VC305330

10. Please indicate how much you DISAGREE or AGREE with the following statements about science. Fill in **one** oval on each line.

- | | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Agree | Strongly agree | |
|---|-------------------|----------|-------|----------------|----------|
| a. I do science-related activities that are not for schoolwork. | Ⓐ | Ⓑ | Ⓒ | Ⓓ | VC305348 |
| b. I like science. | Ⓐ | Ⓑ | Ⓒ | Ⓓ | VC305350 |
| c. Science is one of my favorite subjects. | Ⓐ | Ⓑ | Ⓒ | Ⓓ | VC305351 |
| d. I take science only because I have to. | Ⓐ | Ⓑ | Ⓒ | Ⓓ | VC305352 |
| e. I take science only because it will help me in the future. | Ⓐ | Ⓑ | Ⓒ | Ⓓ | VC305353 |

VF633128

11. In this school year, have you participated in any of the following activities? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

- | | Yes | No | |
|------------------------|-----|----|----------|
| a. Science fair | Ⓐ | Ⓑ | VF633132 |
| b. Science club | Ⓐ | Ⓑ | VF633134 |
| c. Science competition | Ⓐ | Ⓑ | VF633135 |

VF633304

12. In this school year, have you visited a museum, zoo, or aquarium to learn about science on a school trip?

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No

VF633276

13. In this school year, have you visited a museum, zoo, or aquarium to learn about science that was **not** on a school trip?

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No



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

VB595182

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

15. 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?

VC084559

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

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

VB595184

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



V. NAEP Questions Tool

Introduction

After every assessment cycle, NAEP releases a portion of the assessment to the public. The NAEP Questions Tool (NQT) allows users to search for questions by subject, grade, difficulty, and other characteristics. You can also view scoring guides, keys, national performance data, demographic group data, and student responses (for constructed-response questions only). The tool also allows users to create customized reports and to print selected questions and all relevant information. The purpose of the NQT is to provide teachers, researchers, educators, and the public with greater access to NAEP assessment exercises.

How do I access the NAEP Questions Tool?

The NQT is available at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/itmrlsx>. The tool can also be accessed by clicking the “Sample Questions” link on The Nation’s Report Card home page.

How do I learn to use the NAEP Questions Tool?

View a short video showing the features of the NQT and how to use them, a more detailed tutorial, and a Quick Reference Guide at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/naeptools.asp#qrg>. There is also a “What can I do here?” link and a “Help” button on every page of the NQT.

Where can I find more information about the subjects NAEP assesses?

The NAEP website contains a wealth of information about the subjects NAEP assesses and can be accessed at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard>.

How can I get additional help?

For more help with features on the NAEP website, click “Help” in the side panel.

For additional assistance, write to us via Contact Us at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/contactus.aspx>, or e-mail Sherran.Osborne@ed.gov.

VI. About NAEP

NAEP OVERVIEW. NAEP is the largest continuing and nationally representative assessment of what our nation's students know and can do in various academic subjects. NAEP is administered by the National Center for Education Statistics within the Institute of Education Sciences of the U.S. Department of Education. For more information about the NAEP program, visit the NAEP website at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard> or call 202-502-7420.

PARTICIPATION. States and districts that receive Title I funds are required to participate in biennial NAEP reading and mathematics assessments at grades 4 and 8. Student participation is always voluntary. Contact your school's NAEP coordinator for more information.

NAEP CONTENT. The National Assessment Governing Board sets policy for NAEP and oversees the creation of the NAEP frameworks, which describe the specific knowledge and skills that should be assessed. For additional information on framework development, visit the Governing Board's website at <http://www.nagb.org/publications/frameworks.htm>.

NAEP SAMPLE QUESTIONS. For each assessment, some of the test questions, along with performance data, are made available to the public to provide concrete samples of NAEP contents and results. For every assessment, NAEP distributes sample questions booklets to participating schools that provide more detailed information about the assessment design and questions. Released questions and student performance data may be viewed and downloaded from the NCES website at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/itmrlsx>.

NAEP SECURE QUESTIONS. On written request, adults may review NAEP questions and instruments still in use. These arrangements must be made in advance, and persons reviewing the assessment may not remove the booklets from the room, copy them, or take notes. Contact your school's NAEP coordinator for more information.

NAEP PUBLICATIONS. NAEP reports and brochures can be searched and downloaded from the NAEP website at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION. For prompt field staff support on these or other matters, call the NAEP Help Desk at 800-283-6237.