



Student Background Questionnaire

2001
Grade 4

SECTION 1

Section 1

In this section, please tell us about yourself and your family. The section has 17 questions. Mark your answers in your booklet. Fill in only **one** oval for each question.

TB003001

1. Which best describes you?

- Ⓐ White (not Hispanic)
- Ⓑ Black (not Hispanic)
- Ⓒ Hispanic ("Hispanic" means someone who is from a Mexicano, Mexican American, Chicano, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or other Spanish or Hispanic background.)
- Ⓓ Asian ("Asian" means someone who is from a Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese, or other Asian background.)
- Ⓔ Pacific Islander ("Pacific Islander" means someone who is from a Filipino, Hawaiian, or other Pacific Island background.)
- Ⓕ American Indian or Alaskan Native ("American Indian or Alaskan Native" means someone who is from one of the American Indian tribes, or one of the original people of Alaska.)
- Ⓖ Other

VB331329

2. If you are Hispanic, what is your Hispanic background?

- Ⓐ I am not Hispanic.
- Ⓑ Mexican, Mexican American, or Chicano
- Ⓒ Puerto Rican
- Ⓓ Cuban
- Ⓔ Other Spanish or Hispanic background

VB331333

3. Does your family get a newspaper at least four times a week?

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No
- Ⓒ I don't know.

VB331334

4. Does your family get any magazines regularly?

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No
- Ⓒ I don't know.

VB331335

5. About how many books are there in your home?

- Ⓐ 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)

VB331336

6. Is there a computer at home that you use?

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No

Section 1

VB331337

7. Is there an encyclopedia in your home? It could be a set of books, or it could be on the computer.

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No
- Ⓒ I don't know.

VB331338

8. Is there a world atlas in your home? It could be a book of maps of the world, or it could be on the computer.

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No
- Ⓒ I don't know.

VB331339

9. How often do you talk about things you have studied in school with someone in your family?

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

VB331340

10. On a school day, about how many hours do you usually watch TV or videotapes outside of school?

- Ⓐ None
- Ⓑ 1 hour or less
- Ⓒ 2 or 3 hours
- Ⓓ 4 or 5 hours
- Ⓔ 6 hours or more

VB331441

11. Do your parents know the amount of time you spend watching TV on a school day?

- Ⓐ Usually they know.
- Ⓑ Sometimes they know.
- Ⓒ They hardly ever know.
- Ⓓ I'm not sure whether they know.

VB331442

12. Which statement best describes the rules that your parents have about the amount of TV you can watch on school days?

- Ⓐ My parents have strict rules about how much TV I can watch on school days.
- Ⓑ My parents don't have strict TV rules, but they don't like me to watch too much TV on school days.
- Ⓒ My parents don't pay much attention to how much TV I watch on school days.



VB331444

13. Do your parents know whether you finish your homework each day?

- Ⓐ Usually they know.
- Ⓑ Sometimes they know.
- Ⓒ They hardly ever know.
- Ⓓ I'm not sure whether they know.
- Ⓔ I never have homework.

VB331445

14. Which statement best describes the rules that your parents have about getting your homework done?

- Ⓐ My parents have strict rules about homework.
- Ⓑ My parents don't have strict homework rules, but they expect me to get my homework done.
- Ⓒ My parents don't pay too much attention to my homework.
- Ⓓ I never have homework.

VB331446

15. How often do you use a computer outside of school?

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

VB331447

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

- Ⓐ None
- Ⓑ 1 or 2 days
- Ⓒ 3 or 4 days
- Ⓓ 5 to 10 days
- Ⓔ More than 10 days

VB331451

17. 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



SECTION 4

Section 4

This section is about computers and about things you do at school. The section has 25 questions. Mark your answers in your booklet. Fill in only **one** oval for each question.

VB331460

Questions 1-7. The following questions are about things you do on a computer. Include things you do in school and things you do outside of school.

VB331541

1. Do you ever use a computer to play computer games?

☐ (A) Yes
☐ (B) No

VB331545

5. Do you ever use a computer to look up information on a CD?

☐ (A) Yes
☐ (B) No

VB331542

2. Do you ever use a computer to write reports, letters, stories, or anything else?

☐ (A) Yes
☐ (B) No

VB331546

6. Do you ever use a computer to look up information on the Internet?

☐ (A) Yes
☐ (B) No

VB331543

3. Do you ever use a computer to make pictures or drawings?

☐ (A) Yes
☐ (B) No

VB331547

7. Do you ever use a computer to send e-mail or talk in chat groups?

☐ (A) Yes
☐ (B) No

VB331544

4. Do you ever use a computer to make tables, charts, or graphs?

☐ (A) Yes
☐ (B) No

Section 4

VB331453

8. Who taught you the **most** about how to use a computer?

- Ⓐ I learned the most on my own.
- Ⓑ I learned the most from my friends.
- Ⓒ I learned the most from my teachers.
- Ⓓ I learned the most from my family.
- Ⓔ I don't really know how to use a computer.

VB331454

9. Compared with other students in my class, I am

- Ⓐ one of the best at using computers
- Ⓑ **above** average at using computers
- Ⓒ average at using computers
- Ⓓ **below** average at using computers
- Ⓔ I never use the computer.

VB331455

10. How often do you use a computer at school? Include use anywhere in the school and at any time of the day.

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

VB331456

11. Yesterday, how much time did you spend on a computer at school? If you were not at school yesterday, answer about the last day you were at school.

- Ⓐ None
- Ⓑ Half an hour or less
- Ⓒ About 1 hour
- Ⓓ About 2 hours
- Ⓔ More than 2 hours



VB333263

Questions 12-14. Which of the following statements about using a computer are true for you?

VB333264

12. I like doing my schoolwork more when I use a computer.

- Ⓐ True
- Ⓑ False
- Ⓒ I never use a computer.

VB333266

13. I have more fun learning when I use a computer.

- Ⓐ True
- Ⓑ False
- Ⓒ I never use a computer.

VB333268

14. I get more done when I use a computer for schoolwork.

- Ⓐ True
- Ⓑ False
- Ⓒ I never use a computer.

Section 4

VB345588

15. How often do you usually have social studies class in school?

- Ⓐ Every day
- Ⓑ 3-4 times a week
- Ⓒ 1-2 times a week
- Ⓓ Less than 1 time a week
- Ⓔ Never or hardly ever

VB345589

16. Have you ever studied the history of the United States in school?

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No

VB345590

17. How much do you like studying geography?

- Ⓐ It is one of my favorite subjects.
- Ⓑ I like most other subjects better.
- Ⓒ I have never studied geography.

VB331452

18. How often do you use computers at school for social studies?

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



VB331553

Questions 19-25. The following questions are about things you do when you study social studies. Include things you do in class and things you do for homework assignments.

VB331555

19. Do you do research projects about social studies topics using a CD or the Internet?

- ☐ (A) Yes
- ☐ (B) No

VB331559

23. Do you use a computer to write reports or other things about social studies?

- ☐ (A) Yes
- ☐ (B) No

VB331556

20. Do you use computer programs in which you pretend to be an explorer, travel to new places, or do things like build cities?

- ☐ (A) Yes
- ☐ (B) No

VB331560

24. Do you put together words, pictures, and sounds on the computer to create projects about social studies?

- ☐ (A) Yes
- ☐ (B) No

VB331557

21. Do you create or use maps using computer programs?

- ☐ (A) Yes
- ☐ (B) No

VB333261

25. Do you use a computer to share ideas about social studies with other students by e-mail or the Internet?

- ☐ (A) Yes
- ☐ (B) No

VB331558

22. Do you use a computer to put social studies information into tables, charts, or graphs?

- ☐ (A) Yes
- ☐ (B) No

