

Educational Research Centre
St Patrick's College
Dublin 9

Reading and Mathematics Survey (2010)



Questionnaire for Pupils in 6th Class

Are you: a boy? a girl?



Educational Research Centre
Foras Taighde ar Oideachas

1. What age are you?I am years old.**2. Were you born in Ireland?***Yes* *No*1 2

- 2a. If you were not born in Ireland, how old were you when you came to live in Ireland?

I was years old when I came to Ireland.**3. What languages do you speak at home?***Yes* *No*

- a) English 1 2
- b) Gaeilge (Irish) 1 2
- c) A different language 1 2

If YES, what is it called? _____

Yes *No*Do you go to extra classes in this language? 1 2**4. What language do you speak at home most often?***Only tick one box*

- a) English 1
- b) Gaeilge (Irish) 2
- c) A different language 3

5. How often do you do ...	<i>Hardly ever</i>	<i>Once or twice a week</i>	<i>Three or four times a week</i>	<i>Every school day</i>
English homework?	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Maths homework?	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Irish homework?	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4

6. Do you have these in your home?	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
a) Computer.....	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
b) Games console (e.g. Playstation, Wii, Xbox)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
c) Broadband (high speed) internet access.....	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
d) TV in your bedroom	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
e) Calculator	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2

7. On a school day, how much time do you spend doing these things before or after school?

	<i>No time</i>	<i>Less than an hour</i>	<i>1-2 hours</i>	<i>More than 2 hours</i>
a) Watching TV, videos or DVDs.....	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
b) Playing games on a computer / console	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
c) Using the internet	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
d) Doing jobs at home	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
e) Doing maths homework	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
f) Doing English homework	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
g) Reading a book, comic or magazine for fun	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
h) Playing sports	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
i) Attending extra classes (e.g., music, dance, art, language)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
j) Playing with friends	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
k) Playing by yourself	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
l) Taking part in a hobby (not already mentioned above)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4

8. Outside of school, do you ever	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
a) have extra lessons in English?	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
b) have extra lessons in maths?	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
c) Have extra lessons in Irish?	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2

9. How long would you *like* to stay in school?

<i>Finish primary school</i>	<i>Do the Junior Cert.</i>	<i>Do the Leaving Cert.</i>	<i>Go to College or University</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

10. How long do you think you *will actually* stay in school?

<i>Finish primary school</i>	<i>Do the Junior Cert.</i>	<i>Do the Leaving Cert.</i>	<i>Go to College or University</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

About You as a Reader

11. How often do you read each of the following at home?

	<i>Hardly ever</i>	<i>A few times a month</i>	<i>Once or twice a week</i>	<i>Every day, or most days</i>
a) Magazines or comic books.....	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
b) Stories or novels	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
c) Information books	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
d) Emails and internet	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
e) Newspapers	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4

12. How often are you asked to read a book
– e.g., from a library – for homework?
(*Don't count class textbooks*).....

<i>Hardly ever</i>	<i>A few times a month</i>	<i>Once or twice a week</i>	<i>Every day, or most days</i>
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<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
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13. How often do you borrow books from
the *school* library?

<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
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14. How often do you borrow books from a
public library?

<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
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**Here are some things that people say about reading and school.
You might agree with some of the things and not with others.
Mark on each line the answer that suits you best.**

	<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Not Sure</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
15. ‘I like reading’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
16. ‘Reading is boring’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
17. ‘I only read if I have to’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
18. ‘I feel happy if I get a book as a present’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
19. ‘For me, reading is a waste of time’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
20. ‘I enjoy going to a bookshop or library’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
21. ‘I read only to get the information I need’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
22. ‘I cannot sit and read for more than a few minutes’.....	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
23. ‘My teacher thinks I am a good reader’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
24. ‘I don’t like reading something when the words are too difficult’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
25. ‘Complicated stories are no fun to read’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
26. ‘It is important for me to do well at reading’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
27. ‘I know I will be good at reading next year’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
28. ‘I am a good reader’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
29. ‘I learn more from reading than most other pupils in the class’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
30. ‘I can understand the most difficult school books I am asked to read’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

About You and Your Maths

31. When you are doing maths homework at home, how often do you do the following?

	<i>Never</i>	<i>Sometimes</i>	<i>Often</i>	<i>Always</i>
a) Ask someone for help to do sums	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
b) Ask someone to check your answers ..	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
c) Use a calculator	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
d) Use a computer.....	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
e) Use things at home to help solve problems (e.g., weighing scales, measuring tape)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4

32. How often does each of these things happen in your maths lessons at school?

	<i>Never</i>	<i>Sometimes</i>	<i>Often</i>	<i>Always</i>
a) I use a calculator.....	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
b) I use a computer for maths	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
c) I estimate (guess) the answer to a sum before doing it	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
d) I work in a pair or a small group	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
e) I use maths equipment (e.g., weighing scales, measuring tape) to solve problems	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
f) I do a maths test	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
g) We talk about a maths problem before doing it on our own.....	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
h) I explain to the teacher how I got the answer to a question	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
i) I begin my homework in class	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
j) I do a sum on the board in front of the class	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4

	<i>Never</i>	<i>Sometimes</i>	<i>Often</i>	<i>Always</i>
k) I use a tablebook	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
l) I translate a word or mathematical term from Irish to English	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
m) I ask the teacher to translate mathematics terms from Irish to English	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
n) I ask other pupils in the class to translate matheamtics terms from Irish to English	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
o) The teacher helps me if I have difficulty with matheamtics terms in Irish	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4

***Here are some things that people say about maths and school.
You might agree with some of the things and not with others.
Mark the answer that suits you best on each line.***

	<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Not Sure</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
33. ‘I often think about how I can use maths in everyday life’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
34. ‘I often think of other ways to get the answer to a problem’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
35. ‘I learn as much maths as I can off by heart’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
36. ‘I try to understand new ideas in maths by thinking about what I already know’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
37. ‘I go through examples again and again to help me remember them’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
38. ‘I try to remember every step when doing a problem’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

	<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Not Sure</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
39. ‘I worry that I will find maths class hard’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
40. ‘I am not very good at maths’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
41. ‘I get worried when I have to do maths homework’.....	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
42. ‘I get good marks in maths’.....	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
43. ‘I learn maths quickly’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
44. ‘Maths is one of my best subjects’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
45. ‘In my maths class, I understand even the hardest problems’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
46. ‘I worry that I will get poor marks in maths’	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
47. I prefer to learn mathematics in Irish than in English	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

About You and Irish

***Here are some views about speaking Irish and learning mathematics through Irish.
Mark on each line the answer that suits you best.***

	<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Not Sure</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
48. I use Irish a lot at home.....	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
49. Is like to speak Irish at school	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
50. I like to speak Irish at home.....	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
51. I like to speak Irish with my friends	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
52. I like to speak English with my friends in the school yard.....	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

	<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Not Sure</i>	<i>Dis-agree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
53. It is easier to read in English than in Irish.....	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
54. I'm better at Irish at school than at English.....	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
55. I prefer to read in English than in Irish	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
56. I would do better in Maths if I were learning it in English.	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

Now, you are asked to answer a few questions about the school you will attend next year. An all-Irish post-primary (secondary) school is one in which most subjects are taught through Irish. They include units or streams in ordinary schools in which most subjects are offered in Irish. Mark the answer that suits you best on each line.

	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>
57. I will attend an all-Irish post-primary school in the new school year.	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
58. I won't attend an all-Irish post-primary school because there is none near my home.	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
59. Some of my friends will attend an all-Irish post-primary school, but I won't.....	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
60. I would like to attend an all-Irish post-primary school....	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2



Thank you for answering our questions.