

Date of Test

	/		/ 2009
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Day

Month

STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE

PISA 2009

MAIN SURVEY



Managed in Ireland by:

Educational Research Centre (ERC)

Core B Consortium

Cito Institute for Educational Measurement

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Direction de l'Evaluation de la Prospective et de la
Performance (DEPP)

In this booklet you will find questions about:

- You
- Your family and your home
- Your reading activities
- Learning time
- Classroom and school climate
- Your English classes
- Libraries
- Your strategies in reading and understanding texts
- Your educational career
- Your familiarity with information and communication technologies (ICT)

In some of the questions you will be asked about *reading*. We specifically mean by reading the skill to understand, use and think about *written* texts. This skill is needed to reach one's goals, to develop one's knowledge and potential, and to take part in society.

Please read each question carefully and answer as accurately as you can. In the test you usually circled your answers. For this questionnaire, you will normally answer by ticking a box. For a few questions you will need to write a short answer.

If you make a mistake when ticking a box, cross out or rub out your mistake and mark the correct box. If you make an error when writing an answer, simply cross it out and write the correct answer next to it.

In this questionnaire, there are no right or wrong answers. Your answers should be the ones that are right for you.

You may ask for help if you do not understand something or are not sure how to answer a question.

Your answers will be combined with others to make totals and averages in which no individual can be identified. All your answers will be kept confidential.

SECTION 1: ABOUT YOU

Q1 What year are you in?

Year

Q2 Which one of the following programmes are you in?

(Please tick only one box)

Junior Certificate ☐ ₁

Transition Year ☐ ₂

Leaving Cert. Applied ☐ ₃

Leaving Cert. General ☐ ₄

Leaving Cert. Vocational ☐ ₅

Youthreach ☐ ₆

Q3 On what date were you born?

(Please write the day, month and year you were born)

____ 19 ____
Day Month Year

Q4 Are you female or male?

Female *Male*

☐ ₁

☐ ₂

Q5 Are you a member of the Traveller Community?

Yes

No

☐ ₁☐ ₂

Q6 Did you attend preschool or kindergarten?

No

☐ ₁

Yes, for one year or less

☐ ₂

Yes, for more than one year

☐ ₃

Q7 How old were you when you started primary school?

_____ *Years*

Q8 Have you ever repeated a year?

(Please tick only one box in each row)

No, never

Yes, once

*Yes, twice or
more*

a) In primary school

☐ ₁☐ ₂☐ ₃

b) In First, Second or Third
Year

☐ ₁☐ ₂☐ ₃

c) In Fourth, Fifth or Sixth
Year

☐ ₁☐ ₂☐ ₃

SECTION 2: YOUR FAMILY AND YOUR HOME

In this section you will be asked some questions about your family and your home.

Some of the following questions are about your mother and father or those people who are like a mother or father to you — for example, guardians, step-parents, foster parents, etc.

If you share your time with more than one set of parents or guardians, please answer the following questions for those parents/guardians you spend the most time with.

Q9 Who usually lives at home with you?

(Please tick one box in each row)

	Yes	No
a) Mother (including stepmother or foster mother)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
b) Father (including stepfather or foster father)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
c) Brother(s) (including stepbrothers)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
d) Sister(s) (including stepsisters)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
e) Grandparent(s)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
f) Other people not already mentioned (e.g. cousin)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂

Q10 How many family members (excluding yourself) live at home with you?

(Please write the number. Write '0' if none.)

a) Brothers	
b) Sisters	
c) Other family members (e.g. parents/guardians, grandparents)	

Q11a What is your mother's main job?

(e.g. school teacher, kitchen-hand, sales manager)

(If she is not working now, please tell us her last main job)

Please write in the job title. _____

Q11b What does your mother do in her main job?

(e.g. teaches secondary school students, helps the cook prepare meals in a restaurant, manages a sales team)

Please use a sentence to describe the kind of work she does or did in that job.

Q12 What is the highest level of schooling completed by your mother?

If you are not sure which box to choose, please ask the teacher for advice.

(Please tick only one box)

Leaving Cert. (General or Vocational) ☐ ₁

Leaving Cert. (Applied) ☐ ₂

Junior Cert., Group Cert., or Inter. Cert. ☐ ₃

Primary school ☐ ₄

She did not complete primary school ☐ ₅

Q13 Does your mother have any of the following qualifications?

If you are not sure how to answer this question, please ask the teacher for help.

(Please tick one box in each row)

- | | <i>Yes</i> | <i>No</i> |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a) A Doctorate (Ph.D.) | ☐ ₁ | ☐ ₂ |
| b) A university degree, post-graduate diploma or Masters degree | ☐ ₁ | ☐ ₂ |
| c) A third-level certificate or diploma, NOT to degree level (e.g. from an Institute of Technology or Regional Technical College) | ☐ ₁ | ☐ ₂ |
| d) An apprenticeship or Post-Leaving Cert. course (e.g., a secretarial course) | ☐ ₁ | ☐ ₂ |

Q14 What is your mother currently doing?

(Please tick only one box)

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Working full-time for pay | ☐ ₁ |
| Working part-time for pay | ☐ ₂ |
| Not working, but looking for a job | ☐ ₃ |
| Home duties | ☐ ₄ |
| Other (studying, no longer working, retired) | ☐ ₅ |

Q15a What is your father's main job?

(e.g. school teacher, kitchen-hand, sales manager)

(If he is not working now, please tell us his last main job)

Please write in the job title. _____

Q15b What does your father do in his main job?

(e.g. teaches secondary school students, helps the cook prepare meals in a restaurant, manages a sales team)

Please use a sentence to describe the kind of work he does or did in that job.

Q16 What is the highest level of schooling completed by your father?

If you are not sure how to answer this question, please ask the teacher for advice.

(Please tick only one box)

Leaving Cert. (General or Vocational) ☐ ₁

Leaving Cert. (Applied) ☐ ₂

Junior Cert., Group Cert., or Inter. Cert. ☐ ₃

Primary school ☐ ₄

He did not complete primary school ☐ ₅

Q17 Does your father have any of the following qualifications?

*If you are not sure which box to choose, please ask the teacher for help.
(Please tick one box in each row)*

	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
a) A Doctorate (Ph.D.)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
b) A university degree, post-graduate diploma or Masters degree	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
c) A third-level certificate or diploma, NOT to degree level (e.g. from an Institute of Technology or Regional Technical College)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
d) An apprenticeship or Post-Leaving Cert. course (e.g., a secretarial course)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂

Q18 What is your father currently doing?

(Please tick only one box)

Working full-time for pay	☐ ₁
Working part-time for pay	☐ ₂
Not working, but looking for a job	☐ ₃
Home duties	☐ ₄
Other (e.g. studying, no longer working, retired)	☐ ₅

Q19 In what country were you and your parents born?

(Please tick one box in each column)

	<i>You</i>	<i>Mother</i>	<i>Father</i>
Republic of Ireland	☐ ₀₁	☐ ₀₁	☐ ₀₁
Northern Ireland	☐ ₀₂	☐ ₀₂	☐ ₀₂
Great Britain	☐ ₀₃	☐ ₀₃	☐ ₀₃
Another English-speaking country	☐ ₀₄	☐ ₀₄	☐ ₀₄
Another non-English-speaking country	☐ ₀₅	☐ ₀₅	☐ ₀₅

Q20 If you currently receive support from an English Language Support teacher, how long have you been receiving this support?

(Please tick only one box.)

Less than three months	☐ ₁
Between three and six months	☐ ₂
Between six months and a year	☐ ₃
Between one and two years	☐ ₄
More than two years	☐ ₅

Q21 How well do you think you participate in your regular class work?

(Please tick only one box.)

Very well *(I can understand and do everything)* ☐₁

Well *(I can understand and do most things)* ☐₂

OK *(I can understand and do some things)* ☐₃

Not well *(I can understand and do very little)* ☐₄

Q22 Do you speak more than one language at home?

Yes

No

☐₁

☐₂

Q23 If you were born in another country, how old were you when you arrived in the Republic of Ireland?

If you were less than 12 months old, please write zero (0).

If you were born in the Republic of Ireland please skip this question and go to Q24.

_____ years

Q24 What language do you speak at home most of the time?

(Please tick only one box)

English

☐ 313

Irish

☐ 434

Other language

☐ 824

Q25 Help with your mother tongue:

Your 'mother tongue' is the main language that you learned from birth – it might be English, Irish, Polish, Czech or Mandarin.

If you have a 'mother tongue' that is a language other than English or Irish please answer Q25. If your 'mother tongue' is English or Irish, please skip Q 25 and go to Q26.

(Please tick one box in each row.)

- | | Yes | No |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a) Are you encouraged to use your mother tongue while in school? | ☐ ₁ | ☐ ₂ |
| b) Do you receive any formal help with your mother tongue <u>in school, during or after the school day?</u> <i>(for example, are you given books in your mother tongue, or help from another student who speaks your mother tongue)</i> | ☐ ₁ | ☐ ₂ |
| c) Do you receive any formal help with your mother tongue <u>outside school?</u> <i>(for example, do you attend classes in your mother tongue)</i> | ☐ ₁ | ☐ ₂ |

Q26 Which of the following do you have in your home?

(Please tick one box in each row)

	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
a) A desk to study at	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
b) A room of your own	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
c) A quiet place to study	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
d) A computer you can use for school work	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
e) Educational software	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
f) A link to the Internet	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
g) Classic literature (e.g. James Joyce)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
h) Poetry books	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
i) Works of art (e.g. paintings)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
j) Books to help with your school work	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
k) Technical reference books	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
l) A dictionary	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
m) A dishwasher	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
n) A DVD player	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
o) A flat-screen television	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
p) A bedroom with an en-suite bathroom	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
q) A premium cable TV package (e.g. Sky Movies, Sky Sports)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂

Q27 How many of these are there at your home?

(Please tick only one box in each row)

	<i>None</i>	<i>One</i>	<i>Two</i>	<i>Three or more</i>
a) Mobile phones	☐	☐	☐	☐ ₄
b) Televisions	☐	☐	☐	☐ ₄
c) Computers (do not include games consoles)	☐	☐	☐	☐ ₄
d) Cars	☐	☐	☐	☐ ₄
e) Bathrooms (rooms with a bath or shower)	☐	☐	☐	☐ ₄

Q28 How many books are there in your home?

There are usually about 40 books per metre of shelving. Do not include magazines, newspapers, or your schoolbooks.

(Please tick only one box.)

0-10 books	☐ ₁
11-25 books	☐ ₂
26-100 books	☐ ₃
101-200 books	☐ ₄
201-500 books	☐ ₅
More than 500 books	☐ ₆

SECTION 3: YOUR READING ACTIVITIES

The questions in this section are mainly about your reading activities outside school.

Q29 About how much time do you usually spend reading for enjoyment?

(Please tick only one box)

I do not read for enjoyment ☐ ₁

30 minutes or less a day ☐ ₂

More than 30 minutes to less than 1 hour a day ☐ ₃

1 to 2 hours a day ☐ ₄

More than 2 hours a day ☐ ₅

Q30 How much do you agree or disagree with these statements about reading?

(Please tick only one box in each row)

	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly agree</i>
a) I read only if I have to	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
b) Reading is one of my favourite hobbies	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
c) I like chatting to other people about books	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
d) I find it hard to finish books	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
e) I feel happy if I receive a book as a present	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
f) For me, reading is a waste of time	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
g) I enjoy going to a bookstore or a library	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
h) I read only to get information that I need	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
i) I cannot sit still and read for more than a few minutes	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
j) I like to express my opinions about books I have read	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
k) I like to exchange books with my friends	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄

Q31 How often do you read these materials because you want to?

(Please tick only one box in each row)

	<i>Never or almost never</i>	<i>A few times a year</i>	<i>About once a month</i>	<i>Several times a month</i>	<i>Several times a week</i>
a) Magazines	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
b) Comic books	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
c) Fiction (novels, stories)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
d) Non-fiction books	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
e) Newspapers	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅

Q32 How often do you do the following reading activities?

(Please tick only one box in each row. If you don't know what the activity is tick "I don't know what it is.")

	<i>I don't know what it is</i>	<i>Never or almost never</i>	<i>Several times a month</i>	<i>Several times a week</i>	<i>Several times a day</i>
a) Reading emails	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
b) Chat on line (e.g. MSN®)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
c) Reading online news	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
d) Using an online dictionary or encyclopaedia (e.g. Wikipedia®)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
e) Searching online information to learn about a particular topic	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
f) Taking part in online group discussions or forums	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
g) Searching for practical information online (e.g. schedules, events, tips, recipes)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅

Q33 When you are studying, how often do you do the following?

(Please tick only one box in each row)

	<i>Almost never</i>	<i>Sometimes</i>	<i>Often</i>	<i>Almost always</i>
a) When I study, I try to memorise everything that is covered in the text.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
b) When I study, I start by figuring out what exactly I need to learn.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
c) When I study, I try to memorise as many details as possible.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
d) When I study, I try to relate new information to what I already know in other subjects.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
e) When I study, I read the text so many times that I can recite it.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
f) When I study, I check if I understand what I have read.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
g) When I study, I read the text over and over again.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
h) When I study, I figure out how the information might be useful outside school.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
i) When I study, I try to figure out which concepts I still haven't really understood.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
j) When I study, I try to understand the material better by relating it to my own experiences.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
k) When I study, I make sure that I remember the most important points in the text.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
l) When I study, I figure out how the text information fits in with what happens in real life.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
m) When I study and I don't understand something, I look for additional information to clarify it.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄

SECTION 4: LEARNING TIME

Q34 How many minutes, on average, are there in a class period for the following subjects?

Minutes in a class period in English: _____ Minutes

Minutes in a class period in mathematics: _____ Minutes

Minutes in a class period in science: _____ Minutes

I do not study a science subject ☐_1

Q35 How many class periods per week do you typically have for the following subjects?

(If none, please write zero)

Number of class periods per week in English: _____ class periods

Number of class periods per week in mathematics: _____ class periods

Number of class periods per week in science: _____ class periods

Q36 In a normal, full week at school, how many class periods do you have in total?

Number of ALL class periods _____ class periods

Q37 What type of lessons outside of school time do you attend currently?

*These are **only** lessons **in** subjects that you are also learning at school, that you spend extra time learning outside of normal school hours. The lessons may be given at your school, at your home or somewhere else.*

(Please tick only one box in each row)

	Yes	No
a) Enrichment lessons in English	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
b) Enrichment lessons in mathematics	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
c) Enrichment lessons in science	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
d) Enrichment lessons in other school subjects	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
e) Learning support in English	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
f) Learning support in mathematics	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
g) Learning support in science	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
h) Learning support in other school subjects	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
i) Lessons to improve your study skills	☐ ₁	☐ ₂

Q38 How many hours do you typically spend per week attending lessons outside of school time in the following subjects (at school, at home or somewhere else)?

*These are **only** lessons **in subjects that you are also learning at school**, that you spend extra time learning outside of normal school hours. The lessons may be given at your school, at your home or somewhere else.*

(Please tick one box in each column)

	<i>English</i>	<i>Mathematics</i>	<i>Science</i>	<i>Other subjects</i>
I do not attend lessons outside of school time in these subjects	☐ ₁	☐ ₁	☐ ₁	☐ ₁
Less than 2 hours a week	☐ ₂	☐ ₂	☐ ₂	☐ ₂
2 or more but less than 4 hours a week	☐ ₃	☐ ₃	☐ ₃	☐ ₃
4 or more but less than 6 hours a week	☐ ₄	☐ ₄	☐ ₄	☐ ₄
6 or more hours a week	☐ ₅	☐ ₅	☐ ₅	☐ ₅

SECTION 5: YOUR SCHOOL

Q39 *Thinking about what you have learned in school: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?*

(Please tick only one box in each row)

	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly agree</i>
a) School has done little to prepare me for adult life when I leave school	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
b) School has been a waste of time	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
c) School has helped give me confidence to make decisions	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
d) School has taught me things which could be useful in a job	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄

Q40 How much do you disagree or agree with each of the following statements about teachers at your school?

(Please tick only one box in each row.)

	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly agree</i>
a) I get along well with most of my teachers	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
b) Most of my teachers are interested in my well-being	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
c) Most of my teachers really listen to what I have to say	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
d) If I need extra help, I will receive it from my teachers	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
e) Most of my teachers treat me fairly	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄

SECTION 6: YOUR ENGLISH LESSONS

Q41 On average, about how many students attend your English class?

_____ students

Q42 How often do these things happen in your English lessons?

(Please tick only one box in each row)

	<i>Never or hardly ever</i>	<i>In some lessons</i>	<i>In most lessons</i>	<i>In all lessons</i>
a) Students don't listen to what the teacher says	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
b) There is noise and disorder	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
c) The teacher has to wait a long time for the students to settle down	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
d) Students cannot work well	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
e) Students don't start working for a long time after the lesson begins	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄

Q43 In your English lessons, how often does the following occur?

(Please tick only one box in each row)

	<i>Never or hardly ever</i>	<i>In some lessons</i>	<i>In most lessons</i>	<i>In all lessons</i>
a) The teacher asks students to explain the meaning of a text	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
b) The teacher asks questions that challenge students to get a better understanding of a text	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
c) The teacher gives students enough time to think about their answers	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
d) The teacher recommends a book or author to read	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
e) The teacher encourages students to express their opinion about a text	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
f) The teacher helps students relate the stories they read to their lives	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
g) The teacher shows students how the information in texts builds on what they already know	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄

Q44 **In your English lessons, how often does the following occur?**

(Please tick only one box in each row)

	<i>Never or hardly ever</i>	<i>In some lessons</i>	<i>In most lessons</i>	<i>In all lessons</i>
a) The teacher explains beforehand what is expected of the students	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
b) The teacher checks that students are concentrating while working on a reading assignment	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
c) The teacher discusses students' work, after they have finished a reading assignment	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
d) The teacher tells students in advance how their work is going to be marked	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
e) The teacher asks whether every student has understood how to complete a reading assignment	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
f) The teacher assigns a grade to students' work	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
g) The teacher gives students the chance to ask questions about a reading assignment	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
h) The teacher asks questions that motivate students to take part	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
i) The teacher tells students how well they did on a reading assignment immediately after	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄

SECTION 7: LIBRARIES

In this section you are asked questions about libraries. These may be in your school and/or outside your school.

Q45 How often do you visit a library for the following activities?

(Please tick only one box in each row)

	<i>Never</i>	<i>A few times a year</i>	<i>About once a month</i>	<i>Several times a month</i>	<i>Several times a week</i>
a) Borrow books to read for pleasure	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
b) Borrow books for school work	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
c) Work on homework, course assignments or research papers	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
d) Read magazines or newspapers	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
e) Read books for fun	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
f) Learn about things that are not course-related, such as sports, hobbies, people or music	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
g) Use the Internet	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅

Q46 Does your school have a school library?

No ☐₁

Yes ☐₂

SECTION 8: YOUR STRATEGIES IN READING AND UNDERSTANDING TEXTS

There are several approaches to studying and understanding texts. Some of them are more useful than others, depending on the kind of reading task. The next two questions present a number of reading tasks, followed by a list of these approaches or “strategies”. We want to know your opinion about the usefulness of these strategies for the different reading tasks.

Each of the two questions starts with a short description of a particular reading task. Then several possible reading strategies are listed. Think about the usefulness of each of the strategies in relation to the given reading task only. Some strategies may be useful for one reading task but not for another.

Give a score between 1 and 6 to every strategy. A score of 1 means you think it is not a useful strategy at all for this reading task. A score of 6 means you think it is a very useful strategy for this reading task.

You can use the same score more than once if you think two or more strategies are similarly useful, but please tick only one box in each row.

Here is an example question that a student has completed. (This example is about playing table tennis, not reading.)

Example Question

Task: You want to improve at playing table tennis so you can win a local competition.

How do you rate the usefulness of the following strategies for improving at playing table tennis?

Possible strategy	Score					
	(1) not useful at all	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6) very useful
a) I read a book about table tennis technique	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐
b) I practise playing table tennis against a friend as often as possible	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) I do general fitness exercises every morning	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
d) I watch expert players and try to figure out their techniques	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

Q47 Reading task: You have to understand and remember the information in a text.

How do you rate the usefulness of the following strategies for understanding and remembering the text?

Possible strategy	Score					
	<i>Not useful at all</i>			<i>Very useful</i>		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
a) I concentrate on the parts of the text that are easy to understand	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆
b) I quickly read through the text twice	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆
c) After reading the text, I discuss it with other people	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆
d) I underline important parts of the text.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆
e) I summarise the text in my own words	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆
f) I read the text aloud to another person	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆

Q48 Reading task: You have just read a long and difficult two-page text about changes in the water level of a lake in Africa. You have to write a summary.

How do you rate the usefulness of the following strategies for writing a summary of this two-page text?

Possible strategy	Score					
	<i>Not useful at all</i>			<i>Very useful</i>		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
a) I write a summary. Then I check that each paragraph is covered in the summary, because the content of each paragraph should be included	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆
b) I try to copy out accurately as many sentences as possible	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆
c) Before writing the summary, I read the text as many times as possible	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆
d) I carefully check whether the most important facts in the text are represented in the summary	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆
e) I read through the text, underlining the most important sentences. Then I write them in my own words as a summary	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅	☐ ₆

SECTION 9: FURTHER QUESTIONS ABOUT YOU

Q49 Is your current English teacher female or male?

Female

Male

☐ ₁
☐ ₂

Q50 In general, how often do your parent(s):

(Please tick only one box in each row)

	<i>Never or hardly ever</i>	<i>A few times a year</i>	<i>About once a month</i>	<i>Several times a month</i>	<i>Several times a week</i>
a) discuss political or social issues with you?	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
b) discuss books, films or television programmes with you?	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
c) discuss how well you are doing at school?	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
d) eat dinner with you around the table?	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅
e) spend time just chatting to you?	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄	☐ ₅

Q51 My school is a place where:

(Please tick only one box in each row.)

	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly agree</i>
a) I feel included in things	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
b) I make friends easily	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
c) I feel like I belong	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
d) I feel safe	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
e) Other students seem to like me	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
f) I feel happy	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
g) I feel calm and relaxed	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
h) I rarely feel bored	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄

Q52 Have any of the following things happened to you over the past three months at school?

(Please tick only one box in each row.)

	<i>Not in the past three months</i>	<i>Yes, now and again</i>	<i>Yes, about once a week</i>	<i>Yes, about once a day</i>
a) I have been physically hurt, e.g. hit, kicked, or pushed around	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
b) I have been called nasty names, made fun of, or teased in a nasty way	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
c) I have been called nasty names or teased about my colour or racial background	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
d) I have been called nasty names or teased about my religion	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
e) Other students have left me out of things on purpose, excluded me from the group, or completely ignored me	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
f) Other students have told lies or spread rumours about me, and tried to make others dislike me	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
g) Other students have taken money or my personal belongings away, or have deliberately damaged my clothes or property	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
h) Other students have sent nasty text messages to me, or used mobile phones to get at me	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄

A student is being bullied when he or she is singled out in an unpleasant way, and is picked on again and again, by another student or group of students. For example, it is bullying when a student has nasty or unpleasant things said to him or her, or is hit, kicked, threatened, locked inside a room, sent nasty notes, or when no-one ever talks to him or her, and things like that. These things can happen often, and it may be difficult for the student being bullied to defend himself or herself.

Q53 How often have you been bullied at school in the past three months?

(Please tick only one box.)

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| I have not been bullied at school in the past three months | ☐ ₁ |
| It has happened now and again | ☐ ₂ |
| About once a week | ☐ ₃ |
| About once a day | ☐ ₄ |

Q54 If you have been bullied in the past three months, how long has it been going on for?

(Please tick only one box.)

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| I have not been bullied at school in the past three months | ☐ ₁ |
| 1 or 2 weeks | ☐ ₂ |
| About a month | ☐ ₃ |
| Between 2 and 6 months | ☐ ₄ |
| Between 6 and 12 months | ☐ ₅ |
| About a year | ☐ ₆ |
| 2 or more years | ☐ ₇ |

Q55 **If you have been bullied in the past three months, have you told anyone about it?**

(Please tick all that apply.)

- a) I have not been bullied at school in the past three months ☐ ₁
 - b) I have told one or more school friends ☐ ₁
 - c) I have told an adult at school ☐ ₁
 - d) I have told my parent(s) / guardian(s) ☐ ₁
 - e) I have told someone else *(please write who, below)* ☐ ₁
-
- f) I don't know if I told anyone ☐ ₁
 - g) I haven't told anybody ☐ ₁

Q56 **If you have been bullied in the past three months, where did you get bullied?**

(Please tick all that apply.)

- a) I have not been bullied at school in the past three months ☐ ₁
 - b) In the corridors ☐ ₁
 - c) In the schoolyard ☐ ₁
 - d) In the classroom ☐ ₁
 - e) In the school toilets ☐ ₁
 - f) In the changing rooms / showers at school ☐ ₁
 - g) Walking to or from school ☐ ₁
 - h) On the bus or train to or from school ☐ ₁
 - i) Somewhere else *(please write where, below)* ☐ ₁
-

SECTION 10: YOUR EDUCATIONAL CAREER

In this section you are being asked about different aspects of your experience at school.

Q57 Did you ever miss two or more consecutive months of primary school (First to Sixth class)?

(Please tick only one box.)

No, never ☐₁

Yes, once ☐₂

Yes, twice or more ☐₃

Q58 Did you ever miss two or more consecutive months of schooling at Junior Cycle (First to Third year)?

(Please tick only one box)

No, never ☐₁

Yes, once ☐₂

Yes, twice or more ☐₃

Q59 Did you change schools when you were attending primary school (First to Sixth class)?

(Please tick only one box)

No, I attended the same school from First to Sixth class ☐₁

Yes, I changed schools once ☐₂

Yes, I changed schools twice or more ☐₃

Q60 Did you change schools during Junior Cycle?

(Please tick only one box.)

No, I attended all of Junior Cycle at the same school ☐₁

Yes, I changed schools once ☐₂

Yes, I changed schools twice or more ☐₃

Q61 On how many days during the last ten school days were you absent from school?

(Please tick only one box. Do not include school-related work experience, school outings or public holidays.)

None ☐₁

One or two ☐₂

Three or four ☐₃

Five or more ☐₄

Q62 How long have you been in this school?

(Please tick only one box.)

Less than six months ☐₁

Between six and twelve months ☐₂

Between one and two years ☐₃

Between two and three years ☐₄

More than three years ☐₅

Q63 Which of the following do you expect to complete?

(Please tick as many as apply)

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| a) Junior Certificate | ☐ _1 |
| b) Leaving Cert. (Applied) | ☐ _1 |
| c) Leaving Cert. (General or Vocational) | ☐ _1 |
| d) Apprenticeship or secretarial course | ☐ _1 |
| e) NCEA or IT diploma or certificate course | ☐ _1 |
| f) University degree (e.g. BA, Ph.D.) | ☐ _1 |

Q64 Do you plan to stay at school until you have done the Leaving Cert. Exam?

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>Yes,
definitely</i> | <i>I'm not
sure</i> | <i>No</i> |
| ☐ _1 | ☐ _2 | ☐ _3 |

Q65 If you do not intend to do the Leaving Cert. Exam, please tick any of the reasons below which apply to you:

(Please tick as many boxes as apply.)

- a) I want to do an apprenticeship (e.g., electrician, hairdresser) ☐_1
- b) I'm not doing very well at school ☐_1
- c) I want to get a job to earn my own money ☐_1
- d) I don't like school ☐_1
- e) My teachers think that I should leave ☐_1
- f) My parent(s) think that I should leave ☐_1
- g) A lot of my friends are leaving school ☐_1
- h) The school doesn't offer the subjects or courses I want to do ☐_1
- i) Another reason (*please write it here:*) ☐_1

Q66 At which level do you plan to take English and Mathematics for the Leaving Cert.?

(Please tick one box in each row.)

	<i>Higher</i>	<i>Ordinary</i>	<i>Foundation</i>
a) English	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃
b) Mathematics	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃

Q67 Have you attended the following lessons outside of school time during primary school (First to Sixth class)?

*These are lessons **in subjects that you learned at school from First to Sixth class**, on which you spend extra time learning outside of normal school hours. The lessons might have been held at your primary school, at your home or somewhere else.*

(Please tick only one box in each row)

	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
a) Extra lessons or ‘grinds’ in a group to improve my grade in English	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
b) Extra lessons because of a learning difficulty in English	☐ ₁	☐ ₂
c) Private tutoring on a one-to-one basis in English and/or other subjects	☐ ₁	☐ ₂

Q68 In your last school report, what was your grade in English?

Q69 How many hours per week do you spend in paid work during term time?

None ☐ ₁

Up to 4 hours ☐ ₂

Between 4 and 8 hours ☐ ₃

More than 8 hours ☐ ₄

SECTION 11: AVAILABILITY OF ICT

The following questions relate to computers. Please note that calculators are excluded.

Q70 Are any of these available for you to use at home?

(Please tick one box in each row)

	<i>Yes, and I use it</i>	<i>Yes, but I don't use it</i>	<i>No</i>
a) Desktop computer	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃
b) Portable laptop or electronic notebook	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃
c) Internet connection	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃
d) Video games console, e.g. Sony PlayStation™	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃
e) Mobile phone	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃
f) Mp3/Mp4 player, iPod or similar	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃
g) Printer	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃
h) USB (memory) stick	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃
i) Webcam	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃
j) Digital Camera	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃

Q71 Are any of these available for you to use at school?

(Please tick one box in each row)

	<i>Yes, and I use it</i>	<i>Yes, but I don't use it</i>	<i>No</i>
a) Desktop computer	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃
b) Portable laptop or electronic notebook	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃
c) Internet connection	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃
d) Printer	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃
e) USB (memory) stick	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃

SECTION 12: GENERAL COMPUTER USE

Q72 **Have you ever used a computer?**

(Please tick only one box)

Yes

No

☐ ₁☐ ₂

If you answered Yes to the above question, please continue.

If you answered No, please stop here.

SECTION 13: USE OF ICT AT HOME

Q73 How often do you use a computer for the following activities at home?

(Please tick one box in each row)

	<i>Never or hardly ever</i>	<i>Once or twice a month</i>	<i>Once or twice a week</i>	<i>Every day or almost every day</i>
a) Play one-player games	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
b) Play multi-player online games	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
c) Do homework on the computer	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
d) Use e-mail	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
e) Chat instantly online (e.g. Windows Live Messenger®)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
f) Browse the Internet for fun (such as watching videos, e.g. YouTube™)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
g) Download music, films, games or software from the Internet	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
h) Publish and maintain a personal website, weblog or blog	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
i) Participate in online forums, virtual communities or spaces (e.g. Bebo© or MySpace™)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄

Q74 How often do you do the following at home?

(Please tick one box in each row)

	<i>Never or hardly ever</i>	<i>Once or twice a month</i>	<i>Once or twice a week</i>	<i>Every day or almost every day</i>
a) Browse the Internet for schoolwork (e.g. preparing an essay or presentation)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
b) Use e-mail for communication with other students about schoolwork	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
c) Use e-mail for communication with teachers and submission of homework or other schoolwork	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
d) Download, upload or browse material from your school's website (e.g. timetable or course materials)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
e) Check the school's website for announcements, e.g. list of school closures	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄

SECTION 14: USE OF ICT AT SCHOOL

Q75 How often do you use a computer for the following activities at school?

(Please tick one box in each row)

	<i>Never or hardly ever</i>	<i>Once or twice a month</i>	<i>Once or twice a week</i>	<i>Every day or almost every day</i>
a) Chat online at school	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
b) Use e-mail at school	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
c) Browse the Internet for schoolwork (e.g. preparing an essay or presentation)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
d) Download, upload or browse material from the school's website (e.g. intranet)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
e) Post your work on the school's website	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
f) Play simulations at school	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
g) Review basic skills (drill and practice) in areas such as foreign language learning or mathematics	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
h) Do individual homework on a school computer	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
i) Use school computers for group work and communication with other students	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄

Q76 In a typical school week, how much time do you spend using the computer during classroom lessons?

(Please tick one box in each row)

	<i>No time</i>	<i>0 – 30 minutes a week</i>	<i>31 – 60 minutes a week</i>	<i>More than 60 minutes a week</i>
a) Computer use in English lessons	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
b) Computer use in mathematics lessons	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
c) Computer use in science lessons	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
d) Computer use in foreign language lessons	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄

Q77 To what extent are you able to do each of these tasks on a computer?

(Please tick one box in each row)

	<i>I can do this very well by myself</i>	<i>I can do this with help from someone</i>	<i>I know what this means but I cannot do it</i>	<i>I don't know what this means</i>
a) Edit digital photographs or other graphic images	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
b) Create a database (e.g. using Microsoft Access®)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
c) Use a spreadsheet to plot a graph (e.g. using Microsoft Excel®)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
d) Create a simple presentation (e.g. using Microsoft PowerPoint®)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
e) Create a multi-media presentation (with sound, pictures, video) (e.g. using Microsoft PowerPoint®)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
f) Use software to find and get rid of computer virus	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
g) Construct or update a webpage	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
h) Use a spreadsheet to compute statistics such as totals and averages (e.g. using Microsoft Excel®)	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄

Q78 In a typical school week, how much time do you spend using the computer at school outside classroom lessons, e.g. in a school library or computer room?

(Please tick only one box)

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| a) I never use the computer at school outside classroom lessons | ☐ ₁ |
| b) About half an hour a week | ☐ ₂ |
| c) About an hour a week | ☐ ₃ |
| d) About two hours a week | ☐ ₄ |
| e) About three hours a week | ☐ ₅ |
| f) About four or more hours a week | ☐ ₆ |

SECTION 15: ATTITUDE TOWARD COMPUTERS

Q79 *Thinking about your experience with computers: To what extent do you agree with the following statements?*

(Please tick one box in each row)

	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly agree</i>
a) It is very important to me to work with a computer.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
b) I think playing or working with a computer is really fun.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
c) I use a computer because I am very interested.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄
d) I lose track of time when I am working with the computer.	☐ ₁	☐ ₂	☐ ₃	☐ ₄

Thank you very much for your co-operation in completing this questionnaire!