

# **PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PISA 2009**

## **(INTERNATIONAL OPTION)**

### **Main Survey**

**December 2008**

Core B Consortium

Cito Institute for Educational Measurement

University of Twente

University of Jyväskylä, Institute for Educational  
Research

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

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## **What is this questionnaire about?**

<The student who brought this questionnaire home> was selected to participate in the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), a research study which mainly focuses on the reading literacy of students who are 15 and 16 years old, but which also includes an assessment of mathematics and science. The study is organised by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and it surveys students from about 60 different countries.

In the PISA study, students are asked to answer questions that involve reading, scientific and mathematical literacy, and to provide information on their background, beliefs and opinions on issues that generally relate to reading, schooling and their careers. As part of the study, we are also surveying students' parents on a number of similar topics including:

- basic parent characteristics
- child's past reading engagement
- parents' own reading engagement
- home reading resources and support
- parents' background
- parents' perception of and involvement in school
- school choice.

The information you provide will be extremely valuable in building up a picture of how reading literacy develops in students and what influences its development.

## **When I am asked about <reading literacy>, what should I think about?**

We mean by this term 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.

## **Who should complete this questionnaire?**

This survey should be completed by a parent (or jointly by both parents) or other <primary caregiver> of the student. To make the wording of the questions simple, <the student who brought this questionnaire home> is often referred to as 'your child'.

We ask you to respond to all the questions you feel comfortable answering. There are no right or wrong answers and we assure you that your responses to this survey will be kept confidential.

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More information on the PISA study can be found on the Internet at  
<http://www.pisa.oecd.org/>

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## Section 1: Basic parent characteristics

### Q1 Who will complete this questionnaire?

*(Please tick all that apply)*

- a) Mother or other female guardian  <sub>1</sub>
- b) Father or other male guardian  <sub>1</sub>
- c) Other  <sub>1</sub>

*(If other, please specify)* \_\_\_\_\_

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## Section 2: Child's past reading engagement

**Q2** Did your child participate in <child care> before <ISCED 0>?

*(Please tick only one box)*

a) Yes

\_1

b) No

\_2

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**Q3** When your child attended the first year of <ISCED 1>, how often did you or someone else in your home undertake the following activities with her or him?

*(Please tick only 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) Read books	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
b) Tell stories	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
c) Sing songs	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
d) Play with alphabet toys (for example: blocks with letters of the alphabet)	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
e) Talk about things you had done	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
f) Talk about what you had read	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
g) Play word games	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
h) Write letters or words	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
i) Read aloud signs and labels	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>

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**Q4 In what language did most of the activities in Question 3 take place?**

*(Please tick only one box)*

a) <test language> <sub>1</sub>

b) Another language <sub>2</sub>

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## Section 3: Parent's own reading engagement

**Q5** When you are at home, how much time do you spend reading for your own enjoyment (e.g. magazines, comics, novels, fiction, non-fiction)?

*(Please tick only one box)*

- More than 10 hours a week <sub>1</sub>
- 6-10 hours a week <sub>2</sub>
- 1-5 hours a week <sub>3</sub>
- Less than one hour a week <sub>4</sub>

**Q6** How much do you agree or disagree with these statements about reading?

*(Please tick only one box in each row)*

- |  | <i>Strongly agree</i>                 | <i>Agree</i>                          | <i>Disagree</i>                       | <i>Strongly disagree</i>              |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a) Reading is one of my favourite hobbies        | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub> |
| b) I feel happy if I receive a book as a present | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub> |
| c) For me, reading is a waste of time            | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub> |
| d) I enjoy going to a bookstore or a library     | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub> |

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## Section 4: Home reading resources and support

**Q7 Which of the following are available to your child in your home?**

*(Please tick one box in each row)*

	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
a) Email	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>
b) <Chat on line> / <MSN®>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>
c) Internet connection	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>
d) Daily newspaper	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>
e) A subscription to a journal or magazine	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>
f) Books of his/her very own (do not count school books)	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>

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**Q8 How often do you or someone else in your home do the following things with your child?**

*(Please tick only 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) Discuss political or social issues	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
b) Discuss books, films or television programmes	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
c) Discuss how well your child is doing at school	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
d) Eat <the main meal> with your child around a table	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
e) Spend time just talking to your child	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
f) Go to a bookstore or library with your child	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
g) Talk with your child about what he/she is reading on his/her own	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
h) Help your child with his/her homework	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>

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## Section 5: Parent's background

*In this section we ask questions about the background of both the mother and the father of the <student who brought this questionnaire home>. These help us obtain better information about the family situation of the student.*

### **Q9 Does the child's father have any of the following qualifications?**

*(Please tick one box in each row)*

- |                        | <i>Yes</i>                            | <i>No</i>                             |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a) <ISCED level 5A, 6> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> |
| b) <ISCED level 5B>    | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> |
| c) <ISCED level 4>     | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> |
| d) <ISCED level 3A>    | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> |

### **Q10 Does the child's mother have any of the following qualifications?**

*(Please tick one box in each row)*

- |                        | <i>Yes</i>                            | <i>No</i>                             |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a) <ISCED level 5A, 6> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> |
| b) <ISCED level 5B>    | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> |
| c) <ISCED level 4>     | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> |
| d) <ISCED level 3A>    | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> |

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*We are interested in how much parents spend on educational services.*

**Q11 What is your annual household income?**

*Please add together the total income, before tax, from all members of your household.*

*Please remember we ask you to answer questions only if you feel comfortable doing so, and that all responses are kept **strictly confidential**.*

*(Please tick only one box)*

- |                                   |                             |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Less than <\$A>                   | <input type="checkbox"/> _1 |
| <\$A> or more but less than <\$B> | <input type="checkbox"/> _2 |
| <\$B> or more but less than <\$C> | <input type="checkbox"/> _3 |
| <\$C> or more but less than <\$D> | <input type="checkbox"/> _4 |
| <\$D> or more but less than <\$E> | <input type="checkbox"/> _5 |
| <\$E> or more                     | <input type="checkbox"/> _6 |

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**Q12** Please answer the following question thinking just of expenses related to <the student who brought this questionnaire home>.

**In the last twelve months, about how much would you have paid to educational providers for services?**

*In determining this, please include any tuition fees you pay to your child's school, any other fees paid to individual teachers in the school or to other teachers for any tutoring your child receives, as well as any fees for cram school.*

*Do **not** include the costs of goods like sports equipment, school uniforms, computers or textbooks if they are not included in a general fee (that is, if you have to buy these things separately).*

*(Please tick only one box)*

- |                                   |                          |   |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Nothing                           | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1 |
| <More than \$0 but less than \$W> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 |
| <\$W or more but less than \$X>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 |
| <\$X or more but less than \$Y>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 |
| <\$Y or more but less than \$Z>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 |
| <\$Z> or more                     | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6 |

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**Q13 How many children are there in your household (including <the student who brought this questionnaire home>)?**

*(Please tick only one box)*

One (i.e. <the student who brought this questionnaire home>) <sub>1</sub>

Two <sub>2</sub>

Three <sub>3</sub>

Four <sub>4</sub>

Five <sub>5</sub>

Six or more <sub>6</sub>

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**Section 6: Parent's perception of and involvement in school**

*We are interested in what you think about your child's school.*

**Q14 How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?**

*(Please tick only one box in each row)*

	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>
a) Most of my child's school teachers seem competent and dedicated	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
b) Standards of achievement are high in my child's school	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
c) I am happy with the content taught and the instructional methods used in my child's school	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
d) I am satisfied with the disciplinary atmosphere in my child's school	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
e) My child's progress is carefully monitored by the school	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
f) My child's school provides regular and useful information on my child's progress	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
g) My child's school does a good job in educating students	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>

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**Q15 The last <academic year>, have you participated in any of the following school-related activities?**

*(Please tick one box in each row)*

	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
a) Discuss your child's behaviour or progress with a teacher on your own initiative	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>
b) Discuss your child's behaviour or progress on the initiative of one of your child's teachers	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>
c) Volunteer in physical activities, e.g. building maintenance, carpentry, gardening or yard work	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>
d) Volunteer in extra-curricular activities, e.g. book club, school play, sports, field trip	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>
e) Volunteer in the school library or media centre	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>
f) <Assist a teacher in the school>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>
g) Appear as a guest speaker	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>
h) Participate in local school <government>, e.g. parent counsel or school management committee	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>

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## Section 7: School choice

*We are interested in the options you had as parents when choosing the school your child is currently attending.*

**Q16 Which of the following statements best describes the schooling available to students in your location?**

*(Please tick only one box)*

There are two more other schools in this area that compete with the school my child is currently attending <sub>1</sub>

There is one other school in this area that competes with the school my child is currently attending <sub>2</sub>

There are no other schools in this area that compete with the school my child is currently attending <sub>3</sub>

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**Q17 How important are the following reasons for choosing a school for your child?**

*(Please tick only one box in each row)*

	<i>Not important</i>	<i>Somewhat important</i>	<i>Important</i>	<i>Very important</i>
a) The school is at a short distance to home	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
b) The school has a good reputation	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
c) The school offers particular courses or school subjects	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
d) The school adheres to a particular <religious philosophy>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
e) The school has a particular pedagogical-didactical approach, e.g. <example>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
f) Other family members attended the school	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
g) <Expenses are low> (e.g. tuition, books, room and board)	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
h) The school has < financial aid> available, such as a school loan, scholarship, or grant	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
i) The school has an active and pleasant school climate	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
j) The academic achievements of students in the school are high	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
k) There is a safe school environment	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>

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