

Identification Label

<TIMSS National Research Center Name>
<Address>

Student ID: _____

Student Name: _____

IEA Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study

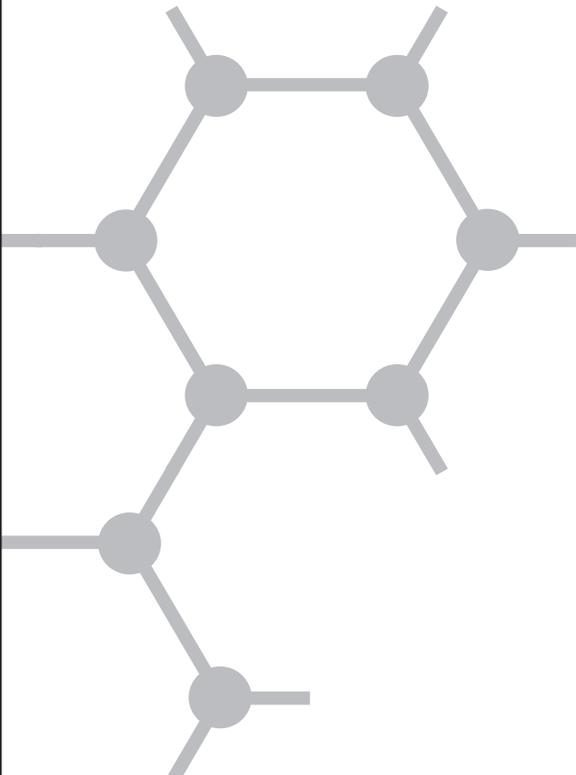
T I M S S

2003

Main Survey

**Student
Questionnaire**

<Grade 8>



General Directions

In this booklet, you will find questions about yourself. Some questions ask for facts while other questions ask for your opinions.

Read each question carefully and respond as accurately as possible. You may ask for help if you do not understand something or are not sure how to respond.

Some of the questions will be followed by a few possible choices indicated with a circle with a number in it. For these questions, shade in the circle with the response of your choice as shown in Examples 1, 2, and 3.

Example 1

Do you go to school?

Fill in **one** circle only

- Yes ●
- No ②

Example 2

How often do you do these things?

Fill in **one** circle for each line

- | | Every day | At least once a week | Once or twice a month | A few times a year | Never |
|---------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------|
| | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ |
| a) I listen to music | ① | ② | ● | ④ | ⑤ |
| b) I talk with my friends | ● | ② | ③ | ④ | ⑤ |
| c) I play sports | ① | ● | ③ | ④ | ⑤ |

Example 3

Indicate how much you agree with each of these statements.

Fill in **one** circle for each line

	Agree a lot	Agree a little	Disagree a little	Disagree a lot
	↓	↓	↓	↓
a) Watching movies is fun	①	●	③	④
b) I like eating ice cream	●	②	③	④

Read each question carefully, and pick the answer you think is best. Fill in the circle next to or below your answer. If you decide to change your answer, erase your first answer and then fill in the circle next to or under your new answer. Ask for help if you do not understand something or are not sure how to answer.

Thank you for your time, effort, and thought in completing this questionnaire.

About You

1

When were you born?

A. Fill in the circle next to the year you were born

Year

- ① 1985
- ② 1986
- ③ 1987
- ④ 1988
- ⑤ 1989
- ⑥ 1990
- ⑦ 1991
- ⑧ 1992
- ⑨ Other

B. Fill in the circle next to the month you were born

Month

- ① January
- ② February
- ③ March
- ④ April
- ⑤ May
- ⑥ June
- ⑦ July
- ⑧ August
- ⑨ September
- ¹⑩ October
- ¹⑪ November
- ¹⑫ December

2

Are you a girl or a boy?

Fill in **one** circle only

Girl ①

Boy ②

3

How often do you speak <language of test> at home?

*Fill in **one** circle only*

Always ①

Almost always ②

Sometimes ③

Never ④

4

About how many books are there in your home? (Do not count magazines, newspapers, or your school books.)

*Fill in **one** circle only*

None or very few
(0-10 books) ①

Enough to fill one shelf
(11-25 books) ②

Enough to fill one bookcase
(26-100 books) ③

Enough to fill two bookcases
(101-200 books) ④

Enough to fill three or more bookcases
(more than 200 books) ⑤

About You (Continued)

5

Do you have any of these items at your home?

Fill in **one** circle for each line

Yes No
↓ ↓

- a) Calculator ① ----- ②
- b) Computer (do not include PlayStation®, GameCube®, XBox®, or other TV/video game computers) --- ① ----- ②
- c) Study desk/table for your use ① ----- ②
- d) Dictionary ① ----- ②
- e) <country-specific> ① ----- ②

- f) <country-specific> ① ----- ②
- g) <country-specific> ① ----- ②
- h) <country-specific> ① ----- ②
- i) <country-specific> ① ----- ②
- j) <country-specific> ① ----- ②

- k) <country-specific> ① ----- ②
- l) <country-specific> ① ----- ②
- m) <country-specific> ① ----- ②
- n) <country-specific> ① ----- ②
- o) <country-specific> ① ----- ②
- p) <country-specific> ① ----- ②

6

A. What is the highest level of education completed by your mother (or stepmother or female guardian)?

Fill in **one** circle only

- Did not finish <ISCED 1> or did not go to school ①
- <ISCED 1> ②
- <ISCED 2> ③
- <ISCED 3> ④
- <ISCED 4B> ⑤
- <ISCED 5B> ⑥
- <ISCED 5A, first degree> ⑦
- Beyond <ISCED 5A, first degree> ⑧
- I don't know ⑨

B. What is the highest level of education completed by your father (or stepfather or male guardian)?

Fill in **one** circle only

- Did not finish <ISCED 1> or did not go to school ①
- <ISCED 1> ②
- <ISCED 2> ③
- <ISCED 3> ④
- <ISCED 4B> ⑤
- <ISCED 5B> ⑥
- <ISCED 5A, first degree> ⑦
- Beyond <ISCED 5A, first degree> ⑧
- I don't know ⑨

About You (Cont.)

7

How far in school do you expect to go?

*Fill in **one** circle only*

- Finish <ISCED 3> ①
- Finish <ISCED 4B> ②
- Finish <ISCED 5B> ③
- Finish <ISCED 5A, first degree> ④
- Beyond <ISCED 5A, first degree> ⑤
- I don't know ⑥

Mathematics in School

8

How much do you agree with these statements about learning mathematics?

Fill in **one** circle for each line

- | | Agree
a lot | Agree
a little | Disagree
a little | Disagree
a lot |
|---|----------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ |
| a) I usually do well in mathematics ----- | ① | ② | ③ | ④ |
| b) I would like to take more
mathematics in school ----- | ① | ② | ③ | ④ |
| c) Mathematics is more difficult for me
than for many of my classmates ----- | ① | ② | ③ | ④ |
| d) I enjoy learning mathematics ----- | ① | ② | ③ | ④ |
| e) Sometimes, when I do not initially
understand a new topic in
mathematics, I know that I will
never really understand it ----- | ① | ② | ③ | ④ |
| f) Mathematics is not one of
my strengths ----- | ① | ② | ③ | ④ |
| g) I learn things quickly in mathematics | ① | ② | ③ | ④ |

Mathematics in School (Cont.)

9

How much do you agree with these statements about mathematics?

Fill in **one** circle for each line

Agree a lot	Agree a little	Disagree a little	Disagree a lot
↓	↓	↓	↓

- a) I think learning mathematics will help me in my daily life ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- b) I need mathematics to learn other school subjects ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- c) I need to do well in mathematics to get into the <university> of my choice ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- d) I would like a job that involved using mathematics ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- e) I need to do well in mathematics to get the job I want ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④

How often do you do these things in your mathematics lessons?

Fill in **one** circle for each line

Every or almost every lesson	About half the lessons	Some lessons	Never
↓	↓	↓	↓

- a) We practice adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing without using a calculator ----- ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- b) We work on fractions and decimals ---- ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- c) We interpret data in tables, charts, or graphs ----- ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- d) We write equations and functions to represent relationships ----- ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- e) We work together in small groups ---- ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- f) We relate what we are learning in mathematics to our daily lives ----- ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- g) We explain our answers ----- ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- h) We decide on our own procedures for solving complex problems ----- ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- i) We review our homework ----- ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- j) We listen to the teacher give a lecture-style presentation ----- ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- k) We work problems on our own ----- ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- l) We begin our homework in class ----- ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- m) We have a quiz or test ----- ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- n) We use calculators ----- ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④

Science in School

11

How much do you agree with these statements about learning science?

Fill in **one** circle for each line

- | | Agree
a lot | Agree
a little | Disagree
a little | Disagree
a lot |
|---|----------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ |
| a) I usually do well in science | ① | ② | ③ | ④ |
| b) I would like to take more science
in school | ① | ② | ③ | ④ |
| c) Science is more difficult for me
than for many of my classmates | ① | ② | ③ | ④ |
| d) I enjoy learning science | ① | ② | ③ | ④ |
| e) Sometimes, when I do not initially
understand a new topic in science,
I know that I will never really
understand it | ① | ② | ③ | ④ |
| f) Science is not one of my strengths | ① | ② | ③ | ④ |
| g) I learn things quickly in science | ① | ② | ③ | ④ |

12

How much do you agree with these statements about science?

Fill in **one** circle for each line

Agree
a lot
↓

Agree
a little
↓

Disagree
a little
↓

Disagree
a lot
↓

- a) I think learning science will help me in my daily life ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- b) I need science to learn other school subjects ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- c) I need to do well in science to get into the <university> of my choice ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- d) I would like a job that involved using science ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- e) I need to do well in science to get the job I want ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④

Science in School (Cont.)

13

How often do you do these things in your science lessons?

Fill in **one** circle for each line

Every or almost every lesson	About half the lessons	Some lessons	Never
↓	↓	↓	↓

- a) We watch the teacher demonstrate an experiment or investigation ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- b) We formulate hypotheses or predictions to be tested ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- c) We design or plan an experiment or investigation ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- d) We conduct an experiment or investigation ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- e) We work in small groups on an experiment or investigation ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- f) We write explanations about what was observed and why it happened ---- ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- g) We study the impact of technology on society ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- h) We relate what we are learning in science to our daily lives ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- i) We present our work to the class ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- j) We review our homework ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- k) We listen to the teacher give a lecture-style presentation ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- l) We work problems on our own ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- m) We begin our homework in class ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④
- n) We have a quiz or test ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④

Computers

14

A. Do you ever use a computer? (Do not include PlayStation®, GameCube®, Xbox®, or other TV/video game computers).

Yes No
↓ ↓

Fill in **one** circle only ----- ① ----- ②

If **No**, please go to question **15** 

B. Where do you use a computer?

Fill in **one** circle for each line

Yes No
↓ ↓

- a) At home ----- ① ----- ②
- b) At school ----- ① ----- ②
- c) At a library ----- ① ----- ②
- d) At a friend's home ----- ① ----- ②
- e) At an Internet café ----- ① ----- ②
- f) Elsewhere ----- ① ----- ②

C. How often do you do these things with a computer?

Fill in **one** circle for each line

Every day At least once a week Once or twice a month A few times a year Never
↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓

- a) I look up ideas and information for mathematics ----- ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④ ----- ⑤
- b) I look up ideas and information for science ----- ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④ ----- ⑤
- c) I write reports for school ----- ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④ ----- ⑤
- d) I process and analyze data ----- ① ----- ② ----- ③ ----- ④ ----- ⑤

Your School

15

How much do you agree with these statements about your school?

Fill in **one** circle for each line

- | | Agree
a lot | Agree
a little | Disagree
a little | Disagree
a lot |
|---|----------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ |
| a) I like being in school | ① | ② | ③ | ④ |
| b) I think that students in my school
try to do their best..... | ① | ② | ③ | ④ |
| c) I think that teachers in my school
care about the students | ① | ② | ③ | ④ |
| d) I think that teachers in my school
want students to do their best | ① | ② | ③ | ④ |

16

In school, did any of these things happen during the last month?

Fill in **one** circle for each line

- | | Yes | No |
|---|-----|----|
| | ↓ | ↓ |
| a) Something of mine was stolen | ① | ② |
| b) I was hit or hurt by other student(s)
(e.g., shoving, hitting, kicking) | ① | ② |
| c) I was made to do things I didn't
want to do by other students | ① | ② |
| d) I was made fun of or called names | ① | ② |
| e) I was left out of activities by other
students | ① | ② |

Things You Do Outside of School

17

On a normal school day, how much time do you spend before or after school doing each of these things?

Fill in **one** circle for each line

	No time	Less than 1 hour	1-2 hours	More than 2 but less than 4 hours	4 or more hours
	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
a) I watch television and videos	①	②	③	④	⑤
b) I play computer games	①	②	③	④	⑤
c) I play or talk with friends	①	②	③	④	⑤
d) I do jobs at home	①	②	③	④	⑤
e) I work at a paid job	①	②	③	④	⑤
f) I play sports	①	②	③	④	⑤
g) I read a book for enjoyment	①	②	③	④	⑤
h) I use the internet	①	②	③	④	⑤
i) I do homework	①	②	③	④	⑤

...Outside of School (Cont.)

18

A. During this school year, how often have you had extra lessons or tutoring in mathematics that is not part of your regular class?

*Fill in **one** circle only*

- Every or almost every day ----- ①
- Once or twice a week ----- ②
- Sometimes ----- ③
- Never or almost never ----- ④

B. During this school year, how often have you had extra lessons or tutoring in science that is not part of your regular class?

*Fill in **one** circle only*

- Every or almost every day ----- ①
- Once or twice a week ----- ②
- Sometimes ----- ③
- Never or almost never ----- ④

19

A. How often does your teacher give you homework in mathematics?

*Fill in **one** circle only*

- Every day ①
- 3 or 4 times a week ②
- 1 or 2 times a week ③
- Less than once a week ④
- Never ⑤

*If **Never**, please go to question **20** *

B. When your teacher gives you mathematics homework, about how many minutes are you usually given?

*Fill in **one** circle only*

- Fewer than 15 minutes ①
- 15–30 minutes ②
- 31–60 minutes ③
- 61–90 minutes ④
- More than 90 minutes ⑤

...Outside of School (Cont.)

20

A. How often does your teacher give you homework in science?

*Fill in **one** circle only*

- Every day ①
- 3 or 4 times a week ②
- 1 or 2 times a week ③
- Less than once a week ④
- Never ⑤

*If **Never**, please go to question **21*** 

B. When your teacher gives you science homework, about how many minutes are you usually given?

*Fill in **one** circle only*

- Fewer than 15 minutes ①
- 15–30 minutes ②
- 31–60 minutes ③
- 61–90 minutes ④
- More than 90 minutes ⑤

More About You

21

Including yourself, how many people live in your home?

Fill in **one** circle only

- 2 ②
- 3 ③
- 4 ④
- 5 ⑤
- 6 ⑥
- 7 ⑦
- 8 or more ⑧

22

A. Was your mother (or stepmother or female guardian) born in <country>?

Yes No
↓ ↓

Fill in **one** circle only ① ②

B. Was your father (or stepfather or male guardian) born in <country>?

Yes No
↓ ↓

Fill in **one** circle only ① ②

More About You (Cont.)

23 _____

A. Were you born in <country>?

Yes No
↓ ↓

Fill in **one** circle only ----- ① ----- ②

If **Yes**, you have completed the questionnaire 

B. If you were not born in <country>, how old were you when you came to <country>?

Fill in **one** circle only

- Older than 10 years old ----- ①
- 5 to 10 years old ----- ②
- Younger than 5 years old ----- ③

Thank You

**for completing
this questionnaire**



TIMSS International Study Center
Boston College
Chestnut Hill, MA 02467

©IEA, Amsterdam (2002)

