

TIMSS & PIRLS 2011 Curriculum Questionnaire

GENERAL MODULE

To be completed by all countries participating
in TIMSS and/or PIRLS

1. What is your country's name for the grade(s) tested in TIMSS and PIRLS 2011, in English (e.g., grade 4, grade 8)?
2. In your country, what is the stated official policy or regulation on students' age of entry to primary school (ISCED Level 1)?

B. Has the stated official policy changed in the last 10 years?

Check one circle only.

Yes--- A

No--- A

If Yes....

C. How did the policy change, and when was the change made?

6. Does your country have a national curriculum for preprimary education (ISCED Level 0)?

Check one circle only.

Yes--- A

No--- A

If Yes....

A. Are language, reading, and writing skills part of the preprimary curriculum?

Check one circle only.

Yes--- A

No--- A

Please describe:

B. Is mathematics (e.g., counting, learning shapes) part of the preprimary curriculum?

Check one circle only.

Yes--- A

No--- A

Please describe:

C. Is science (e.g., nature study, weather) part of the preprimary curriculum?

Check one circle only.

Yes--- A

No--- A

Please describe:

7. Does your country have a policy on the promotion and retention of students across grades 5-8?

Example: "Automatic promotion for grades 5-8 dependent on academic progress for grades 6-8".

Check one circle only.

Yes--- A

No--- A

Please describe:

8.

9. What is the main preparation route(s) for teachers of students in the fourth grade?

Example: "Most teachers receive their education through a university degree program. Some have attended a teacher college program, but that is becoming less common".

A. According to the main teacher preparation route, what are the current requirements for being a teacher of students in the fourth grade?

Check one circle for each line.

- | | Yes | No |
|---|-----|----|
| a) Supervised practicum during the teacher education program-----
If Yes...
How long is this period? _____ | A | —A |
| b) Passing a qualifying examination (e.g., licensing, certification)----- | A | —A |
| c) Completion of a probationary teaching period-----
If Yes...
How long is this period? _____ | A | —A |
| d) Completion of a mentoring or induction program (e.g., experienced teachers work with novice teachers to provide instructional guidance)----- | A | —A |
| e) Other-----
Please specify: | | |

10. A. Does an educational authority in your country (e.g., National Ministry of Education) administer examinations in the following subjects that have consequences for individual students, such as entry to a higher school system, entry to a university, and/or exiting or graduating from secondary school?

Check one circle for each line.

B. Please describe the grades at which the exams are given and the purpose of each exam.

Example: "There is an exam including language and mathematics given at the end of grade 8 to determine placement for entry to secondary school."

C. Does your country have a national or regional policy to make accommodations for students with special needs taking national or regional tests?

Examples: "Providing materials in Braille for visually impaired students";
"Providing instructions in sign language for hearing impaired students"

Check one

D. If there are not exams, is there a similar process that has consequences for individual students?

Example: "Teacher recommendations"

11. Is there a national/regional policy to encourage parental involvement in the schools attended by fourth grade students?

Example: "Parents must be included in school governing bodies".

Check one circle only.

Yes--- A

No--- A

If Yes..

What is the policy?

If No...

Comments:

12. Is there a national/regional policy to encourage parental involvement in the schools attended by eighth grade students?

Check one circle only.

Yes, same as fourth grade

READING MODULE (PIRLS/PrePIRLS Module)

To be completed by all countries participating
in PIRLS

1. Does your country have a national curriculum that covers reading instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school?

Check one circle only.

Yes--- A

No--- A

If Yes...

Comments:

If No...

What is the highest level of decisionmaking authority (e.g., state or province) that provides a curriculum that covers reading instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school?

2. How is reading addressed in the curriculum?

Refers to the national curriculum that covers reading instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

Check one circle for each line.

- | | Yes | No |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| a) Reading is presented as part of the curriculum for language instruction----- | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| b) Reading is presented as a separate curricular area ----- | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| c) Reading is integrated across the curriculum----- | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Comments:

Question 3 pertains to the language/reading curriculum that was in effect for the students assessed in PIRLS 2011.

3. A. In what year was the language/reading curriculum introduced?

Refers to the national curriculum that covers reading instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

Comments:

B. Is the language/reading curriculum being revised?

Check one circle only.

Yes--- A

No--- A

If Yes..

Please explain:

If No...

Comments:

6. Is there a process for approving the textbooks used for language/reading instruction?

Check one circle only.

Yes--- A

No--- A

If Yes..

Please describe the process:

7. By the end of the fourth grade, how much are the following reading processes emphasized in the language/reading curriculum

Refers to the national curriculum that covers reading instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize your state or provincial curricula.

Check one circle for each line.

	Major emphasis	Some emphasis	Little or no emphasis
A. Focus on and retrieve explicitly stated information			
a) Retrieve explicitly stated information from a sentence or phrase-----	A	A	A
b) Locate and reproduce details from a clearly defined section of text-----	A	A	A
B. Make straightforward inferences			
a) Connect two or more pieces of information or ideas-----	A	A	A
b) Identify main ideas-----	A	A	A
c) Recognize plot sequences and character traits-----	A	A	A
C. Interpret and integrate ideas and information			
a) Describe the overall message or theme-----	A	A	A
b)			

8. How much emphasis does the language/reading curriculum place on the following purposes for reading?

Refers to the national curriculum that covers reading instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

Check one circle for each line.

Major
emphasis

Some
emphasis

Little
or no
emphasis



9. In what form is the language/reading curriculum made available?

Refers to the national curriculum that covers reading instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school for the majority of students. If you do not

10. Does the curriculum prescribe the percentage of total instructional time to be devoted to language reading instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school? (Include instruction or activities in reading, writing, speaking, literature, and other language skills)

Refers to the national curriculum that covers reading instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial

11. How is the language/reading curriculum implementation evaluated?

Refers to the national curriculum that covers reading instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

Check one circle for each line.

	Yes	No
a) Visits by inspectors/supervisors-----	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b) Research programs-----	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c) School self-evaluation-----	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d) National or regional assessments-----	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e) Other-----	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Please specify: _____		

Comments: