

Writing Teacher Questionnaire

**2011
Grade 8**

TEACHER QUESTIONNAIRE

GRADE 8 – WRITING

During the 2010–2011 school year, a sample of students across the country, including some of your eighth-grade students, will participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The current assessment focuses on achievement in reading, mathematics, science, and writing. To investigate the relationship between students' achievement and various school, teacher, and home factors, NAEP is also collecting information from schools and teachers.

This questionnaire collects information about teachers' backgrounds and instructional practices as they relate to students selected for the assessment. Since you teach writing to one or more students selected for the assessment, you are being asked to answer questions about these students' classes.

Obviously, only you can provide this important information. So, although we realize that you are very busy, we urge you to complete this questionnaire as accurately as possible. The information you provide is being collected for research purposes only and will be kept strictly confidential.

NAEP is authorized under Public Law 107–110. While your participation is voluntary, your responses to these questions are needed to make this survey accurate and complete.

Instructions

This questionnaire contains two parts.

Part I – Background, Education, and Training

Part II – Classroom Organization and Instruction–Writing

You should complete all parts. Please record your answers online, following the instructions on the front cover. If you do not have Internet access, please answer questions directly on this questionnaire by filling in the appropriate ovals.

If you do answer questions directly on this questionnaire, please return the questionnaire to your school's NAEP coordinator when you are finished.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

Writing Teacher Questionnaire – Grade 8

Part I: Background, Education, and Training

For some questions on this survey, you are asked to fill in numbers. For these questions, please print the appropriate number in each of the boxes provided. Please print legibly with a No. 2 pencil. Keep all printing within the boxes, and erase any stray marks.

Using one number per box, fill in every box. For example, 95 students would be written as:

0	9	5
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1. Are you Hispanic or Latino? Fill in **one or more ovals**.

VB331330

- Ⓐ No, I am not Hispanic or Latino.
- Ⓑ Yes, I am Mexican, Mexican American, or Chicano.
- Ⓒ Yes, I am Puerto Rican or Puerto Rican American.
- Ⓓ Yes, I am Cuban or Cuban American.
- Ⓔ Yes, I am from some other Hispanic or Latino background.

2. Which of the following best describes you? Fill in **one or more ovals**.

VB331331

- Ⓐ White
- Ⓑ Black or African American
- Ⓒ Asian
- Ⓓ American Indian or Alaska Native
- Ⓔ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

Questions 3–4. For the next two questions, include any full-time teaching assignments, part-time teaching assignments, and long-term substitute assignments, but not student teaching.

VB337243

3. Counting this year, how many years have you worked as an elementary or secondary teacher? If less than 4 months total experience, enter “00.”

Years

VB380355

4. Counting this year, how many years have you taught reading, writing, or language arts in grades 6 through 12? If less than 4 months total experience, enter “00.”

Years

VC309863

5. Did you enter teaching through an alternative certification program?

(An alternative program is a program that was designed to expedite the transition of non-teachers to a teaching career, for example, a state, district, or university alternative certification program.)

☐ Yes

☐ No

6. What type of teaching certificate do you hold in the state where you currently teach?

- ☐ Ⓐ Regular or standard state certificate or advanced professional certificate → *Skip to Question 8.*
- ☐ Ⓑ Certificate issued after satisfying all requirements except the completion of a probationary period → *Go to Question 7.*
- ☐ Ⓒ Certificate that requires some additional coursework, student teaching, or passage of a test before regular certification can be obtained → *Go to Question 7.*
- ☐ Ⓓ Certificate issued to persons who must complete a certification program in order to continue teaching → *Go to Question 7.*
- ☐ Ⓔ I do not hold any of the above certificates in the state where I currently teach. → *Go to Question 7.*

7. Do you hold a currently valid regular or standard certification from a state other than the one in which you are currently teaching?

- ☐ Ⓐ Yes
- ☐ Ⓑ No

8. This school year, are you a Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) according to your state's requirements?

(Generally, to be Highly Qualified, teachers must meet requirements related to 1) a bachelor's degree, 2) full state certification, and 3) demonstrate competency in the subject area(s) taught. The HQT requirement is a provision under the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act.)

- ☐ Ⓐ Yes
- ☐ Ⓑ I meet my state's requirements for a Highly Qualified Teacher in at least one subject that I teach.
- ☐ Ⓒ No



VC309891

9. Are you certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in at least one content area?

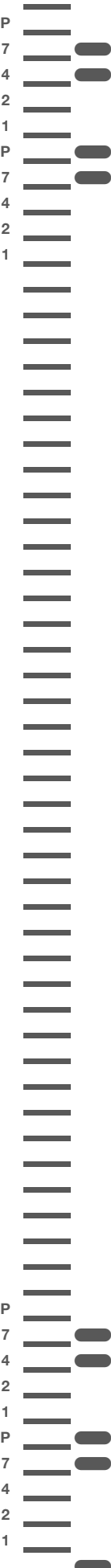
(The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards is a nongovernmental organization that administers National Board certification, a voluntary national assessment program that certifies teachers who meet high professional standards. In order to gain certification, the candidate must at least complete a portfolio of classroom practice and pass one or more tests of content knowledge.)

- Ⓐ Yes, I am fully certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.
- Ⓑ I am working towards my National Board certification.
- Ⓒ No

HE001012

10. What is the highest academic degree you hold?

- Ⓐ High school diploma
- Ⓑ Associate's degree/vocational certification
- Ⓒ Bachelor's degree
- Ⓓ Master's degree
- Ⓔ Education specialist's or professional diploma based on at least one year's work past master's degree
- Ⓕ Doctorate
- Ⓖ Professional degree (e.g., M.D., LL.B., J.D., D.D.S.)



11. Did you have a major, minor, or special emphasis in any of the following subjects as part of your **undergraduate** coursework? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Yes, a major	Yes, a minor or special emphasis	No	
a. Reading, language arts, or literacy education	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	VB378391
b. English	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	VB378392
c. Other language arts-related subject	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	VB378394
d. Elementary or secondary education	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	VB595189
e. Special education (including students with disabilities)	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	VE113515
f. English language learning	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	VE113516



VB345619

12. Did you have a major, minor, or special emphasis in any of the following subjects as part of your **graduate** coursework? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Yes, a major	Yes, a minor or special emphasis	No	
a. Reading, language arts, or literacy education	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VB378395
b. English	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VB378396
c. Other language arts-related subject	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VB378398
d. Elementary or secondary education	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VB595190
e. Special education (including students with disabilities)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VE113560
f. English language learning	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VE113562



13. Consider all of the professional development activities you participated in during the last **two years**. To what extent did you learn about each of the following topics? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	
a. How students learn English/ language arts	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VC310661
b. Content standards in English/ language arts	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VC310705
c. Curricular materials available in English/language arts (units, texts)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VC310706
d. Instructional methods for teaching English/language arts	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VC310707
e. Methods for assessing students in English/language arts	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VC310708
f. Preparation of students for district and state assessments	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VC310710
g. Strategies for teaching English/ language arts to students from diverse backgrounds (including English language learners)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VC310711



VB482598

14. During the last **two years**, did you participate in or lead any of the following professional development activities **related to the teaching of reading, writing, or literature**? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Yes	No	
a. College course taken after your first certification	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VB482599
b. Workshop or training session	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VB482600
c. Conference or professional association meeting	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VB482601
d. Observational visit to another school	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VB482642
e. Mentoring and/or peer observation and coaching as part of a formal arrangement	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VB482643
f. Committee or task force focusing on curriculum, instruction, or student assessment	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VB482644
g. Regularly scheduled discussion or study group	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VB482645
h. Teacher collaborative or network, such as one organized by an outside agency or over the Internet	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VB482646
i. Individual or collaborative research	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VB482647
j. Independent reading on a regular basis—for example, educational journals, books, or the Internet	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VB482648
k. Co-teaching/team teaching	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VB482649
l. Consultation with language arts specialist	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VB482650

**No, I am
already
proficient.**

No, I have not.

Yes

- a. Basic computer training
- b. Software applications
- c. Use of the Internet
- d. Use of other technology—for example, satellite access, wireless Web, interactive video, closed-circuit television, videoconferencing
- e. Integration of computers and other technology into classroom instruction

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VC191233

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VC191234

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VC191238

VB595191

16. Do you have special leadership responsibilities for reading or language arts education at your school—for example, responsibilities as a mentor teacher, lead teacher, resource specialist, departmental chair, or master teacher?

☒ A Yes

Ⓑ No

VC304724

17. During the last **two years**, have you participated in activities associated with school improvement efforts directed at issues such as adequate yearly progress and state accountability standards?

Ⓐ Yes

☐ No

Part II: Classroom Organization and Instruction – Writing

The following questions ask about the organization of your classroom for writing instruction. If you teach more than one eighth-grade class, please choose a single class to use as the basis for answering the questions about classroom organization.

1. To what extent do you use each of the following technological resources for writing instruction? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	
a. Desktop computer	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VE217586
b. Laptop computer	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VE217587
c. Tablet PC (notebook-like computer that allows users to write or draw through the use of a stylus or touch-screen)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VE217588
d. Digital projector (device that connects to a computer to display presentations or demonstrate lessons, such as an LCD)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VE217590
e. CD-ROM, DVD-ROM	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VE217591
f. Digital media device (e.g., pocket-sized music player, e-book reader, or other portable media player)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VE217593
g. Cable/satellite/closed-circuit television	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VE217594
h. Online content (e.g., online software, podcasts, or streaming videos)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VE217595



VE087389

2. Which statement best describes computer availability for your writing instruction?

- ☐ Ⓐ There is no computer for student use.
- ☐ Ⓑ There is one computer shared by all students.
- ☐ Ⓒ More than three students share one computer.
- ☐ Ⓓ Two or three students share one computer.
- ☐ Ⓔ Each student has a computer.

VE087398

3. Do you have access to the Internet when you teach writing to your students?

- ☐ Ⓐ Yes, always
- ☐ Ⓑ Yes, sometimes
- ☐ Ⓒ No

VE088134

4. How often do you ask your students to write for each of the following purposes?
Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never or hardly ever	A few times a year	Once or twice a month	At least once a week
a. Explain (e.g., provide information about a topic or steps in a process)	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓓ
b. Persuade (e.g., convince someone to do something)	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓓ
c. Convey experience (e.g., write about personal or imagined experiences)	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓓ

VE088137

VE088140

VE088141

5. How often do you ask your students to write to each of the following audiences? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

VE088048

	Never or hardly ever	A few times a year	Once or twice a month	At least once a week	
a. Family members	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VE088059
b. School officials	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VE088062
c. Other students	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VE088085
d. Community organizations, government officials, or businesses	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VE451443

6. How often do you ask your students to write the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

VE088149

	Never or hardly ever	A few times a year	Once or twice a month	At least once a week	
a. Informational essays	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VE112054
b. Letters	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VE088152
c. Speeches	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VE088154
d. Personal essays	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VE088155
e. Stories	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VE088156
f. Poems	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VE088157
g. Journal entries	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VE088158
h. Book reviews	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VE088160
i. Multi-step instructions	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VE088161

8. Overall, what percentage of your instructional time teaching writing is spent on each of the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

9. During the past two years, which describes your participation in workshops or training sessions on writing?

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10. During the past two years, have you written outside of school for publication or public presentation?

VE032921

☐ Yes

☐ No

11. How often do you ask your students to do the following when you ask them to write about something? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

VE088348

	Never or hardly ever	Sometimes	Very often	Always or almost always	
a. Use a computer for drafting and revising their writing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VE088361
b. Use a computer to complete writing that is started by hand	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VE088363
c. Use word processing tools to check spelling or use a dictionary or thesaurus	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VE088364
d. Use the Internet to get information for their writing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VE088366
e. Assess their own writing by using a specific rubric	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VE088371
f. Assess the writing of other students by using rubrics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VE088375

12. How often do you use computers as part of your delivery of classroom instruction to your students (excluding planning)?

VE088381

☐ Never or hardly ever

☐ Sometimes

☐ Very often

☐ Always or almost always

14. When grading/evaluating your students' writing, approximately what percentage of the grade/evaluation is based on each of the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

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