

Student Background Questionnaire

2000 Mathematics Grade 8

SECTION 1

Section 1

This section has 20 questions. Mark your answers in your booklet. Fill in only **one** oval for each question.

1. Which best describes you?

TB003001

- Ⓐ White (not Hispanic)
- Ⓑ Black (not Hispanic)
- Ⓒ Hispanic (“Hispanic” means someone who is from a Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or other Spanish or Hispanic background.)
- Ⓓ Asian or Pacific Islander (“Asian or Pacific Islander” means someone who is from a Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Filipino, Vietnamese, or other Asian or Pacific Island background.)
- Ⓔ American Indian or Alaskan Native (“American Indian or Alaskan Native” means someone who is from one of the American Indian tribes, or one of the original people of Alaska.)
- Ⓕ Other (specify) _____

2. If you are Hispanic, what is your Hispanic background?

TB003101

- Ⓐ I am not Hispanic.
- Ⓑ Mexican, Mexican American, or Chicano
- Ⓒ Puerto Rican
- Ⓓ Cuban
- Ⓔ Other Spanish or Hispanic background

3. How long have you lived in the United States?

LC000006

- Ⓐ All my life
- Ⓑ More than 5 years but not all my life
- Ⓒ 3-5 years
- Ⓓ Less than 3 years

4. How often do the people in your home speak a language other than English?

TB003201

- Ⓐ Never
- Ⓑ Sometimes
- Ⓒ Always

5. How far in school did your mother go?

TB003501

- Ⓐ She did not finish high school.
- Ⓑ She graduated from high school.
- Ⓒ She had some education after high school.
- Ⓓ She graduated from college.
- Ⓔ I don't know.

Section 1

6. How far in school did your father go?

TB003601

- Ⓐ He did not finish high school.
- Ⓑ He graduated from high school.
- Ⓒ He had some education after high school.
- Ⓓ He graduated from college.
- Ⓔ I don't know.

7. Does your family get a newspaper regularly?

TB000901

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No
- Ⓒ I don't know.

8. Is there an encyclopedia in your home?

TB000903

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No
- Ⓒ I don't know.

9. Are there more than 25 books in your home?

TB000904

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No
- Ⓒ I don't know.

10. Does your family get any magazines regularly?

TB000905

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No
- Ⓒ I don't know.

11. How much television do you usually watch each day?

TB001801

- Ⓐ None
- Ⓑ 1 hour or less
- Ⓒ 2 hours
- Ⓓ 3 hours
- Ⓔ 4 hours
- Ⓕ 5 hours
- Ⓖ 6 hours or more

12. How much time do you usually spend on homework each day?

TB006601

- Ⓐ I don't usually have homework assigned.
- Ⓑ I have homework but I don't usually do it.
- Ⓒ 1/2 hour or less
- Ⓓ 1 hour
- Ⓔ More than 1 hour



TB001101

13. About how many pages a day do you have to read in school and for homework?

- Ⓐ More than 20
- Ⓑ 16-20
- Ⓒ 11-15
- Ⓓ 6-10
- Ⓔ 5 or fewer

TS004001

14. How many days of school did you miss last month?

- Ⓐ None
- Ⓑ 1 or 2 days
- Ⓒ 3 or 4 days
- Ⓓ 5 to 10 days
- Ⓔ More than 10 days

HE000712

15. Within the past two years, how many times have you changed schools because you changed where you lived?

- Ⓐ None
- Ⓑ 1
- Ⓒ 2
- Ⓓ 3 or more

HE000717

16. How often do you discuss things you have studied in school with someone at home?

- Ⓐ Almost every day
- Ⓑ Once or twice a week
- Ⓒ Once or twice a month
- Ⓓ Never or hardly ever

HE002795

17. How often do you use a computer at home for schoolwork?

- Ⓐ Almost every day
- Ⓑ Once or twice a week
- Ⓒ Once or twice a month
- Ⓓ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓔ There is no computer at home.

ID110020

18. Do you use the Internet at home?

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No

HE002541

19. How safe do you feel at school?

- Ⓐ Very safe
- Ⓑ Somewhat safe
- Ⓒ Somewhat unsafe
- Ⓓ Very unsafe

Section 1

QK070697

20. How much education do you think you will complete?

- Ⓐ I will not finish high school.
- Ⓑ I will graduate from high school.
- Ⓒ I will have some education after high school.
- Ⓓ I will graduate from college.
- Ⓔ I will go to graduate school.
- Ⓕ I don't know.



SECTION 2

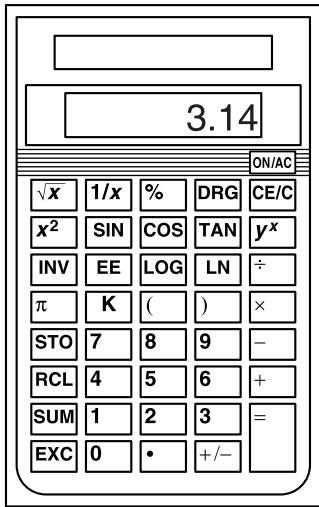
Section 2

This section has 10 questions. Mark your answers in your booklet. Fill in only **one** oval for each question.

UH000080

1. When you do mathematics in school, how often do you do each of the following? Fill in only **one** oval on each line.

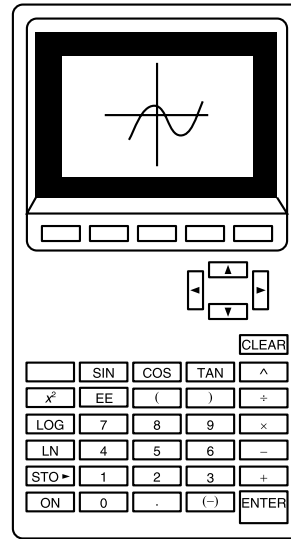
	Almost Every Day	Once or Twice a Week	Once or Twice a Month	Never or Hardly Ever	
a. Do mathematics problems from textbooks	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	TM810101
b. Solve mathematics problems with a partner or in small groups	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	HE002478
c. Work with measuring instruments or geometric solids	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	TM810104
d. Write a few sentences about how you solved a mathematics problem	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	TM810109
e. Talk with other students during class about how you solved mathematics problems	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	QK070695
f. Use a computer	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	TM810106
g. Use a calculator	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	TM810105



HE002484

2. A calculator like the one shown above is a scientific calculator. It has keys with labels Y^x , LN , π , COS . Do you use a scientific calculator for your mathematics schoolwork?

- ☐ A Yes
- ☐ B No



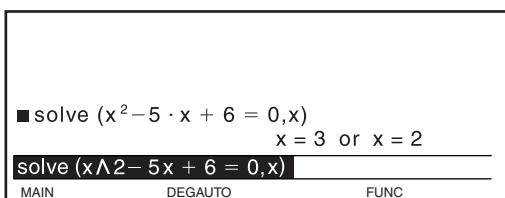
HE002485

3. A calculator like the one shown above is a graphing calculator. It can draw a graph in the viewing window. Do you use a graphing calculator for your mathematics schoolwork?

- ☐ A Yes
- ☐ B No

SECTION 2

Section 2



ID110100

4. A calculator that can do what is shown above is called a symbol manipulator or a computer algebra system. It can work with algebraic expressions directly, and it also has all the functions of graphing calculators. Do you use a symbol manipulator for your mathematics schoolwork?

- (A) Yes
(B) No

LC000518

5. For mathematics class, how often do you use a calculator for each of the following activities? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Almost Every Day	Once or Twice a Week	Once or Twice a Month	Never or Hardly Ever	
a. Classwork	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	LC000519
b. Homework	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	LC000520

Section 2

QK070698

6. How often does your teacher let you use a calculator for tests or quizzes?

- Ⓐ Always
- Ⓑ Sometimes
- Ⓒ Never

QK070701

7. What mathematics class are you taking this year?

- Ⓐ Eighth-grade mathematics
- Ⓑ Prealgebra
- Ⓒ First-year algebra
- Ⓓ Geometry
- Ⓔ Second-year algebra
- Ⓕ Integrated or sequential mathematics
- Ⓖ Other mathematics class

QK070700

8. What mathematics class do you expect to take in ninth grade?

- Ⓐ Basic, general, business, or consumer mathematics
- Ⓑ Applied mathematics (technical preparation)
- Ⓒ Prealgebra
- Ⓓ First-year algebra
- Ⓔ Geometry
- Ⓕ Second-year algebra
- Ⓖ Integrated or sequential mathematics
- Ⓗ Other mathematics class
- Ⓘ I don't know.

QK070705

9. About how much time do you usually spend each **day** on mathematics homework?

- Ⓐ None
- Ⓑ 15 minutes
- Ⓒ 30 minutes
- Ⓓ 45 minutes
- Ⓔ One hour
- Ⓕ More than one hour



10. How much do you agree with each of the following statements? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	
a. I like mathematics.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	TM810701
b. I am good at mathematics.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	LD001476
c. I understand most of what goes on in mathematics class.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	HE000369
d. There is only one correct way to solve a mathematics problem.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	LD001473
e. Learning mathematics is mostly memorizing facts.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	HE000631
f. Mathematics is useful for solving everyday problems.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	TM810705
g. All students can do well in mathematics if they try.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	QK070699



SECTION 6

Section 6

This section has 3 questions. Mark your answers in your booklet. Fill in only **one** oval for each question.

QK070694

1. How hard did you try on this test?

- ☐ Ⓐ Much harder than on other mathematics tests
- ☐ Ⓑ Harder than on other mathematics tests
- ☐ Ⓒ About as hard as on other mathematics tests
- ☐ Ⓓ Not as hard as on other mathematics tests

LD001718

2. How important was it to you to do well on this mathematics test?

- ☐ Ⓐ Very important
- ☐ Ⓑ Important
- ☐ Ⓒ Somewhat important
- ☐ Ⓓ Not very important

ID110144

3. How strongly do you agree with the following statements? Fill in only **one** oval on each line.

- | | Strongly
Agree | Agree | Disagree | Strongly
Disagree | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| a. Doing well in school is a goal of most students in my class. | <input type="radio"/> Ⓐ | <input type="radio"/> Ⓑ | <input type="radio"/> Ⓒ | <input type="radio"/> Ⓓ | ID110146 |
| b. To keep up with my friends, I have to work hard at my schoolwork. | <input type="radio"/> Ⓐ | <input type="radio"/> Ⓑ | <input type="radio"/> Ⓒ | <input type="radio"/> Ⓓ | ID110147 |

