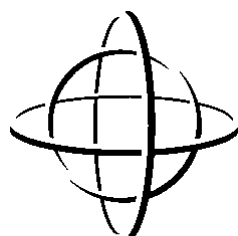

PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PISA 2006

Main Study

December 2005



**OECD
PISA**

OECD Programme for International Student Assessment
Monitoring Knowledge and Skills in the New Millennium

Project Consortium:

Australian Council for Educational
Research (ACER)

Netherlands National Institute for
Educational Measurement (CITO)

Educational Testing Service (ETS)

National Institute for Educational Policy
Research (NIER, Japan)

Westat

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 scientific literacy of students who are 15 and 16 years old, but which also includes an assessment of mathematics and reading. 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 scientific, mathematical, and reading literacy, and to provide information on their background, beliefs and opinions on issues that generally relate to science, schooling and their careers. As part of the study, we are also surveying students' parents on a number of similar topics including:

- the student's past science activities
- parents' views on the student's school
- science in the student's intended career and the need for scientific knowledge and skills in the job market
- parents' views on science and the environment
- the cost of education services
- parents' education and occupation.

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

When I am asked about 'science', what should I think about?

For the purpose of this questionnaire, science refers to the skills and knowledge acquired in subjects like physics, chemistry and biology.

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.

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

Q1 Who will complete this questionnaire?

(Please tick all that apply.)

- a) Mother or other female guardian ₁
- b) Father or other male guardian ₁
- c) Other ₁

(If other, please specify)

YOUR CHILD'S PAST SCIENCE ACTIVITIES

Please answer this question with reference to <the student who brought this questionnaire home>.

Q2 Thinking back to when your child was about 10 years old, how often would your child have done these things?

(Please tick only one box in each row.)

	<i>Very often</i>	<i>Regularly</i>	<i>Sometimes</i>	<i>Never</i>
a) Watched TV programmes about science	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
b) Read books on scientific discoveries	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
c) Watched, read or listened to science fiction	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
d) Visited web sites about science topics	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
e) Attended a science club	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL

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

Q3 How much do you agree 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"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
b) Standards of achievement are high in my child's school	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
c) I am happy with the content taught and the instructional methods used in my child's school	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
d) I am satisfied with the disciplinary atmosphere in my child's school	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
e) My child's progress is carefully monitored by the school	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
f) My child's school provides regular and useful information on my child's progress	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
g) My child's school does a good job in educating students	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

SCIENCE IN YOUR CHILD'S CAREER AND THE JOB MARKET

We would like to hear your views on the need for science in the job market today. We are also interested in your child's career and educational aspirations – particularly those related to science.

Q4 We are interested in what you think about the need for science skills in the job market today.

How much do you agree 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) It is important to have good scientific knowledge and skills in order to get any good job in today's world	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
b) Employers generally appreciate strong scientific knowledge and skills among their employees	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
c) Most jobs today require some scientific knowledge and skills	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
d) It is an advantage in the job market to have good scientific knowledge and skills	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

Q5 The following questions refer to **<science-related careers>**. A <science-related career> is one that requires studying science at tertiary level (e.g. university). So, careers like engineer (involving physics), weather forecaster (involving Earth science), optician (involving biology and physics), and medical doctors (involving the medical sciences) are all examples of <science-related careers>.

Please answer the questions below.

(Please tick only one box in each row.)

- | | <i>Yes</i> | <i>No</i> |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a) Does anybody in your family (including you) work in a <science-related career>? | <input type="checkbox"/> ₁ | <input type="checkbox"/> ₂ |
| b) Does your child show an interest in working in a <science-related career>? | <input type="checkbox"/> ₁ | <input type="checkbox"/> ₂ |
| c) Do you expect your child will go into a <science-related career>? | <input type="checkbox"/> ₁ | <input type="checkbox"/> ₂ |
| d) Has your child shown interest in studying science after completing <secondary school>? | <input type="checkbox"/> ₁ | <input type="checkbox"/> ₂ |
| e) Do you expect your child will study science after completing <secondary school>? | <input type="checkbox"/> ₁ | <input type="checkbox"/> ₂ |

YOUR VIEWS ON SCIENCE

Science is an important part of the PISA study. We are interested in parents' opinions on science and on environmental issues.

Q6 The following question asks about your views towards science.

How much do you agree 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) Advances in <broad science and technology> usually improve people's living conditions	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
b) <Broad science> is important for helping us to understand the natural world	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
c) Some concepts in <broad science> help me to see how I relate to other people	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
d) Advances in <broad science and technology> usually help improve the economy	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
e) There are many opportunities for me to use <broad science> in my everyday life	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
f) <Broad science> is valuable to society	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
g) <Broad science> is very relevant to me	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
h) I find that <broad science> helps me to understand the things around me	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
i) Advances in <broad science and technology> usually bring social benefits	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

Q7 Do you see the environmental issues below as a serious concern for yourself and/or others?

(Please tick only one box in each row.)

	<i>This is a serious concern for me personally as well as others</i>	<i>This is a serious concern for other people in my country but not me personally</i>	<i>This is a serious concern only for people in other countries</i>	<i>This is not a serious concern for anyone</i>
a) Air pollution	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
b) Energy shortages	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
c) Extinction of plants and animals	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
d) Clearing of forests for other land use	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
e) Water shortages	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
f) Nuclear waste	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

Q8 Do you think problems associated with the environmental issues below will improve or get worse over the next 20 years?

(Please tick only one box in each row.)

	<i>Improve</i>	<i>Stay about the same</i>	<i>Get worse</i>
a) Air pollution	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
b) Energy shortages	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
c) Extinction of plants and animals	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
d) Clearing of forests for other land use	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
e) Water shortages	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
f) Nuclear waste	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃

THE COST OF EDUCATION SERVICES

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

Q9 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.)

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Less than < \$W > | <input type="checkbox"/> | ₁ |
| < \$W or more but less than \$X > | <input type="checkbox"/> | ₂ |
| < \$X or more but less than \$Y > | <input type="checkbox"/> | ₃ |
| < \$Y or more but less than \$Z > | <input type="checkbox"/> | ₄ |
| < \$Z > or more | <input type="checkbox"/> | ₅ |

PARENTS' 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.

Q10 How old are the child's parents?

(Please tick one box in each column.)

	<i>Father</i>	<i>Mother</i>
Younger than 36 years	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
36 – 40 years	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
41 – 45 years	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
46 – 50 years	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
51 years or older	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅

Q11a What is the main job of the child's father? (e.g. school teacher, kitchen-hand, sales manager)

(If he is not working now, please tell us his last main job.)

Please write in the job title. _____

Q11b What does the child's father do in his main job? (e.g. teaches high school students, helps the cook prepare meals in a restaurant, manages a sales team)

Please use a sentence to describe the kind of work he does or did in that job.

Q12 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"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
b) <ISCED level 5B>	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
c) <ISCED level 4>	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
d) <ISCED level 3A>	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂

Q13a What is the main job of the child's mother? (e.g. school teacher, kitchen-hand, sales manager)

(If she is not working now, please tell us her last main job.)

Please write in the job title. _____

Q13b What does the child's mother do in her main job? (e.g. teaches high school students, helps the cook prepare meals in a restaurant, manages a sales team)

Please use a sentence to describe the kind of work she does or did in that job.

Q14 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"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
b) <ISCED level 5B>	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
c) <ISCED level 4>	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
d) <ISCED level 3A>	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂

Q15 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 |

Thank you very much for completing and returning this questionnaire.