

Background Questionnaire for Reading Skills

1. Gender

- Male
- Female

2. Subject(s) Studied

3. Age

- Under 21
- 21-30
- 31+

4. When did you start to learn English?

- Before age 4
- Between 4 and 10
- After age 10

5. What language did you have most of your secondary education in?

6. Do you SPEAK any other language(s) as well as, or almost as well as, (or better than) English? (list ALL languages you speak so well)

- No
 - Yes, (list ALL languages you speak so well): _____
-

7a. If you answered 'No' in question 6:

Could you READ a newspaper in any language other than English?

- No
 - Yes, I could read a newspaper in this/these language(s): _____
-

7b. If you answered 'Yes, in question 6:

Compared to other university-educated readers of this language, what do you think of your READING skills in the language(s) you indicated?

Language: _____

- Above average
- Average
- Below average
- Can't read/read poorly

Language: _____

- Above average
- Average
- Below average
- Can't read/read poorly

8. Compared to other university students at your level and in your country, what do you think of your English READING skills?

- Above average
- Average
- Below average

9. When did your mother finish formal education?

- Age 14 or under
- Age 15-16
- Completed secondary education (17-19)
- Some post-school education/training
- Completed university degree

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10. When did your father finish formal education?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Age 14 or under | <input type="checkbox"/> Some post-school education/
training |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Age 15-16 | <input type="checkbox"/> Completed university degree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Completed secondary education (17-19) | |

Leisure reading

11. In an average week in term time, what sort of paper material do you read, apart from university textbooks, etc.? (Tick everything that applies)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> One or more novels | <input type="checkbox"/> Newspapers, magazines |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-fiction books | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____(specify) |

12. In an average week in term time, how much time do you spend on leisure reading from the paper sources you mentioned?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 3.5 hours (30 min a day) | <input type="checkbox"/> 15-21 hours |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3.5-7 hours | <input type="checkbox"/> More than 21 hours |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8-14 hours | |

13. In an average week in term time, what sort of Internet material do you read, apart from university textbooks, etc.? (Tick everything that applies)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Internet fiction | <input type="checkbox"/> Internet news |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Internet non-fiction | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____(specify) |

14. In an average week in term time, how much time do you spend on leisure reading from the Internet sources you mentioned?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 3.5 hours (30 min a day) | <input type="checkbox"/> 15-21 hours |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3.5-7 hours | <input type="checkbox"/> More than 21 hours |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8-14 hours | |

15. In vacation time, do you do more or less leisure reading than in term time?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Twice as much or more | <input type="checkbox"/> Between the same amount and
half as much |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Between the same amount and twice
as much | <input type="checkbox"/> Half as much or less |
| <input type="checkbox"/> About the same | |

16. Is your vacation reading the same sort of thing as your term-time reading?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No _____(specify) | |

Study reading

17. In an average week in term time, how much time do you spend on study reading?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 3.5 hours (30 min a day) | <input type="checkbox"/> 15-21 hours |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3.5-7 hours | <input type="checkbox"/> More than 21 hours |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8-14 hours | |

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18. How much of the assigned reading for your university course do you usually manage to read?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All | <input type="checkbox"/> Everything that is compulsory |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Only parts of the compulsory reading | <input type="checkbox"/> Very little |

19. If you manage to read less than 'all', why don't you read 'all'? (tick all possible reasons)

- I would like to read more but I haven't time.
- I can't absorb/understand any more than I am doing.
- I would like to read more but the reading is too boring.
- What I am reading is enough.
- Other _____(specify)