

# Appendix B

## Characteristics of the Items in the PIRLS 2011 Assessment

**Appendix B.1: Distribution of Assessment Items by Reading Purposes, Reading Processes, and Item Format**

PIRLS Assessment Items	Multiple-choice Items	Constructed-response Items	Total Items	Percentage of Score Points
<b>Reading Purpose</b>				
Literary Experience	40 (40)	32 (50)	72 (90)	52%
Acquire and Use Information	34 (34)	29 (50)	63 (84)	48%
Total	74 (74)	61 (100)	135 (174)	100%
Percentage of Score Points	43%	57%		
<b>Reading Process</b>				
Focus on and Retrieve Explicitly Stated Information	21 (21)	12 (17)	33 (38)	22%
Make Straightforward Inferences	33 (33)	13 (16)	46 (49)	28%
Interpret and Integrate Ideas and Information	10 (10)	28 (55)	38 (65)	37%
Examine and Evaluate Content, Language, and Textual Elements	10 (10)	8 (12)	18 (22)	13%
Total	74 (74)	61 (100)	135 (174)	100%
Percentage of Score Points	43%	57%		

SOURCE: IEA's Progress in International Reading Literacy Study – PIRLS 2011

prePIRLS Assessment Items	Multiple-choice Items	Constructed-response Items	Total Items	Percentage of Score Points
<b>Reading Purpose</b>				
Literary Experience	31 (31)	32 (36)	63 (67)	50%
Acquire and Use Information	26 (26)	34 (41)	60 (67)	50%
Total	57 (57)	66 (77)	123 (134)	100%
Percentage of Score Points	43%	57%		
<b>Reading Process</b>				
Focus on and Retrieve Explicitly Stated Information	23 (23)	34 (37)	57 (60)	45%
Make Straightforward Inferences	22 (22)	13 (14)	35 (36)	27%
Interpret and Integrate Ideas and Information/Examine and Evaluate Content, Language, and Textual Elements	12 (12)	19 (26)	31 (38)	28%
Total	57 (57)	66 (77)	123 (134)	100%
Percentage of Score Points	43%	57%		

Because of rounding some results may appear inconsistent. Score points are shown in parentheses.



