

TIMSS 2011 Scoring Training Sessions

Each TIMSS 2011 constructed-response item has a unique scoring guide. For items that are relatively straightforward to score, with limited scoring categories and possible student response patterns, a scoring guide is provided without additional training. However, a select number of constructed-response items—those that are more challenging or complex to score—are chosen for scoring training.

In preparation for the main data collection scoring training, some scoring guides were further refined or clarified based on the results of the field test. This also included a thorough review of the scoring training materials to ensure that the student responses were still suitable for the updated scoring guides. In some cases, example and practice sets used in the field test were expanded to further illustrate particular aspects of a scoring guide, using student responses that were retained from the English-speaking students before the field test. For the TIMSS 2011 assessments, the example and practice paper sets for training items used in TIMSS 2007 (trend items) were combined with the sets for the TIMSS 2011 field test items selected for TIMSS 2011, resulting in 24 example and practice paper sets for fourth grade and 35 for eighth grade.

To provide training for all the countries participating in TIMSS, the TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center conducted three training sessions. First, consistent with the earlier assessment schedule for the Southern Hemisphere participants, the National Research Coordinators (NRCs) for Southern Hemisphere countries and their scoring supervisors received scoring training in November 2010 in Wellington, New Zealand. NRCs for Northern Hemisphere countries and their scoring supervisors received scoring training in March 2011 in Bangkok, Thailand as part of the 6th TIMSS 2011 NRC Meeting, and a make-up training session held in May 2011 in Valletta, Malta for countries unable to attend the Bangkok meeting.

TIMSS 2011 Scoring Training Materials

Number of Constructed-response Items	Fourth Grade	Eighth Grade
Mathematics	82	99
Science	74	102

Number of Training Items	Fourth Grade	Eighth Grade
Mathematics	11	19
Science	13	16

Number of Example and Practice Papers per Training Item	Fourth Grade		Eighth Grade	
	Example	Practice	Example	Practice
Mathematics	4-9	8-13	4-12	6-14
Science	6-11	8-12	7-11	7-15

TIMSS 2011 Scoring Training Participation

Participants	Southern Hemisphere	Northern Hemisphere	Make-up Session
Number of Countries	9	55	5
Number of Benchmarking Entities	—	5	—
Number of Country Representatives	23	122	38