

PIRLS 2021

20 Years of PIRLS

Transitioning to digitalPIRLS: Preparing for the Field Test



Ina V.S. Mullis and Michael O. Martin

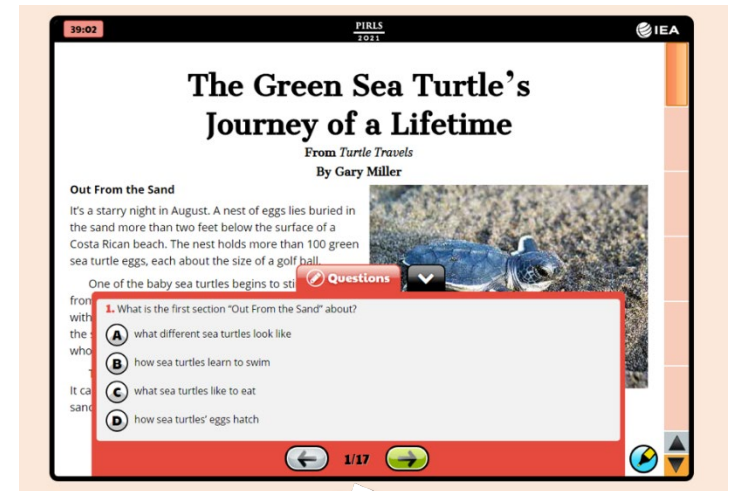
IEA General Assembly
Ljubljana, Slovenia

October 8-11, 2019

Participation Options in PIRLS 2021

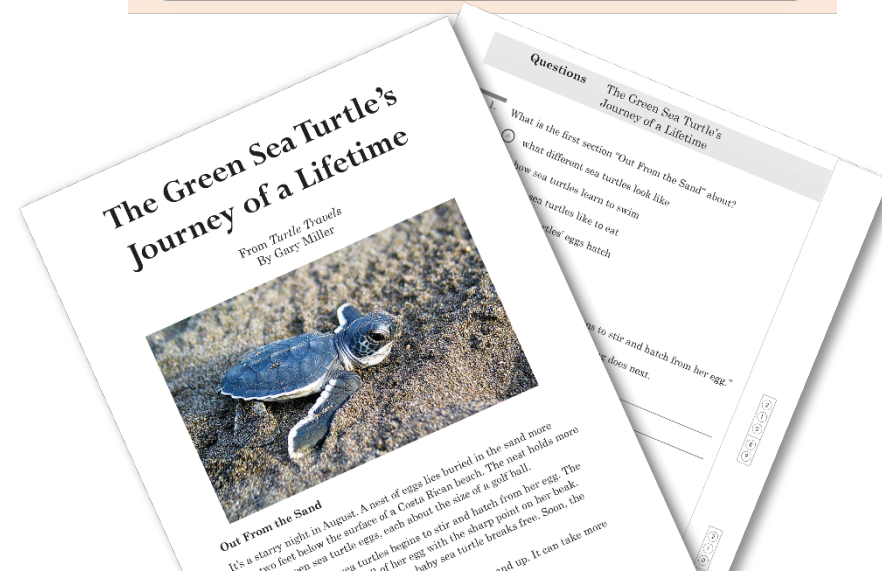
digitalPIRLS

- Literary and informational passages in digital format
- ePIRLS online informational reading operationally integrated as part of digitalPIRLS



paperPIRLS

- Literary and informational passages in paper format



Countries Planning to Participate

Albania
Australia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Bahrain
Belgium (Fl.)
Belgium (Fr.)
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Brazil
Bulgaria
Canada
Chile
Chinese Taipei
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Egypt
England
Finland
France

Georgia
Germany
Hong Kong SAR
Hungary
Iran
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Kazakhstan
Kosovo
Kuwait
Latvia
Lithuania
Macao SAR
Malta
Montenegro
Morocco
Netherlands
New Zealand
North Macedonia
Northern Ireland

Norway
Oman
Poland
Portugal
Qatar
Romania
Russian Federation
Saudi Arabia
Serbia
Singapore
Slovak Republic
Slovenia
South Africa
Spain
Sweden
United Arab Emirates
United States
Uzbekistan

Benchmarking Participants

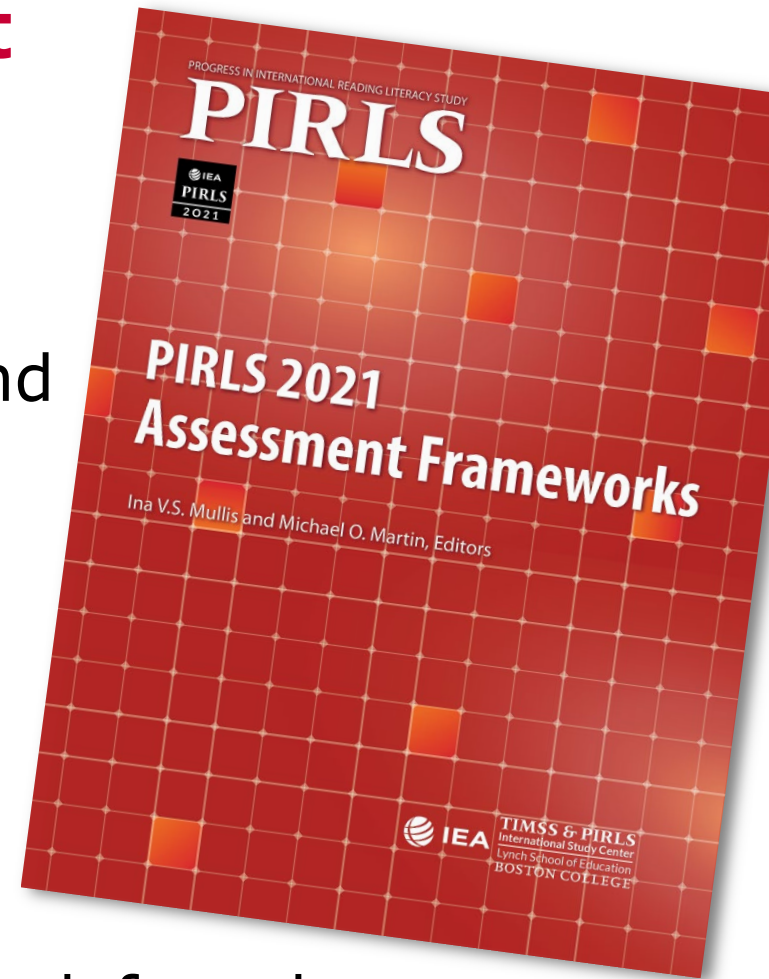
Ontario, Canada
Quebec, Canada
Denmark 3rd grade
Moscow City, Russia
South Africa 5th grade
Abu Dhabi, UAE
Dubai, UAE

Digital – 32 + 6
Paper – 28 + 1

60 countries planning to participate

PIRLS 2021 Assessment Frameworks

- Published online April 30, 2019
- Chapter 1: Reading purposes and comprehension processes to be assessed by PIRLS 2021
- Chapter 2: Aspects of the educational context to be addresses by PIRLS context questionnaires
- Chapter 3: Assessment Design - deferred

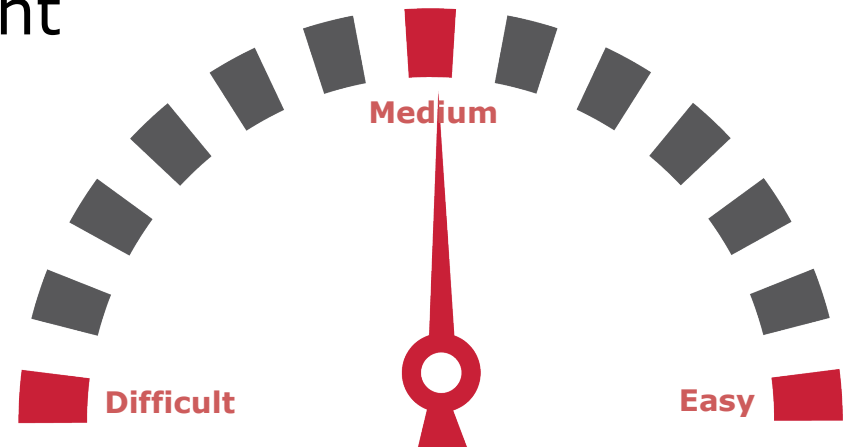


Enhancing the PIRLS 2021 Design

- Group Adaptive Approach

- Expand the range of assessment difficulty
- Better align with achievement of our student populations
- Aim for three levels of passage difficulty

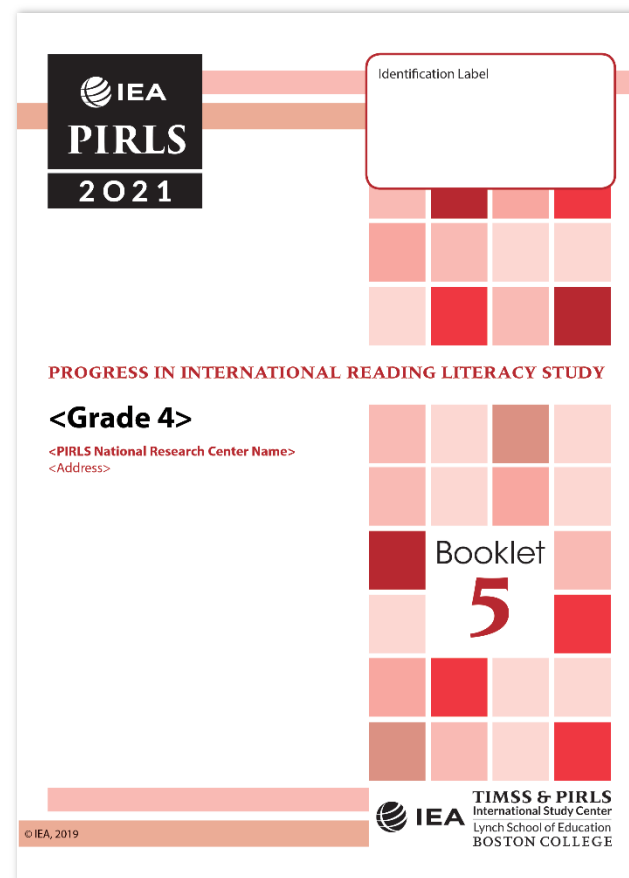
– **Difficult, Medium, Easy**



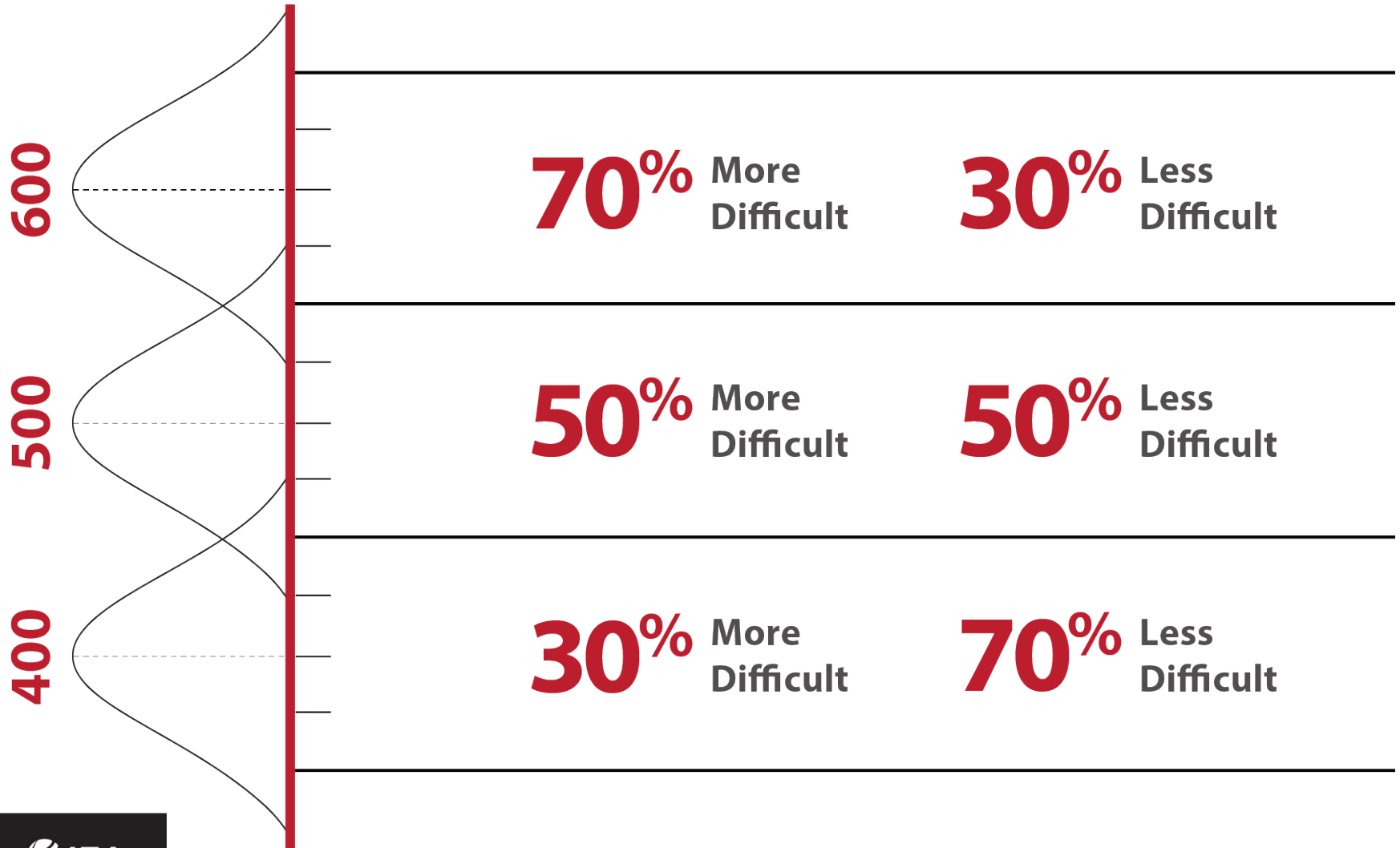
- Combine into two levels of booklet difficulty
 - 9 More Difficult booklets (Difficult and Medium passages)
 - 9 Less Difficult booklets (Medium and Easy passages)

Group Adaptive Approach –cont.

- All countries take all 18 booklets, but in varying proportions
- Higher performing countries
 - Proportionally more of the more difficult booklets
- Lower performing countries
 - Proportionally more of the less difficult booklets
- Goal is better match between assessment difficulty and student achievement in each country

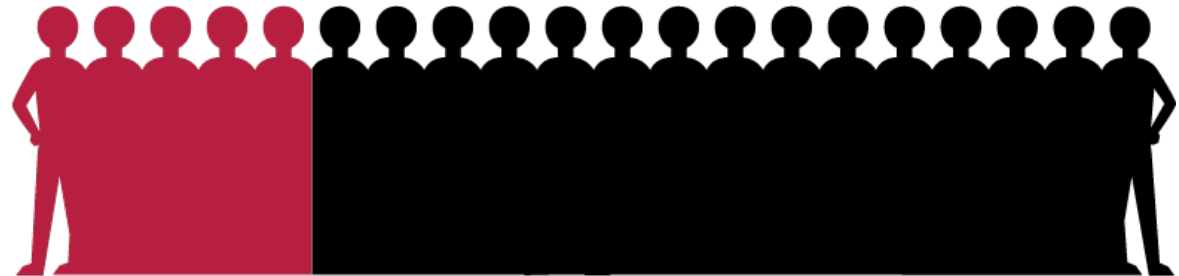


Adapting the Assessment



Advantages of Group Adaptive Design

- Better measurement at all levels
- All countries participate in the same assessment (no need for PIRLS Literacy)
- Better descriptions of reading at all levels
- More student engagement
- Less student frustration
- Possibility of targeting subpopulations

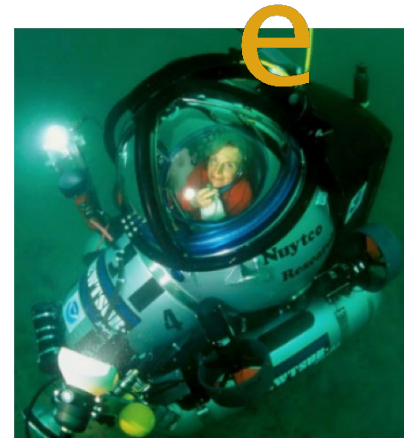


Developing Field Test Passages

- Since Last General Assembly

Design requires 6 new passages, so field test 12

- Developed storyboards for 12 passages (Sep-Oct)
 - Liked by NRCs; Address assessment framework
- RDG online review of the 12 passages
 - Needed more passages with women as main characters
- RDG working group, October 2018, Boston
 - Incorporated RDG feedback
 - Considered 2 ePIRLS tasks
- *Oceans* storyboards and *Silk Road* idea



Excellent support from RDG - Reading Development Group

- Australia – Julian Fraillon
- Denmark – Jan Mejding
- England – Liz Twist
- France – Marc Colmant
- Russian Federation – Galina Zukerman
- Singapore – Elizabeth Pang
- Spain – Veronica Diez Girado
- Sweden – Jenny Wiksten Folkyrd
- United Arab Emirates – Latifa Alfalasi
- United States – Karen Wixson

Reading Passages and Items

At 2nd NRC meeting Taipei City, Dec. 2018

- Reviewed 18 passages; ePIRLS *Oceans* task; ePIRLS *Silk Road* task idea
- Selected 16 passages for item writing
 - Deleted *Baby Flamingo* and *Kon Tiki*
- Drafted items – 126 NRCs and item writing specialists
 - 607 PIRLS items
 - 22 ePIRLS items – *Oceans* task

Reading Passages and Items

- Jan – Mar 2019: updated passages/drafted items
 - *Penguins, Everest, and Shadowy Figure* did not support enough items
 - Resulting in 13 passages and items for internal review
 - Added three voyage websites to *Silk Road*
- RDG Working Group, Boston, March 2019
 - Reviewed 13 passages and items
 - Reviewed *Oceans* task and items
 - Worked on *Voyages* - deleted silk road website; added to *Space* website and wrote items

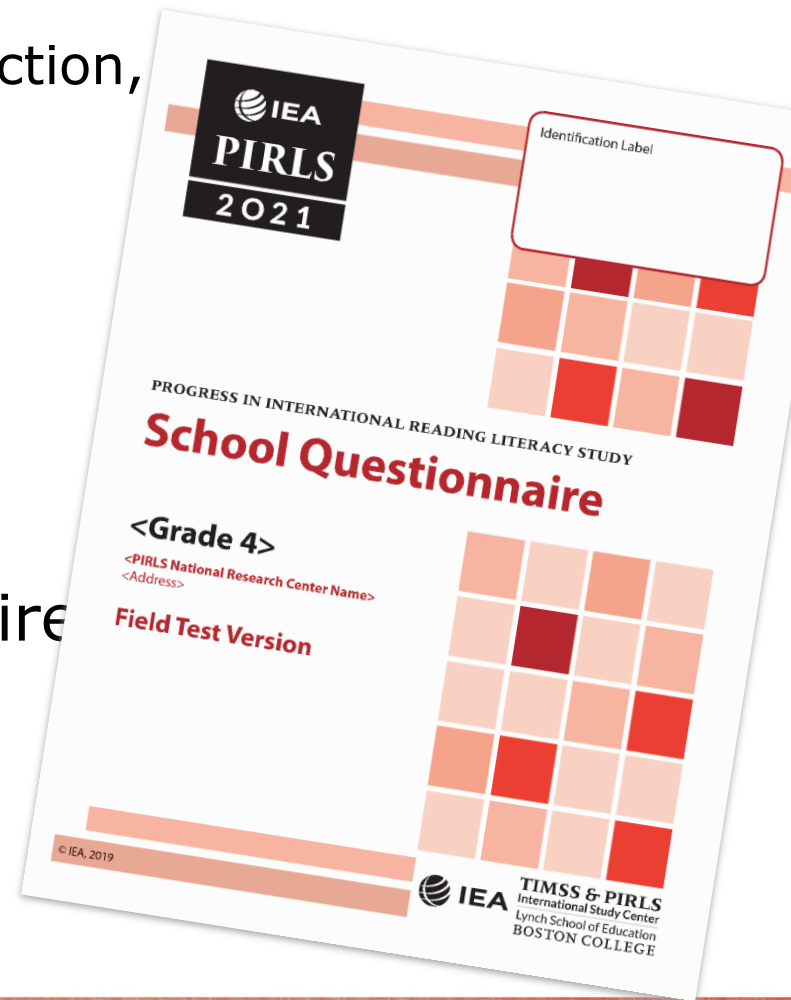


Reading Passages and Items

- Implemented revisions from Working Group for RDG review
- 2nd RDG Meeting, Dubai, U.A.E., April 2019
 - Reviewed and revised 13 passages and items
 - Reviewed and revised 2 ePIRLS tasks and items, *Oceans* and *Voyages*
 - Reviewed new assessment design
- Implement revisions from RDG meeting
- Posted 13 passages and items, 2 ePIRLS tasks and items for review at 3rd NRC meeting, Rome

Developing Context Questionnaires

- Updated questionnaires for PIRLS 2021
 - More emphasis on reading instruction, especially in a digital context
- Questionnaire Development Group (QDG) reviewed draft questionnaires
 - 1st meeting, Liege, Feb 2019
- Then, revised draft questionnaire for NRC review at 3rd meeting, Rome



Excellent support from QDG - Questionnaire Development Group

- Belgium (French) – Anne Matoul
- Chinese Taipei – Hwa Wei Ko
- Finland – Kaisa Leino
- Oman – Fathiya Mohammed Amur Al Mawali
- New Zealand – Megan Chamberlain
- South Africa – Surette von Staden
- United States – Bridget Dalton

New Direction for digitalPIRLS eAssessment Platform

Since June 2019,

- digitalPIRLS, including ePIRLS, has been implemented on SoNET's Assessment Master web platform
- PIRLS International Team has been working well with SoNET on the field test instruments



3rd NRC Meeting – Rome, June 2019

Preparing for PIRLS 2021 field test:

- Reviewed passages, items, and scoring guides for PIRLS and ePIRLS
- Reviewed proposed questionnaires – parent, student, teacher, principal
- Reviewed operational procedures – sampling, translation, administration, data management
- Introduced to SoNet assessment system
 - Web-based delivery

Finalizing the Field Test Instruments – June to Sept.

- Incorporated NRC suggestions to passages, items, ePIRLS tasks, and questionnaires
- Worked with SoNet to import the field test instruments into their assessment system
- Produced paperPIRLS versions of the field test instruments
- September 5 – Distributed field test materials to countries to begin translation and verification

Visually Attractive and Engaging Passages

- Matching digital and paper formats
- Literary passages – variety of stories
 - Contemporary, fables, historical events, biography
- Informational passages – variety of content and ideas
 - Science, environmental issues, personal experiences



Looking Ahead

- Prepare training materials for scoring field test constructed responses
 - English-speaking countries collecting example responses – Sep-Oct 2019
 - RDG Working Group – Nov 2019



Field Test March-April 2020

- Conduct field test scoring training
 - 4th NRC meeting, Belgrade, Serbia, March 2020

Looking Ahead (cont.)

Review field test results and
finalize assessment instruments

- TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center, June 2020
- 3rd RDG meeting, Paris, July 2020
- 2nd QDG meeting, Hamburg, July 2020
- 5th NRC meeting, Warsaw, August 2020



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