

**1999 European Election Study  
English Questionnaire -- Final Draft**

19 May 1999

1a. (EES89 & EES94--modified) What do you think are the most important problems facing <Britain>? Any other important problems? [INT: note as many problems as R mentions. If R starts telling stories, ask to summarize in one or two words.]

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98 dk GO TO 2

99 na GO TO 2

1b. *If more than one problem mentioned:* Of those you have mentioned what would you say is the single most important problem?

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98 dk GO TO 2

99 na GO TO 2

1c. Which political party do you think is most likely to do what you want to be done on <the most important problem>? [PARTY LIST B]

1 party A

2 party B

...

10 other party

11 none of the parties

98 dk

99 na

1d. (EES94) As of today, is <the most important issue> mainly dealt with by regional, national, or European political authorities?

1 regional

2 national

3 European

8 dk

9 na

1e. (EES94) And who do you think would be most appropriate to deal with <the most important issue>: regional, national, or European political authorities?

1 regional

2 national

3 European

8 dk

9 na

2. (Normally, ) How many days of the week do you watch the news on television?

0

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8 dk

9 na

3. Which channels or television news programmes do you watch regularly? [open, precoded answering categories] code all responses

1 BBC 9 o clock news

2 BBC 6 o clock (early evening) news

3 BBC lunchtime news

4 ITN 6.30 news (ITV's main evening news programme)

5 ITN 11.00 pm news (late news headlines)

6 *ITN lunchtime news*

7 *Channel Four News at 7pm*

8 *Channel Five News (anytime)*

9 *BBC2's Newsnight (daily programme at 10.30pm)*

10 *SKY News (anytime)*

11 *Local news*

12 *Other*

98 *dk*

99 *na*

4. (Normally,) How many days of the week do you read a newspaper?

0

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8 *dk*

9 *na*

5. Which newspaper or newspapers do you read regularly? [open, precoded answering categories] code all responses

1 *Telegraph*

2 *Times*

3 *Guardian*

4 *Financial Times*

5 *Independent*

6 Mail

7 Express

8 Sun

9 Mirror

10 Star

11 LOCAL NEWSPAPER

12 OTHER

98 dk

99 na

6. How much attention do you pay to news about politics? A lot, some, a little, or none?

1 a lot

2 some

3 a little

4 none

8 dk

9 na

7. How much attention do you pay to news about the economy?

1 a lot

2 some

3 a little

4 none

8 dk

9 na

8. How much attention do you pay to news about social problems, such as education, health care, etc. ?

1 a lot

2 some

3 a little

4 none

8 dk

9 na

9. How much attention do you pay to news about Europe?

1 a lot

2 some

3 a little

4 none

8 dk

9 na

10. (EES89&EES94, somewhat modified) A lot of people abstained in the European Parliament elections of June XX [adapt if workday voting] while others voted. Did you cast your vote?

1 yes, voted

2 no, did not vote

8 dk

9 na

11. (EES89&EES94) Which party did you vote for? [PREPARE PARTY LIST A]

1 party A

2 party B

...

9 other party

10 did vote blank or nil

98 dk

99 na

12. Do you happen to know which party gained the most votes here in <Britain> in these past European Parliament elections?

1 party A

2 party B

...

97 other party

98 dk

99 na

13. (EES() & EES94-modified answering scale) How often did you do any of the following during the three or four weeks before the European election? How often did you:

a. watch a program about the election on television? Often, sometimes, or never?

1 often

2 sometimes

3 never

8 dk

9 na

b. read a newspaper report about the election?

1 often

2 sometimes

3 never

8 dk

9 na

c. talk to friends or family about the election?

1 often

2 sometimes

3 never

8 dk

9 na

d. attend a public meeting or rally about the election?

1 often

2 sometimes

3 never

8 dk

9 na

e. look into a website concerned with the election?

1 often

2 sometimes

3 never

8 dk

9 na

14. (EES89) Thinking back to just before the elections for the European Parliament were held, how interested were you in the campaign for those elections: very, somewhat, a little, or not at all?

1 very

2 somewhat

3 a little

4 not at all

8 dk

9 na

15. (EES89) Some say all <British> members of the European Parliament should co-operate closely - regardless of their party affiliation. Others say the <British> members of the European Parliament should seek close co-operation with other Members of Parliament of similar political orientations - regardless of their country of origin. Which of the two statements is closer to your views?

1 all of the same country should co-operate

2 all of similar orientations should co-operate

8 dk

9 na

16. (EES89&EES94) If there were <elections to the House of Commons> tomorrow, which party would you vote for?# [PREPARE PARTY LIST B]

1 party A

2 party B

...

9 other party

10 would vote blank or nil

11 would not vote

98 dk

99 na

# vote= first preference vote in Ireland.

17. (EES89&EES94) Which party did you vote for at the <elections to the House of Commons> of [year of last elections to the House of Commons]?# [PARTY LIST B]

1 party A

2 party B

...

9 other party

10 did vote blank or nil

11 did not vote

98 dk

99 na

# if General Elections were held concurrently with European Elections, concurrent GE are meant; vote = first preference vote in Ireland.

18a. (EES89&EES94) We have a number of parties in <Britain> each of which would like to get your vote. How probable is it that you will ever vote for the following parties? Please specify your views on a 10-point-scale where 1 means "not at all probable" and 10 means "very probable". If you think of the Labour Party: what mark out of ten best describes how probable it is that you will ever vote for the Labour Party?

1 not at all probable

2

...

9

10 very probable

98 dk

99 na

18b. And the Conservative Party: what mark out of ten best describes how probable it is that you will ever vote for the Conservative Party?

1 not at all probable

2



...

9

10 very probable

98 dk

99 na

18c. The Liberal Democrats?

1 not at all probable

2

...

9

10 very probable

98 dk

99 na

18d. The Greens?

1 not at all probable

2

...

9

10 very probable

98 dk

99 na

18e: The British National Party?

1 not at all probable

2

...

9

10 very probable

98 dk

99 na

18f: The SNP, the Scottish Nationalist Party in Scotland?

1 not at all probable

2

...

9

10 very probable

98 dk

99 na

18g: Plaid Cymru, the Welsh Nationalist Party in Wales?

1 not at all probable

2

...

9

10 very probable

98 dk

99 na

19a. We would like to ask you about a number of topics that are often discussed such as European integration, immigration, the economy, unemployment or the environment. Thinking of European integration, is this compared to other important topics in <Britain> a topic of great importance, some importance, little importance or no importance at all?

1 great importance

2 some importance

3 little importance

4 no importance at all

8 dk

9 na

19b. And thinking of immigration, is that compared to other important topics <in Britain> of great importance, some importance, little importance or no importance at all?

1 great importance

2 some importance

3 little importance

4 no importance at all

8 dk

9 na

19c. How about the <British> economy?

1 great importance

2 some importance

3 little importance

4 no importance at all

8 dk

9 na

19d. And, finally, thinking of the environment, compared to other important topics in <Britain> is this a topic of ... ?

1 great importance

2 some importance

3 little importance

4 no importance at all

8 dk

9 na

20a. Coming back to European integration, whose job is it primarily to deal with the question of European integration: is it primarily the job of the <British government>, of the European Union, of some other branch of government,\* or is it not a job for government at all?

1 the < British government >

2 the European Union

3 other government branch

4 not a job for government

8 dk

9 na

[\* such as government agencies at other levels, administrative authorities, or the like.]

20b. Whose job is it primarily to deal with the question of immigration?

1 the < British government >

2 the European Union

3 other government branch

4 not a job for government

8 dk

9 na

20c. The <British> economy? Whose job is it?

1 the < British government >

2 the European Union

3 other government branch

4 not a job for government

8 dk

9 na

20d. And the environment?

1 the < British government >

2 the European Union

3 other government branch

4 not a job for government

8 dk

9 na

21a. Coming back once again to European integration, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the current policy in <Britain>? Are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied or very dissatisfied ?

1 very satisfied

2 somewhat satisfied

3 somewhat dissatisfied

4 very dissatisfied

8 dk

9 na

21b. And how about immigration, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the current policy in <Britain>: are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied or very dissatisfied?

1 very satisfied

2 somewhat satisfied

3 somewhat dissatisfied

4 very dissatisfied

8 dk

9 na

21c. How about the state of the <British> economy?

1 very satisfied

2 somewhat satisfied

3 somewhat dissatisfied

4 very dissatisfied

8 dk

9 na

21d. The environment?

1 very satisfied

2 somewhat satisfied

3 somewhat dissatisfied

4 very dissatisfied

8 dk

9 na

22. (EES89 & EES94) In political matters people talk of "the left" and "the right". What is your position? Please indicate your views using any number on a 10-point-scale. On this scale, where 1 means "left" and 10 means "right," which number best describes your position?

1 left

2

...

9

10 right

97 refused

98 dk

99 na

22a. And about where would you place the following parties on this scale? How about party A?  
[PARTY LIST C]

1 left

2

...

9

10 right

98 dk

99 na

22b: party B?

1 left

2

...

9

10 right

98 dk

99 na

22c: party C?

1 left

2

...

9

10 right

98 dk

99 na

22d: party D?

1 left

2

...

9

10 right

98 dk

99 na

22e: party E?

1 left

2

...

9

10 right

98 dk

99 na

22f: party F?

1 left

2

...

9

10 right

98 dk

99 na

22g: party G?

1 left

2

...

9

10 right

98 dk

99 na

23 (EES89 & EES94) Generally speaking, do you think that <Britains> membership of the European Union is a good thing, a bad thing, or neither good nor bad?

1 good thing

2 bad thing

3 neither

8 dk

9 na

24 (old EBs) Are you, personally, prepared or not to make some personal sacrifice, for example paying a little more taxes, to help another country in the EU experiencing economic difficulties?

1 yes

2 no

8 dk

9 na

25 Some say European unification should be pushed further. Others say it already has gone too far. What is your opinion? Please indicate your views using a 10-point-scale. On this scale, 1 means unification 'has already gone too far' and 10 means it 'should be pushed further'. What number on this scale best describes your position?

1 unification has already gone too far

2

...

9

10 unification should be pushed further

98 dk

99 na



99 na

25a And about where would you place the views of the following parties on this scale? How about party A? [PARTY LIST C]

1 unification has already gone too far

2

...

9

10 unification should be pushed further

98 dk

99 na

25b And where would you place party B on this scale?

1 unification has already gone too far

2

...

9

10 unification should be pushed further

98 dk

99 na

25c Party C?

1 unification has already gone too far

2

...

9

10 unification should be pushed further

98 dk

99 na

25d Party D?

1 unification has already gone too far

2

...

9

10 unification should be pushed further

98 dk

99 na

25e Party E?

1 unification has already gone too far

2

...

9

10 unification should be pushed further

98 dk

99 na

25f Party F?

1 unification has already gone too far

2

...

9

10 unification should be pushed further

98 dk

99 na

25g Party G?

1 unification has already gone too far

2

...

9

10 unification should be pushed further

98 dk

99 na

26 (EES89) Let us now come back to <Britain>. Do you approve or disapprove the government's record to date?

1 approve

2 disapprove

8 dk

9 na

27. (EES89&EES94) To what extent would you say you are interested in politics? Very, somewhat, a little, or not at all?

1 very

2 somewhat

3 a little

4 not at all

8 dk

9 na

28a (EES89 & EES94) On the whole are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in <Britain>?

1 very satisfied

2 fairly satisfied

3 not very satisfied

4 not at all satisfied

0 dk/na

28b (EES89 & EES94) All in all again, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in the European Union?

1 very satisfied

2 fairly satisfied

3 not very satisfied

4 not at all satisfied

0 dk/na

29. (early EBs-- adapted) Do you think you are sufficiently well informed or not sufficiently well informed about the politics of the European Union?

1 sufficiently well informed

2 not sufficiently well informed

8 dk

9 na

30. I will read you a few statements that are often made. Could you say whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the following statements?

30a. Sometimes politics is so complicated that someone like me just cannot understand what is going on.

1 strongly agree

2 agree

3 disagree

4 strongly disagree

8 dk

9 na

30b. Parties and politicians in <Britain> are more concerned with fighting each other than with furthering the common interest.

1 strongly agree

2 agree

3 disagree

4 strongly disagree

8 dk

9 na

30c. So many people vote in elections that my vote does not matter.

1 strongly agree

2 agree

3 disagree

4 strongly disagree

8 dk

9 na

30d. Most of the parties in <Britain> are so much alike that it does not make much of a difference which one is in government.

1 strongly agree

2 agree

3 disagree

4 strongly disagree

8 dk

9 na

31a. (EES89 & EES94) Do you consider yourself to be close to any particular party?

1 party A

2 party B

...

10 other party

11 no GO TO Q 34

97 refused GO TO Q 34

98 dk GO TO Q 34

99 na GO TO Q 34

31b (EES89 & EES94) Do you feel yourself to be very close to this party, fairly close, or merely a sympathiser?

1 very close

2 fairly close

3 merely a sympathiser

8 dk

9 na

D1-a Are you yourself a member of a trade union or is anyone else in your household a member of a trade union?

1 yes, I am

2 yes, someone else is

3, yes both (1) and (2)

2 no

8 dk

9 na

D2 How old were you when you stopped full-time education?

xy [age in years]

98 dk

99 na

D3 Respondent is ... [to be filled in by interviewer]

1 male

2 female

8 dk

9 na

D4 What year were you born?

ENTER YEAR

98 dk

99 na

D5 How many people live in your household including yourself, who are 18 years of age or older?

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9 and more

98 dk

99 na

D6. What is your current work situation? Are you:

1 employed

2 in school

3 working in the household

4 retired

5 unemployed

6 other

99 na

D7 If you were asked to chose one of these five names for your social class, which would you say you belong to - the working class, the lower middle class, the middle class, the upper middle class or the upper class?

1 working class

2 lower middle class

3 middle class

4 upper middle class

5 upper class

6 other

7 refused to be classified

8 dk

9 na

D8 Would you say you live in a rural area or village, in a small or middle size town, or in a large town?

1 rural area or village

2 small or middle size town

3 large town

8 dk

9 na

D9 Do you consider yourself as belonging to a particular religion? (If yes:) Which one?

1 roman catholic

2 protestant

3 orthodox

4 jewish

5 muslim

6 buddhist

7 hindu

8 other

9 none

98 dk

99 na

D10 How often do you attend religious services: several times a week, once a week, a few times a year, once a year or less, or never?

1 several times a week

2 once a week

3 a few times a year

4 once a year or less

5 never

8 dk

9 na

D11 We also need some information about the income of this household to be able to analyse the survey results for different types of households. Please count the total wages and salaries per month of all members of this household; all pensions and social insurance benefits; child allowances and any other income like rents etc ... Of course your answer as all other replies in this survey will be treated confidentially and referring back to you or your household will be impossible. Can you please tell me, what about is the monthly income of your household?

uvwxyzp [in British Pounds]

999997 refusal

999998 dk



999999 na