

8 Year Questionnaire: Coding

This document was created on 9 January 2008 and last updated in August 2022.

Annotation in red shows variable names and values used in the analysis dataset.

Annotation in blue shows variable names and values used in the raw data.

Notes:

1. The layout and formatting of the original questionnaire have been significantly altered in this document, in order to accommodate annotations. However, the wording of questions and responses to questions is unchanged. The numbering of questions, 1 to 78, is reproduced from the original questionnaire but this numbering has not been used in variable naming.
2. In most cases, the variable names and value codes in the raw data are the same as those used in the dataset, in which case the names are only shown once, in red.
3. In cases where either the variable names or the value codes differ between raw data and dataset variables, the raw data variable names/codes are shown in blue while the dataset variable names/codes are shown in red.
4. In the cleaned raw data, a 'missing' response is coded as -99 and 'not applicable' is coded as -77. This is not shown in the annotation because it applies to all items.
5. In the analysis dataset variables these values (-99 and -77) are recoded to missing values.
6. In the raw data, variable names ending in "1" are for the elder twin and those ending in "2" are for the younger twin, as displayed in the questionnaire.
7. In the analysis dataset, all twin variables are double-entered with a row of data for every twin, and with pairs of variables denoting responses for twin and cotwin within the same row of data. Here, in the dataset, variables with names ending in "1" refer to the twin and those with names ending in "2" refer to the cotwin. Hence, although raw data and dataset variables may have identical names, the meaning of the suffix "1" or "2" is changed.

FamilyID
(admin family identifier)
(not in dataset)

hbirtord
Please cross this box if the
Birth Order is INCORRECT
1=yes (ticked), 0=no (not ticked)

The birth order response above was found to be unreliable after checking in some cases. It is therefore not used in the dataset.

PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE

BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND CONSENT FORM FOR PARENTS OF TEDS

(The full text of the background information and consent form is not reproduced here)

I being the parent/guardian of
and hereby give consent to participation in this study, but feel under
no obligation to do so.

Signed

hconsig: 1=yes (signed), 0=no (not signed)
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Name

Date hdate (formatted date value)

D	D	M	M	Y	Y

In the dataset, the date above has been used to derive twin ages when the questionnaire was completed, however the date itself is not retained in the dataset.

Here are some questions. Please tell us if you think the most appropriate answer is YES or NO first for the elder (first born) twin and then for the younger (second born) twin. It would be really helpful if you answer all the items as best you can, even if you are not absolutely certain or the item seems daft!

All variables in this section are named and coded in the raw data as in the dataset.

				Yes 1	No 0		Yes 1	No 0
hca011/2	1	Does s/he join in playing games with other children easily?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca021/2	2	Does s/he come up to you spontaneously for a chat?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca031/2	3	Was s/he speaking by 2 years old?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca041/2	4	Does s/he enjoy sports?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca051/2	5	Is it important to him/her to fit in with the peer group?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca061/2	6	Does s/he appear to notice usual details that others miss?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca071/2	7	Does s/he tend to take things literally?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca081/2	8	When s/he was 3 years old, did s/he spend a lot of time pretending (e.g. play-acting being a superhero, or holding teddy's tea parties)?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca091/2	9	Does s/he like to do things over and over again, in the same way all the time?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca101/2	10	Does s/he find it easy to interact with other children?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca111/2	11	Can s/he keep a two-way conversation going?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca121/2	12	Can s/he read appropriately for his/her age?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca131/2	13	Does s/he mostly have the same interests as his/her peers?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca141/2	14	Does s/he have an interest which takes up so much time that s/he does little else?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca151/2	15	Does s/he have friends, rather than just acquaintances?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca161/2	16	Does s/he often bring you things s/he is interested in to show you?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca171/2	17	Does s/he enjoy joking around?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca181/2	18	Does s/he have difficulty understanding the rules for polite behaviour?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca191/2	19	Does s/he appear to have an unusual memory for details?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca201/2	20	Is his/her voice unusual (e.g. overly adult, flat or very monotonous)?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca211/2	21	Are people important to him/her?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca221/2	22	Can s/he dress him/herself?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca231/2	23	Is s/he good at turn-taking in conversation?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		
hca241/2	24	Does s/he play imaginatively with other children, and engage in role-play?	Elder Twin			Younger Twin		

			Yes	No		Yes	No
			1	0		1	0
hca251/2	25	Does s/he often do or say things that are tactless or socially inappropriate?	Elder Twin		Younger Twin		
hca261/2	26	Can s/he count to 50 without leaving out any numbers?	Elder Twin		Younger Twin		
hca271/2	27	Does s/he make normal eye contact?	Elder Twin		Younger Twin		
hca281/2	28	Does s/he have any unusual and repetitive movements?	Elder Twin		Younger Twin		
hca291/2	29	Is his/her social behaviour very one-sided and always on his/her own terms?	Elder Twin		Younger Twin		
hca301/2	30	Does s/he sometimes say 'you' or 's/he' when s/he means 'I'?	Elder Twin		Younger Twin		
hca311/2	31	Does s/he prefer imaginative activities such as play-acting or story-telling, rather than numbers or lists of facts?	Elder Twin		Younger Twin		
hca321/2	32	Does s/he sometimes lose the listener because of not explaining what s/he is talking about?	Elder Twin		Younger Twin		
hca331/2	33	Can s/he ride a bicycle (even if with stabilisers)?	Elder Twin		Younger Twin		
hca341/2	34	Does s/he try to impose routines on him/herself, or on others, in such a way that it causes problems?	Elder Twin		Younger Twin		
hca351/2	35	Does s/he care how s/he is perceived by the rest of the group?	Elder Twin		Younger Twin		
hca361/2	36	Does s/he often turn conversations to his/her favourite subject rather than following what the other person wants to talk about?	Elder Twin		Younger Twin		
hca371/2	37	Does s/he have odd or unusual phrases?	Elder Twin		Younger Twin		

For the following statements, please answer each with either ‘Not true at all’, ‘Just a little true’, ‘Pretty much true’, or ‘Very much true’ by crossing the appropriate box. Please only cross one box for each twin.

All variables in this section are named and coded in the raw data as in the dataset.

Not true at all	Just a little true	Pretty much true	Very much true
0	1	2	3

hcon011/2	38	Is always 'on the go' or acts as if driven by a motor	Elder Twin Younger Twin
hcon021/2	39	Avoids, expresses reluctance about, or has difficulties engaging in tasks that require sustained mental effort (such as schoolwork or homework)	Elder Twin Younger Twin
hcon031/2	40	Has difficulty sustaining attention in tasks or play activities	Elder Twin Younger Twin
hcon041/2	41	Does not seem to listen to what is being said to him/her	Elder Twin Younger Twin
hcon051/2	42	Runs about or climbs excessively in situations where it is inappropriate	Elder Twin Younger Twin
hcon061/2	43	Does not follow through on instructions and fails to finish school work, chores or duties in the workplace (not due to oppositional behaviour or failure to understand instructions)	Elder Twin Younger Twin
hcon071/2	44	Has difficulty organising tasks and activities	Elder Twin Younger Twin
hcon081/2	45	Talks excessively	Elder Twin Younger Twin
hcon091/2	46	Fails to give close attention to details or makes careless mistakes in schoolwork and other activities	Elder Twin Younger Twin
hcon101/2	47	Has difficulty waiting in lines or awaiting turn in games or group situations	Elder Twin Younger Twin
hcon111/2	48	Interrupts or intrudes on others (e.g. butts into others' conversations or games)	Elder Twin Younger Twin
hcon121/2	49	Forgetful in daily activities	Elder Twin Younger Twin
hcon131/2	50	Fidgets with hands or feet or squirms in seat	Elder Twin Younger Twin
hcon141/2	51	Has difficulty playing or engaging in leisure activities quietly	Elder Twin Younger Twin
hcon151/2	52	Loses things necessary for tasks or activities (e.g. school assignments, pencils, books, or toys)	Elder Twin Younger Twin

Not true at all	Just a little true	Pretty much true	Very much true
0	1	2	3

hcon161/2	53	Leaves seat in classroom or in other situations in which remaining seated is expected	Elder Twin Younger Twin
hcon171/2	54	Easily distracted by extraneous stimuli	Elder Twin Younger Twin
hcon181/2	55	Blurts out answers to questions before the questions have been completed	Elder Twin Younger Twin

For the following statements, please answer each with either Definitely agree, Slightly agree, Slightly disagree or Definitely disagree by crossing the appropriate box. Please only cross one box for each twin.

For the items below variables are named in the raw data as in the dataset, but the value coding has been changed as shown.

			Definitely agree	Slightly agree	Slightly disagree	Definitely disagree
		Raw data coding:	4	3	2	1
		Dataset coding:	3	2	1	0
hrpq011/2	56	Tends to be afraid of new things or situations				
hrpq021/2	57	Acts younger than his/her age				
hrpq031/2	58	Gets too physically close to strangers				
hrpq041/2	59	Often unhappy, tearful or distressed				
hrpq051/2	60	Too cuddly with people s/he doesn't know well				
hrpq061/2	61	Apathetic ("can't be bothered")				
hrpq071/2	62	Often asks very personal questions even though s/he does not mean to be rude				
hrpq081/2	63	Can be aggressive towards him/herself e.g. using bad language about him/herself, headbanging, cutting, etc				
hrpq091/2	64	Has few friends				
hrpq101/2	65	Has no conscience				
hrpq111/2	66	Too friendly with strangers				
hrpq121/2	67	Wants to be with you all the time (very "clingy")				
hrpq131/2	68	Difficult to comfort when scared or upset				
hrpq141/2	69					

			Definitely agree	Slightly agree	Slightly disagree	Definitely disagree
		Raw data coding:	4	3	2	1
		Dataset coding:	3	2	1	0
		Sometimes looks frozen with fear, without an obvious reason				
						Younger Twin
hrpq151/2	70	Demanding or attention seeking				Elder Twin
						Younger Twin
hrpq161/2	71	If you approach him/her, s/he often runs away or refuses to be approached				Elder Twin
						Younger Twin
hrpq171/2	72	There is a false quality to the affection s/he gives				Elder Twin
						Younger Twin
hrpq181/2	73	If you approach him/her, you never know whether s/he will be friendly or unfriendly				Elder Twin
						Younger Twin

For the next section of questions, please answer either YES or NO by crossing the appropriate boxes

All variables in this section are named and coded in the raw data as in the dataset.

			Elder Twin		Younger Twin	
			YES	NO	YES	NO
			1	0	1	0
hdevcon1/2	74	Have teachers/health visitors ever expressed any concerns about his/her development?				

If yes, please specify for each twin: **(text responses not retained in the data)**

			Elder Twin		Younger Twin	
			YES	NO	YES	NO
			1	0	1	0
hdlngd1/2		Language delay				
hdadh1/2		Hyperactivity/attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)				
hdhrvs1/2		Hearing or visual difficulties				
hdauti1/2		Autism				
hdaspg1/2		Asperger's syndrome				
hdtour1/2 *		Tourette's syndrome				
hddown1/2 *		Down's syndrome				
hdfrgx1/2 *		Fragile X				
hddys11/2		Dyslexia				

*** There were negligible numbers of positive responses for Tourette's, Down's and Fragile X, therefore these three variables have been removed from the dataset.**

For this last section, please put a cross in as many of the boxes that apply for each twin

All items below are coded as 1=yes (ticked), 0=no (not ticked).

This coding, and the variable naming are the same in the raw data as in the dataset.

76	Does s/he display a <i>striking skill</i> , <u>compared to his/her general ability level</u> , in any of the following areas?				
	hs1mat1/2:	hs1mus1/2:	hs1art1/2:	hs1mem1/2:	hs1oth1/2:
Elder Twin	Maths and calculation	Musical ability	Art/Drawing	Memory	Other
Younger Twin	Maths and calculation	Musical ability	Art/Drawing	Memory	Other
77	Does s/he display a <i>striking skill</i> , <u>when compared to other children his or her age</u> , in any of the following areas?				
	hs2mat1/2:	hs2mus1/2:	hs2art1/2:	hs2mem1/2:	hs2oth1/2:
Elder Twin	Maths and calculation	Musical ability	Art/Drawing	Memory	Other
Younger Twin	Maths and calculation	Musical ability	Art/Drawing	Memory	Other
78	Does s/he display a <i>special gift</i> , <u>when compared to children even much older</u> , in any of the following areas?				
	hs3mat1/2:	hs3mus1/2:	hs3art1/2:	hs3mem1/2:	hs3oth1/2:
Elder Twin	Maths and calculation	Musical ability	Art/Drawing	Memory	Other
Younger Twin	Maths and calculation	Musical ability	Art/Drawing	Memory	Other