
ADULTS' WRITING AND ARITHMETIC SKILLS

5 Introduction:

The 2011 *Information et vie quotidienne* survey and national and international adult literacy skills surveys

Louis-André Vallet

17 Adults' writing skills and significant childhood events: using textual statistical analysis methods on the *Information et vie quotidienne* survey

The death of a relative, a health issue or being a victim of violence are the most significant childhood life events. For 7% of respondents in the IVQ survey, reporting a difficult life event in childhood correlates with illiteracy in adulthood.

Élodie Baril and France Guérin-Pace

37 Adults' writing difficulties through the writing test in the survey *Information et vie quotidienne*

French spelling is difficult for many people, mainly due to agreement rules and words that are not written as they are pronounced. The IVQ survey also reveals that certain adults living in France are genuinely unable to write French.

Carole Blondel, Catherine Brissaud, Jeanne Conseil, Jean-Pierre Jeantheau and Clara Mortamet

61 Changes in adults' skills: the "generation" effect and the "life cycle" effect

Written comprehension and numeracy skills decline substantially with age, especially after the age of 45. These skills have improved over the generations, due to people spending more years in education, but less markedly for the most recent generations.

Fabrice Murat and Thierry Rocher

85 Measuring new migrants' writing and speaking skills

"New migrants" perform less well than other immigrants, mainly due to their poor knowledge of French. Almost half of them improve this skill within three years of obtaining their first residency permit.

Virginie Jourdan, Gérane Le Quentrec-Creven and Alice Mainguéné

