



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme



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BENEFITS OF LIFELONG LEARNING



Leading education
and social research
Institute of Education
University of London

Dear adult learner,

The aim of this survey is to gather information about your Learning as an adult. We are interested in liberal adult Learning, related to your own interests and personal development, that you participate in voluntarily rather than as a requirement of your job or career. In this type of Learning you won't usually receive an external certificate at the end of the course.

This survey is part of a project called Benefits of Lifelong Learning (BeLL), which is funded by the EU. This is a research project comparing adult learning and its outcomes in 10 European countries.

Your experiences and the results from the survey will be used to build up our knowledge about adult learning. Your participation in this survey is extremely valuable, but voluntary, and we guarantee your anonymity.

The completion of this questionnaire will take about 20 minutes.

If you have any questions concerning the survey, please contact us.

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1.1 You have been invited to take part in this survey because you have participated in at least one liberal adult education course during the past 12 months. How many such courses have you attended in the last 12 months?

► Please answer the question by putting an X in the box that best describes your situation [X].

- one course
 two courses
 three courses
 more than 3 courses
 I have not participated in this kind of course

1.2 Please give the name, topic and total length (in hours) of your liberal adult education courses (max. 3).

► See the example on top of the table.

	Name of the course	Topic of the course	Total length of the course in hours
Example	<i>Improvisation for beginners</i>	<i>learning basic acting skills</i>	<i>70</i>
Your Course 1			
Your Course 2			

1.3 Which of the following course providers organised these courses?

► Multiple selection possible.

- FE College
 Community College
 Local authority
 Community organisation
 University
 Private training provider
 Employer
 Union
 A self-organised course
 Other/what: _____

► Please think back to your learning experiences and participation during the past 12 months in these liberal adult education courses and try to answer the following questions by writing your answer in the empty space provided below the questions.

2.1 What immediate outcomes, if any, have you noticed from your participation in learning?

2.2 What other outcomes, long term effects or changes have you noticed?

2.3.1 Now, please assess whether these liberal adult education courses have caused the following changes in your life. Use the following scale:

Much less (- - -) Less (- -) Slightly less (-) No change (0) Slightly more (+) More (+ +) Much more (+ + +)

► If you have mistakenly put an X in the wrong place, please put your right answer once again and a circle around it; like this: (X)

	- - -	- -	-	0	+	++	+++
1. I feel good at work nowadays							
2. I am motivated to learn							
3. I am involved in social networks (friends, colleagues, etc.)							
4. I am engaged in my local community							
5. I try to lead a healthy lifestyle							
6. Taking all things together, I am happy							
7. I am willing to move in order to get a new job							
8. I see adult learning as an important opportunity							
9. I have respect for other people's points of view							
10. I have opportunities to increase my income							
11. I have respect for other people's cultures							
12. I feel confident as a learner							
13. I have alternative job or career opportunities							
14. I have trust in decision makers							
15. I am satisfied with my life							
16. I am interested in politics							
17. I am satisfied with my physical health							
18. I know how to make myself heard in a group							
19. I am encouraging others to learn too							
20. I have trust in other people generally							
21. I am likely to take part in voluntary activity							
22. I meet other people							
23. I pay attention to my health							

If you have children under 18 years old:

Please answer the following questions. If not, please continue with the next question.

Use the scale:

Much less (- - -) Less (- -) Slightly less (-) No change (0) Slightly more (+) More (+ +) Much more (+ + +)

	- - -	- -	-	0	+	++	+++
24. I have confidence in my ability as a parent							
25. I am supportive of my children's learning							

All: Please also tell us whether there have been changes in the following two habits following your course(s):

	I do not use at all	- - -	- -	-	0	+	++	+++
26. I smoke...								
27. I drink alcohol...								

2.3.2 We would like to know if your participation in liberal adult learning courses during the past 12 months has had an influence on the way you feel about different aspects of your life. Please read the statements carefully and select the alternative that best describes any change, using the scale:
 Much less (- - -) Less (- -) Slightly less (-) No change (0) Slightly more (+) More (+ +) Much more (+ + +)

	- - -	- -	-	0	+	++	+++
28. When I make plans, I am certain that I can make them work							
29. I know what I want from my life							
30. I am convinced that what happens to me is my own doing							
31. I feel that I have influence over the things that happen to me							
32. It is easy for me to stick to my aims and accomplish my goals							
33. I am confident that I could deal efficiently with unexpected events							
34. If someone opposes me, I am able to find the means and ways to get what I want							
35. I am positive about life							

2.3.3 Please select for each statement the alternative that best describes your situation, now using the scale: (1) Strongly disagree to (6) Strongly agree.

	Strongly disagree (1)	Disagree (2)	Slightly disagree (3)	Slightly agree (4)	Agree (5)	Strongly agree (6)
36. It would be hard for me to break any of my bad habits						
37. I never regret my decisions						
38. I am very confident of my judgments						
39. Once I have made up my mind, other people can seldom change my opinion						

2.4 Now think back to your learning experiences during the past 12 months. Please estimate how important the following elements were for the outcomes you listed above. Use the scale:

(1) Not at all important to (5) Very important.

	Not at all important (1)	Only a little (2)	Quite important (3)	Important (4)	Very important (5)
Teacher as a person					
Teaching methods					
Other learners in the group					
Group activities					
The content/theme of the course					
Opportunity to do something with my own hands					
Individual support and guidance					
The fact that I was able to learn new things					
My opportunity to be an active member of the group					

2.5 If Possible, please give one or two examples which illustrate, why and how these elements were important for the outcomes you listed above.

Thank you very much for your answers so far.

Finally, we would like to ask you for some personal information.

3.1 Sex:

Male Female

3.2 Age: ____ (in years, for example: 43)

3.3 What is the highest level of education that you have completed?

- No qualification
- Entry level qualifications
- GCSE (O' Level) equivalent
- A' Level or Professional diploma
- Degree / post-graduate qualification
- Other, what: _____

3.4 Which of the following best describes your current employment status?

- Employed full time
- Employed part time
- Self-employed or freelancer
- Doing housework at home
- Student full time
- Student part time
- Retired/early retirement
- Unemployed
- Other, what: _____

3.5 Which profession or occupational/professional activity do you carry out or did you carry out most recently? Please describe it as accurately as you can. (Example: "car salesman" not just "salesman"):

3.6 Which of the following best describes your situation:

- I am a citizen of this country
- I am a citizen of another European country
- I am a citizen of a non-European country

3.7 Is your mother tongue the same as the one of this questionnaire?

Yes No

4. Is there anything else you want to say about your learning experiences and outcomes or feedback about this questionnaire...?

Thank you very much for your taking the trouble to participate in this survey. Your answers are very valuable to us.



Would you be willing to participate in an interview about your course and learning?

Yes No

If yes, please give your name and contact details:

Name: _____

Email or telephone: _____

Your answers on the questionnaire will be analyzed confidentially and will not be combined with your contact details.