Section 5.7 Mean, Median, and Mode

Before Class:

☐ Read the objective on page 347.

☐ Complete the exercises:

1. What is a measure of central tendency?

2. Name three measures of central tendency.

3. If the number of data items in a data set is even, what is the median of the data set?

During Class:

☐ Write your class notes. Neatly write down all examples shown as well as key terms or phrases with definitions. If not applicable or if you were absent, watch the Lecture Series (DVD) for this section and do the same (write down the examples shown as well as key terms or phrases). Insert more paper as needed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Notes/Examples</th>
<th>Your Notes</th>
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Answers: 1) a way to describe a set of data by a single “middle” number 2) mean, median, mode 3) the mean of the two middle numbers, when the data set is ordered
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Practice:

☐ Complete any incomplete exercises below. Check and correct your work using the answers and references at the end of this section.

Review this example:

1. Find the median and the mode of the following list of numbers. These numbers were high temperatures for fourteen consecutive days in a city in Montana.
   
   76, 80, 85, 86, 89, 87, 82, 77, 76, 79, 82, 89, 89, 89, 92

   First, write the numbers in order.

   76, 76, 77, 79, 80, 82, 82, 85, 86, 87, 89, 89, 89, 92

   Since there are an even number of items, the median is the mean of the two middle numbers.

   \[
   \text{median} = \frac{82 + 85}{2} = 83.5
   \]

   The mode is 89, since 89 occurs most often.

Your turn:

2. Find the mean, the median, and the mode of the following data set. If necessary, round the mean to one decimal place.

   7.6, 8.2, 8.2, 9.6, 5.7, 9.1

   Answer: Mean: 8.1; median: 8.2; mode: 8.2

Next, insert your homework. Make sure you attempt all exercises asked of you and show all work, as in the exercises above. Check your answers if possible. Clearly mark any exercises you were unable to correctly complete so that you may ask questions later. DO NOT ERASE YOUR INCORRECT WORK. THIS IS HOW WE UNDERSTAND AND EXPLAIN TO YOU YOUR ERRORS.
Preparing for the Chapter 5 Test

Start preparing for your Chapter 5 Test as soon as possible. Pay careful attention to any instructor discussion about this test, especially discussion on what sections you will be responsible for, etc.

- Work the Chapter 5 Vocabulary Check on page 351.
- Read your Class Notes/Examples for each section covered on your Chapter 5 Test. Look for any unresolved questions you may have.
- Complete as many of the Chapter 5 Review exercises as possible (page 351). Remember, the odd answers are in the back of your text.

Most important: Place yourself in “test” conditions (see below) and work the Chapter 5 Test (page 353) as a practice test the day before your actual test. To honestly assess how you are doing, try the following:
  • Work on a few blank sheets of paper.
  • Give yourself the same amount of time you will be given for your actual test.
  • Complete this Chapter 5 Practice Test without using your notes or your text.
  • If you have any time left after completing this practice test, check your work and try to find any errors on your own.
  • Once done, use the back of your book to check ALL answers.
  • Try to correct any errors on your own.
  • Use the Chapter Test Prep Video (CTPV) to correct any errors you were unable to correct on your own. You can find these videos in the Interactive DVD Lecture Series, in MyMathLab, and on YouTube. Search Martin-Gay MyMathLab Algebra I and click “Channels.”

I wish you the best of luck….Elayn Martin-Gay