### Prep 5: Quantitative data: descriptive statistics and data representation

Task 1: Complete the following table based on the powerpoint on Psych205 http://www.psych205.com/research-methods-year-1.html

<u>Definition</u>	<u>Strengths</u>	<u>Limitations</u>		
	Descriptive statistics			
Mean				
Median				
Mode				
	Measures of Dispersion			
Range				
Standard deviation				

# Task 2 – Refer to the relevant pages in your RM pack *Calculate the mean, median and mode for the following:*

1a) Data from a psychology quiz:

 $1,\,2,\,3,\,7,\,10,\,20,\,30,\,43,\,47,\,48,\,50$ 

Mean = Median= Mode=

1b) The number of faces recalled out of 12 in a free recall task:

 $1,\,1,\,5,\,2,\,3,\,7,\,6,\,5,\,2,\,1,\,8,\,7,\,9,\,5,\,4,\,3,\,2,\,5$ 

Mean = Median= Mode=

Task 3 : What is the range for the following data sets?

a)	5, 4, 1, 2, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 7, 2.	Range	
b)	9, 11, 16, 4, 6, 17, 22, 35, 2, 12, 13.	Range	
c)	3, 4, 5, 8, 11, 14, 12, 16, 1, 9, 15, 17.	Range	
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If the standard deviation is low, this tells us that the mean is \_\_\_\_\_\_

If the standard deviation is high, it this tells us that the mean is \_\_\_\_\_

#### Task 4 : Read the research scenarios below and then answer the questions for each one:

 Ps were tested on their ability to avoid obstacles in a computer driving simulation. The simulator recorded how many times the Ps hit an obstacle during the simulation (max. 30). Half of the Ps were engaged in conversation during the simulation by the experimenter, so they had to respond verbally to a series of questions. The other half completed the same task but in silence.

## Directional Hypothesis: Participants will be more likely to hit obstacles when they are engaged in conversation than when they are not

	Conversation condition	Silence condition
Mean	7.3	5.4
Standard Deviation	4.7	1.2

(i)

What do the means in each condition suggest about the effect of the distraction task on their performance?

#### (ii) Comment on what the standard deviations in each condition tell us about the data:

Researchers asked A Level student PPs, to complete a questionnaire about how long they spent studying each week. They were divided into two groups: those who spent more than ten hours a week studying and those who spent ten hours or less. After the exams, the researchers compared the exam marks (max. 100) of the two groups.

# Directional Hypothesis: Students who study for more than ten hours per week will achieve higher exam scores than those who study for less than ten hours per week.

		Less than 10 hrs	10 hrs or more
	Mean	65.9	68.3
What do	Standard Deviation	15.4	8.9

\_\_\_\_ the means in each

(iii) What do

condition suggest about the effect studying on their performance?

....

(iv) Comment on what the standard deviations in each condition tell us about the data:

3 Some psychology students read about an experiment which suggested that organisation is a useful strategy for improving memory. The students carried out an experiment to investigate the effects of organisation on word recall. They made up a list of 50 items that could be bought in a supermarket. The participants were teachers at their school. One group of participants saw the words organised into categories such as fruit, vegetables, dairy products and cleaning materials. The other group saw the same words presented randomly.

The results are given in Table 1 below.

Table 1	The number of words correctly recalled by participants who saw the organised
	list and participants who saw the random list

	Organised List	Random List
	20	15
	15	13
	18	19
	45	14
	24	20
	23	10
	28	21
	21	6
	25	22
	30	25
Measure of central tendency		
Measure of dispersion		

3 (a) Identify a suitable measure of central tendency that could be used with these data. Justify your answer.

(2 marks)

#### The Display of Quantitative Data

Task 1: read about this in the information pack.

• What types of data are represented in the following charts or graphs? Tables

Bar Charts

Histogram

Scattergram

Task 2: Watch the videos and note take on bar charts and a histogram

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JsEwJD1mYpU

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iYluqvuGvAw

Bar Charts

### **Histogram**

Draw a graph for the following sets of data

Data set 1

Number of hours day care a week	Mean number of aggressive acts per week
0-5	1
6-10	3
11-15	2
16-20	4
21-25	2
26-30	3
31-35	9

#### Data Set

Participant	Self - rating of enjoyment of psychology	Score on a question test (n 20)
1	10	18
2	10	20
3	8	19
4	8	15
5	8	16
6	7	13
7	5	10
8	5	12
9	4	2
10	1	0