**Sample Assessment Tasks**

Mathematics Applications

ATAR Year 11

**Acknowledgement of Country**

Kaya. The School Curriculum and Standards Authority (the Authority) acknowledges that our offices are on Whadjuk Noongar boodjar and that we deliver our services on the country of many traditional custodians and language groups throughout Western Australia. The Authority acknowledges the traditional custodians throughout Western Australia and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We offer our respect to Elders past and present.

**Copyright**

© School Curriculum and Standards Authority, 2018

This document – apart from any third party copyright material contained in it – may be freely copied, or communicated on an intranet, for non-commercial purposes in educational institutions, provided that the School Curriculum and Standards Authority is acknowledged as the copyright owner, and that the Authority’s moral rights are not infringed.

Copying or communication for any other purpose can be done only within the terms of the *Copyright Act 1968* or with prior written permission of the School Curriculum and Standards Authority. Copying or communication of any third party copyright material can be done only within the terms of the *Copyright Act 1968* or with permission of the copyright owners.

Any content in this document that has been derived from the Australian Curriculum may be used under the terms of the Creative Commons [Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY)](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)licence.

**Disclaimer**

Any resources such as texts, websites and so on that may be referred to in this document are provided as examples of resources that teachers can use to support their learning programs. Their inclusion does not imply that they are mandatory or that they are the only resources relevant to the course.

Sample assessment task

Mathematics Applications – ATAR Year 11

Task 1 – Investigation 1

**Assessment type:** Investigation

**Conditions**

This investigation provides opportunity for students to demonstrate the use of the mathematical thinking process. The task may be completed in or out of class. Students may use any appropriate technology.

Note: while the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (the Authority) provides sample assessment tasks for guidance, it is the expectation of the Authority that teachers will develop tasks customised to reflect their school’s context and the needs of the student cohort.

**Task weighting**

8% of the school mark for this pair of units

**How does your interest grow? (48 marks)**

An investment sum gains interest each year. Your task is to investigate how long it will take for an investment amount to double in value?

Starting prompts:

* How long it will take for a fixed investment amount to double at 10% per annum simple interest/compound interest.
* Will the length of time change for different interest rates?
* Will the length of time change for different initial investments?
* Is there a quick method to estimate how long it will take for a simple interest investment to double in value?
* The ‘rule of 72’ is often used as a quick method to estimate how long it will take for a compound interest investment to double in value. Investigate how this rule works and discuss its accuracy.
* How will the ‘rule’ change if the interest is compounded twice a year? quarterly? monthly? daily?

Write an investigation report presenting your findings. As you write your report, take care to clearly communicate your findings using appropriate mathematical statements.

Your report should include the following.

* An **introduction** that clearly defines the purpose of the task, identifies key information, any assumptions made and an outline of your strategy. (9 marks)
* Evidence of the **application** of mathematical knowledge and strategies, including calculations and results using appropriate representations (graphs, tables, spreadsheets etc.). (18 marks)
* The **findings** communicated in a systematic and concise manner, including analysis and interpretation in the context of the problem and consideration of the reasonableness and limitations of the results. (21 marks)

Marking key for sample assessment Task 1 – Investigation 1

**(Not to be distributed with the task)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Marks available** | **Mark awarded** |
| **Introduction – identifies and organises relevant information** |
| Succinctly writes a general introduction that summarises the aim of the investigation | 2 |  |
| Includes at least two suitable assumptions relevant to the task, e.g. the interest rate does not vary for the duration of an investment, and no deposit or withdrawal is made | 2 |
| Identifies the need to consider simple and compound interest  | 1 |
| Identifies that each parameter (investment amount and interest rate) will need to be varied  | 2 |
| Identifies that each parameter will need to be varied independently  | 1 |
| Recognises the need to systematically determine at least three values in order to look for patterns | 1 |
| **Subtotal** | **/9** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Marks available** | **Mark awarded** |
| **Application – chooses and applies mathematical knowledge and strategies**  |
| Correctly calculates the time for a fixed investment amount to double at 10% per annum simple interest  | 1 |  |
| Correctly calculates the time for the same fixed amount to double for at least two more rates of simple interest | 2 |
| Calculates the time for an investment of at least two other amounts to double using simple interest | 2 |
| Demonstrates the use of a suitable and clear method (formula, spreadsheet) to find the time for a simple interest investment to double (sometimes – 1, consistently – 2) | 2 |
| Correctly calculates the time for a fixed investment amount to double at 10% per annum compound interest | 1 |
| Correctly calculates the time for the same fixed amount to double for at least two more rates of compound interest | 2 |
| Calculates the time for an investment of at least two other amounts to double using compound interest | 2 |
| Demonstrates the use of a suitable and clear method (formula, spreadsheet) to find the time for a compound interest investment to double (sometimes – 1, consistently – 2) | 2 |
| Compares the time taken for an investment to double to the ‘rule of 72’ | 1 |
| Identifies a link between the time taken for an investment to double and the ‘rule of 72’ | 1 |
| Calculates the time taken for an investment to double, using at least two other compounding periods (biannually, quarterly, monthly or daily) | 2 |
| **Subtotal** | **/18** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Marks available** | **Mark awarded** |
| **Findings – interprets and concludes** |
| Compares and correctly concludes that the time taken to double any investment amount at a fixed interest rate per annum is the same (simple – 1, compound – 1) | 2 |  |
| Clearly displays the time for an investment to double for at least three different rates of simple interest (using fixed investment amount) | 1 |
| Makes some comparison between the time for an investment to double and the simple interest rate (using fixed investment amount) | 1 |
| Defines a rule that relates the time for an investment to double to the simple interest rate | 1 |
| Shows evidence of testing the rule | 1 |
| Clearly displays the time for an investment to double for at least three different rates of compound interest (using fixed investment amount) | 1 |
| Makes some comparison between the time for an investment to double and the compound interest rate (using fixed investment amount) | 1 |
| Uses calculated values to compare and discuss the accuracy of the ‘rule of 72’ | 2 |
| Relates the accuracy of the ‘rule of 72’ to high/low interest rates | 1 |
| Indicates possible changes to the rule for different compounding periods | 1 |
| Develops a new rule for time taken to double, using one other compounding period | 1 |
| Demonstrates use of the new rule | 1 |
| Discusses accuracy of the new rule and adjusts if necessary | 1 |
| Summarises all findings in succinct and clear statement(s) | 1 |
| **Subtotal** | **/16** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Marks available**  | **Mark awarded** |
| **Uses correct mathematical conventions, symbols and terminology** |
| Correctly labels and appropriately displays graphs and tables(sometimes – 1, consistently – 2) | 2 |  |
| Uses mathematical language throughout the investigation (sometimes – 1, consistently – 2) | 2 |
| Presents investigation in a systematic and concise way  | 1 |
| **Subtotal** | **/5** |
| **Final total** | **/48** |  |

**Note: this marking key may vary dependant on the conditions under which the task is administered.**

# Sample assessment task

# Mathematics Applications – ATAR Year 11

## Task 2 – Test 1

**Assessment type:** Response

**Content:** Consumer arithmetic, Algebra and matrices (1.1.1 – 1.1.8, 1.2.1 – 1.2.7)

**Conditions:**

Time for the task: Up to 55 minutes, in class, under test conditions

Note: while the Authority provides sample assessment tasks for guidance, it is the expectation of the Authority that teachers will develop tasks customised to reflect their school’s context and the needs of the student cohort. This resource is available on a public website and use of the resource without modification may affect the integrity of the assessment.

**Materials required:**

Section One: Calculator-free Standard writing equipment

Section Two: Calculator-assumed Calculator (to be provided by the student)

**Other materials allowed:** Drawing templates, one A4 page of notes in Section Two

**Marks available: 63 marks**

Section One: Calculator-free 23 marks

Section Two: Calculator-assumed 40 marks

**Task weighting:**

6%

# Questions (Task 2 – Test 1)

**Section One: Calculator-free (23 marks)**

Suggested time: 20 minutes

**Question 1** **(12 marks)**

The Student Council at Sunset Coast College decided to sell daffodils to raise money for a local charity. The daffodils were sold in a small bunch of three flowers for $6 or a large bunch of eight flowers for $10. The number of small (S) and large (L) bunches of flowers sold to each class in Years 7, 8 and 9 is shown in the matrices X, Y and Zbelow.

S L

S L

S L

 **  **

1. Using the matrices above, calculate the following.
Where the operation is not possible, provide an explanation. (4 marks)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Y + Z
 | 1. X + Y
 |
| 1. ZX
 | 1. 3X
 |

1. Use the matrices X, Y and Z to find the following and explain what information is shown in the resulting matrix. (8 marks)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. X
 | 1. Z
 |
| 1. Ypre-multiplied by
 | 1. Y post-multiplied by
 |

**Question 2 (8 marks)**

A section of a spreadsheet, provided below, shows the number of hours worked by three students during the course of a week. The students are paid time and a half on Saturdays and double time on Sundays.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | A | B | C | D | E | F |
| 1 | **Name** | **Rate ($/hour)** | **Weekday hours** | **Saturday hours** | **Sunday hours** | **Total pay** |
| 2 | Gen | 20 | 5 | 6 | 3.5 |  |
| 3 | Bri | 22 | 10 | 2 | 3 |  |
| 4 | Ala | 23.68 | 8 | 4 | 6 |  |

1. Create a row and a column matrix and show how matrix multiplication could be used to determine how much Gen will earn in a week? (3 marks)
2. Using cell references (e.g. A1 for row 1, column A), state the formula to calculate Ala’s total pay for one week. (2 marks)
3. Bri receives a living away from home allowance of $75 per week. Her allowance is reduced by 50 cents for every dollar earned over $350. Assuming she works the same hours each week, determine by how much her allowance is reduced. (3 marks)

**Question 3 (3 marks)**

Chocolate Easter eggs are on special at a local supermarket.

The larger eggs (120 g each) are advertised at ‘Two for $4’ and the smaller ones (45 g) cost $1 each. Calculate the cost per gram of chocolate for each size. Determine which egg represents the better value for money.

**Section Two: Calculator-assumed (40 marks)**

Suggested time: 35 minutes

**Question 4 (4 marks)**

One formula for calculating the surface area (SA) of a person’s skin is given below.

  W = weight (kg), H = height (cm), SA = surface area (m2)

Sol is 80 kg in weight and 159 cm tall.

1. Write an expression for calculating the surface area of Sol’s skin. (1 mark)
2. Calculate the surface area of Sol’s skin, correct to four significant figures. (2 marks)
3. Express the SA of Sol’s skin in cm2, given that there are 10 000 cm2 in 1 m2. (1 mark)

**Question 5 (9 marks)**

Members of the school swim squad, Gino, Cara, Nick and Tina, each have Facebook accounts and can send messages to friends on their Facebook page. Gino is Facebook friends with Cara and Nick. Gino and Nick are also friends on a second Facebook account. Nick is also friends with Cara and Tina.

Assume no-one communicates with themselves.

1. With each row representing a different person, create a labelled matrix (M) to represent the **number of Facebook accounts** each person has to communicate with each of the others.
 (3 marks)
2. Who can message only one person? (1 mark)
3. Calculate the two-step communication matrix M2. (2 marks)
4. Identify the element *m*43 of the matrix M2. Explain the significance of this value. (2 marks)
5. Training is cancelled on Friday. The swimmers all receive and pass on the notice. How many
two-step messages will Nick receive? (1 mark)

**Question 6 (8 marks)**

John has shares in two banks. He wants to find out which of the two banks in his portfolio of shares is the better performer, and he decides to use the P/E ratio to compare the two banks.

$${P}/{E}ratio=\frac{Market price per share}{Annual earnings per share}$$

AAA Bank’s shares are currently $33.65 while ZZZ Bank’s shares are currently $32.055.

AAA Bank has annual earnings of 207.5 cents per share.

ZZZ Bank has annual earnings of 223.1 cents per share.

1. Calculate the *P/E* ratio for each bank and make a recommendation as to which bank John should buy more of, if the *P/E* ratio was the only indicator to be used. Justify your recommendation.
 (4 marks)

Dividends from both banks are paid twice a year and in the last year AAA Bank gave dividends of
82c and 84c per share.

1. What percentage of its annual earnings does AAA Bank distribute to shareholders? (2 marks)
2. ZZZ Bank paid an interim dividend of 66c per share. It has a policy of paying 65% of its annual earnings as dividends. What would you expect its final dividend payout to be? (2 marks)

**Question 7 (6 marks)**

Mary keeps records of her blood tests and some of the data are reproduced in the table below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Blood test type | Risk |
| HDL | Chol. | LDL | PTRI |
| **Ideal range** | **1.1 to 3.5** | **<5.5** | **<3.5** | **<1.5** | **<3.5** |
| Year |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2009 | 1.4 | 5.7 | 3.8 | 1.1 | 4.1 |
| 2011 | 1.6 | 7.2 | 5 | 1.3 |  |
| 2012 | 1.3 | 5.2 | 3.4 | 1.1 |  |
| 2013 | 1.5 | 5.4 | 3.4 | 1 |  |
| 2014 | 1.7 | 4.9 | 2.8 | 0.8 |  |

1. Circle all of Mary’s test results which are outside the ideal range of values. (2 marks)
2. Mary knows that the ‘Risk’ value is found by dividing one variable by another, but cannot remember the rule and she used a ‘guess-and-check’ method to work it out.

State a general expression to calculate the ‘Risk’ value. (2 marks)

1. Mary has been concerned about her risk level, and has monitored her diet and exercise in an attempt to reduce her score to the ideal range. Determine if Mary’s ‘Risk’ value is within the ‘ideal range’ in 2014. (2 marks)

**Question 8 (7 marks)**

Lucy has invented a new method for scoring points in the game of Tins. Each participant can score in any of four ways (M, S, T and G) and their scores are added to form a grand total.

They are as follows:

* 10 points for a match (M)
* 7 points for a set (S)
* 3 points for a touch (T)
* 1 point for each game (G).

The number of matches, sets, touches and games for 5 different players (P1, P2, P3, P4, P5) are provided in the matrix below.

 M S T G

 

1. Write the column matrix, with rows representing in order M, S, T and G, that represents the points for each way of scoring. (1 mark)
2. Calculate the product of the matrix given above and the column matrix from 8(a). (2 marks)
3. What is the total score for P1? Where in the matrix from 8(b) is this score located? (2 marks)
4. Describe the data stored in the matrix generated in 8(b). (2 marks)

**Question 9 (6 marks)**

Three friends went on a trip overseas and brought back some unspent foreign currency which they need to exchange back to Australian dollars (AUD).

They have made a table showing the amounts of each currency they each have.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Bali (Indonesia) | Singapore  | Hong Kong  |
| Kate | 190 000 IDR | 200 SGD | 500 HKD |
| Guy | 175 000 IDR | 350 SGD | 250 HKD |
| Alex | 85 000 IDR | 75 SGD | 100 HKD |

The exchange rates when they convert their money are as follows.

10 000 IDR (Indonesian rupiah) = 0.9700 AUD

1 SGD (Singapore dollars) = 0.8666 AUD

1 HKD (Hong Kong dollars) = 0.1410 AUD

1. How many Australian dollars will Kate get for her Indonesian rupiah (assuming she pays no commission fees)? (1 mark)
2. How many Australian dollars (to the nearest 10 cents) will Guy get for his Singapore dollars (assuming he pays no commission fees)? (1 mark)
3. Using the same exchange rates as given in the table for Question 9, what is one Australian dollar worth (to the nearest cent) in Singapore dollars? (1 mark)
4. Write a matrix operation to calculate the amount of Australian currency that each person will receive when their foreign currencies (as shown in the table for Question 9) are converted.
 (3 marks)

# Solutions and marking key for sample assessment task (Task 2 – Test 1)

**Section One: Calculator-free (23 marks)**

**Question 1 (12 marks)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **a)** | Solution | Behaviours | Marks |
| i) |  | Adds two matrices correctly  | 1 |
| ii) | Not possible as only matrices of the same size can be added | States not possible, with correct reasoning  | 1 |
| iii) | Not possible because the number of columns in *Z* does not equal the number of rows in *X* | States not possible, with correct reasoning  | 1 |
| iv) |  | Multiplies a matrix correctly by a scalar  | 1 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **b)** | Solution | Behaviours | Marks |
| i) | Matrix shows the total money received for the sale of small and large bunches in each Year 7 class | Multiplies two matrices correctlyIdentifies each element as money totals for each class | 11 |
| ii) | Matrix shows the total number of flowers required to make the bunches for each Year 9 class | Multiplies two matrices correctlyIdentifies each element as total number of flowers for each class | 11 |
| iii) | Matrix shows the total number of small bunches and the total number of large bunches sold to Year 8 | Pre-multiplies the matrix correctlyIdentifies each element as total of each type of bunch for Year 8 | 11 |
| iv) | Matrix shows the total number of bunches sold to each Year 8 class | Post-multiplies the matrix correctlyIdentifies each element as total number of bunches for each Year 8 class | 11 |

**Question 2 (8 marks)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Solution | Behaviours | Marks |
| a) | ororGen will earn $420 | Creates a 1x3 row matrix showing hours workedCreates a 3x1 column matrix showing pay rates (or similar combination)Multiplies matrices in the correct order | 111 |
| b) | =B4 \* (C4 + D4 \*1.5 + E4 \* 2)or similar | Uses correct cell references throughoutCorrectly orders operations | 11 |
| c) | (22 x 10) + (33 x 2) + (44 x 3)= 418418 – 350 = 6868 x 50 cents = $34 | Determines rate for each day correctlyFinds difference between earning and base rateDetermines reduction in allowance based on income | 111 |

**Question 3 (3 marks)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Solution | Behaviours | Marks |
| Large eggs cost 200c for 120 g$\frac{20}{12}≈1.666$, 1.67c/gSmall eggs cost 100c for 45 g$\frac{20}{9}≈2.222$, 2.22c/gThe larger eggs are the better value because they cost less per gram. | Accurately (1) divides number of cents by number of grams (1) for both sizesCorrectly concludes on the basis of less cost per gram | 111 |

**Section Two: Calculator-assumed section (40 marks)**

**Question 4 (4 marks)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Solution | Behaviours | Marks |
| a) | 0.007184 x 800.425 x 1590.725 | Correctly substitutes given values for pronumerals | 1 |
| b) | 1.825 m2 | Evaluates correctlyExpresses answer correct to four significant figures and using correct units | 11 |
| c) | 18250 cm2 | Multiplies accurately by 10 000 | 1 |

**Question 5 (9 marks)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Solution | Behaviours | Marks |
| a) |  G C N TGCNT   | Labels rows and columnsHas 0s on the leading diagonalEnters correct data | 111 |
| b) | Tina | States name of row where sum of elements is one | 1 |
| c) |  | Shows original matrix is multiplied by itselfStates resulting 4x4 matrix with all elements correct | 11 |
| d) | 0, the value of 0 means that Tina and Nick cannot message each other via another person | Identifies element in row 4, column 3 as 0Explains that Nick and Tina cannot communicate via a third person | 11 |
| e) | 9 | Determines the sum of the elements in column 3 of M2 | 1 |

**Question 6 (8 marks)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Solution | Behaviours | Marks |
| a) | For AAA Bank, *P/E* ratio = $\frac{3365}{207.5}$≈16.2For ZZZ Bank, *P/E* ratio = $\frac{32055}{223.1}$≈14.4ZZZ Bank has a lower *P/E* ratio so John would be paying less for every dollar of current earnings in ZZZ Bank than in AAA Bank John should buy more of ZZZ Bank (other things being equal) | Calculates P/E ratios correctly for each bank (1 mark each)Selects bank with the lowest ratioGives qualified reason/explanation as to why the bank with the lowest *P/E* ratio should be selected | 211 |
| b) | Dividends paid= 82+84 = 166c per shareAnnual earnings per share = 207.5cpercentage of annual earnings distributed=$ \frac{166}{207.5}×100=80\%$ | Calculates the total dividend and divides by the annual earningsExpresses this as a percentage | 11 |
| c) | 65% of 223.1c = 145.015c145.015 – 66 = 79.015 i.e. expected final dividend will be approximately 79.1 or 79.2 c | Determines 65% of the annual earningsSubtracts the interim dividend to determine the final dividend | 11 |

**Question 7 (6 marks)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Solution | Behaviours | Marks |
| a)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | HDL | Chol. | LDL | PTRI | Risk |
| **Ideal range** | **1.1 to 3.5** | **<5.5** | **<3.5** | **<1.5** | **<3.5** |
| Year |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2009 | 1.4 | 5.7 | 3.8 | 1.1 | 4.1 |
| 2011 | 1.6 | 7.2 | 5 | 1.3 |   |
| 2012 | *1.3* | *5.2* | *3.4* | *1.1* |  |
| 2013 | 1.5 | 5.4 | 3.4 | 1 |   |
| 2014 | 1.7 | 4.9 | 2.8 | 0.8 |   |

 |  | Identifies all values outside the ranges given as ideal(1 if at least 3) | 2 |
| b) | Risk = $\frac{Chol}{HDL}$ | Selects both variables correctly | 2 |
| c) | Risk(2014) = $\frac{4.9}{1.7}$ = 2.9Yes, within ideal range  | Uses formula created to determine Risk Identifies that result is in ideal range | 11 |

**Question 8 (7 marks)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Solution | Behaviours | Marks |
| a) |  | Determines correct column matrix | 1 |
| b) |  | Writes down the correct matrix productPerforms multiplication of matrices (using technology) | 11 |
| c) | 125 Row 1 column 1 | Has the correct total for P1Locates position of data in the matrix | 11 |
| d) | Each row represents the total score for the players who are in row order of P1 to P5. | Identifies each row as belonging to a different playerNominates data as being the total number of points | 11 |

**Question 9 (6 marks)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Solution | Behaviours | Marks |
| a) | 19 x 0.97 = $18.43 | Divides by 10 000 and multiplies by 0.97 | 1 |
| b) | 350 x 0.8666 = $303.30 | Multiplies by 0.8666 | 1 |
| c) | 1 ÷ 0.8666 = $1.15 | Chooses division of correct numbers | 1 |
| d) |  Or | Establishes correct matricesMatrices are written in correct orderUses matrix multiplication | 111 |

# Sample assessment task

# Mathematics Applications – ATAR Year 11

## Task 7 (Investigation 3) – Unit 2

**Assessment type:** Investigation

This investigation provides opportunity for students to demonstrate the use of the statistical investigative process using univariate data.

Notes for teachers

* Part A could be completed during class time or at home.
* Part B provides validation of the student work submitted in Part A and should be completed in class under supervised conditions.

While the Authority provides sample assessment tasks for guidance, it is the expectation of the Authority that teachers will develop tasks customised to reflect their school’s context and the needs of the student cohort. This resource is available on a public website and use of the resource without modification may affect the integrity of the assessment.

## Part A

**Materials required:**  Standard writing equipment

 Calculator with graphing facilities (to be provided by the student)

**Other materials allowed:** In-class technology and/or calculator with graphic/statistical capabilities, drawing templates

**Task weighting:** 7% (5% from Part A: preparation activity and 2% from Part B: in-class validation)

**Maximum number of marks for Part A:** 24 marks

**Task weighting for Part A:**

5% of the school mark for this pair of units

**Are males better drivers?**

A student in class has suggested that males are better drivers than females. He went on to say that to be a good driver you need fast reflexes. This prompted some discussion with other students in the class saying the ability to concentrate was also very important.

Investigate the statements made above and produce a report that justifies your answer to the question ‘Are males better drivers than female drivers?’

A completed statistical investigation should include:

* an introduction that outlines the question to be answered and any further questions that could be explored
* selection and application of suitable mathematical and graphical techniques you have studied to analyse the provided data
* interpretation of your results relating your answer to the original problem
* communication of your results and conclusions in a concise systematic manner.

Your investigation report should include the following.

1. Introduction – two or three sentences providing an overview of your investigation. (3 marks)

2. Numerical and graphical analysis

* choose various statistical measures you have studied to analyse the data (5 marks)
* consider the most appropriate graphs which represent the data provided. (5 marks)

3. Interpretation of the results of this analysis in relation to the original question (7 marks)

* describe any trend and pattern in your data (two to three sentences)
* state how your data relates to the original problem (two to three sentences)
* use your knowledge and understanding gained in this unit to explain your results in one paragraph.

4. Conclusion (4 marks)

* summarise your findings and conclusions in one paragraph.

**Data**

A sample of data from the 2013 *Census At School* survey is provided below. The data were generated from a random sample of 30 female and 30 male Year 11 and 12 students who provided information on their reaction time using their dominant hand, and their concentration activity.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Female** |  | **Male** |
|  | **Reaction time (sec)****(dominant hand)** | **Concentration****activity (secs)** |  |  | **Reaction time (sec)****(dominant hand)** | **Concentration** **activity (secs)** |
| 1 | 0.03 | 52 |  | 1 | 0.35 | 35 |
| 2 | 0.38 | 61 |  | 2 | 0.51 | 61 |
| 3 | 0.39 | 34 |  | 3 | 0.35 | 38 |
| 4 | 0.39 | 22 |  | 4 | 0.32 | 43 |
| 5 | 0.44 | 38 |  | 5 | 0.37 | 43 |
| 6 | 0.31 | 24 |  | 6 | 0.38 | 47 |
| 7 | 0.43 | 41 |  | 7 | 0.37 | 48 |
| 8 | 0.34 | 19 |  | 8 | 0.31 | 64 |
| 9 | 0.56 | 59 |  | 9 | 0.37 | 38 |
| 10 | 0.34 | 44 |  | 10 | 0.31 | 43 |
| 11 | 0.38 | 40 |  | 11 | 0.45 | 33 |
| 12 | 0.56 | 41 |  | 12 | 0.37 | 38 |
| 13 | 0.37 | 56 |  | 13 | 0.31 | 31 |
| 14 | 0.44 | 33 |  | 14 | 0.34 | 52 |
| 15 | 0.32 | 50 |  | 15 | 2.61 | 58 |
| 16 | 0.31 | 41 |  | 16 | 0.35 | 34 |
| 17 | 0.35 | 40 |  | 17 | 0.4 | 49 |
| 18 | 18.62 | 60 |  | 18 | 0.31 | 35 |
| 19 | 0.35 | 47 |  | 19 | 0.32 | 47 |
| 20 | 0.34 | 47 |  | 20 | 0.42 | 37 |
| 21 | 0.94 | 50 |  | 21 | 0.35 | 36 |
| 22 | 0.32 | 28 |  | 22 | 0.32 | 38 |
| 23 | 0.35 | 38 |  | 23 | 0.41 | 43 |
| 24 | 0.37 | 40 |  | 24 | 0.31 | 60 |
| 25 | 0.4 | 58 |  | 25 | 0.32 | 36 |
| 26 | 0.45 | 43 |  | 26 | 0.35 | 47 |
| 27 | 0.34 | 34 |  | 27 | 0.3 | 30 |
| 28 | 0.32 | 27 |  | 28 | 0.14 | 35 |
| 29 | 0.3 | 39 |  | 29 | 0.36 | 41 |
| 30 | 0.67 | 77 |  | 30 | 0.27 | No data |

# Marking key for sample assessment task 8 – Part A

|  |
| --- |
| **Introduction** |
| After being posed the question, ‘Are male drivers better than female drivers?’ I have been asked to investigate this statement. While other factors may affect someone’s ability to drive, I will use the data provided of reflex and concentration times to try to explore this statement. |
| **Specific behaviours** | **Marks** |
| Provides a simple introduction of the question | 1 |
| Restates question in own words | 1 |
| Mentions reflexes and concentration as two measures of driving ability  | 1 |
| **Total** | **/3** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Numerical analysis** |
|

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Dominant****hand** | **Concentration activity** |
| **Females** |  |  |  |
| **(f)** | **Mean** | 0.38 | 42.77 |
|  | **Median** | 0.36 | 41.00 |
|  | **Standard deviation** | 0.07 | 12.94 |
| **Males** | **Mean** | 0.35 | 43.33 |
| **(m)** | **Median** | 0.35 | 42.00 |
|  | **Standard deviation** | 0.06 | 9.61 |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Female dominant hand** | **Male dominant hand** | **Female****concentration activity** | **Male****concentration activity** |
| **Minimum** | 0.3 | 0.14 | 19 | 30 |
| **Q1** | 0.34 | 0.31 | 34 | 36 |
| **Median** | 0.37 | 0.35 | 40.5 | 42 |
| **Q3** | 0.43 | 0.37 | 47.75 | 47.75 |
| **Maximum** | 0.56 | 0.51 | 61 | 64 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

 |
| **Specific behaviours** | **Marks** |
| Calculates measures of central tendency, including mean and median | 1 |
| Calculates mean, median with outliers removed | 1 |
| Calculates range | 1 |
| Calculates standard deviation or inter-quartile range | 1 |
| Calculates standard deviation and IQR | 1 |
| **Total** | **/5** |

| **Graphical analysis** |
| --- |
| Box and whisker plots |
| Back-to-back stem and leaf plots

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Stem and leaf** |  |
| **Female dominant hand** | **Seconds** | **Male dominant hand** |
|  | **0.0** |  |
|  | **0.1** | **4** |
|  | **0.2** | **7** |
| **9 9 8 8 7 7 5 5 5 4 4 4 4 2 2 2 1 1 0** | **0.3** | **0 1 1 1 1 1 2 2 2 2 4 5 5 5 5 5 6 7 7 7 7 8** |
| **5 4 4 3 0**  | **0.4** | **0 1 2 5**  |
| **6 6** | **0.5** | **1** |
| **7** | **0.6** |  |
|  | **0.8** |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Stem and leaf** |  |
| **Female concentration activity** | **Seconds** | **Male concentration activity** |
|  | **0** |  |
| **9** | **10** |  |
| **8 7 4 2** | **20** |  |
| **9 8 8 4 4 3** | **30** | **0 1 3 4 5 5 5 6 6 7 8 8 8 8** |
| **7 7 4 3 1 1 1 0 0 0**  | **40** | **1 3 3 3 3 7 7 7 8 9** |
| **9 8 6 2 0 0**  | **50** | **2 8** |
| **1 0**  | **60** | **4** |
| **7** | **70** |  |
|  | **80** |  |

 |
| **Distributions: Dominant hand****Distribution: Concentration activities** |
| **Specific behaviours** | **Marks** |
| Constructs simple single graphs | 1 |
| Shows comparative graphs: stem and leaf, histograms or dot frequency  | 1 |
| Uses box and whisker plots to compare male and female attributes | 1 |
| Presents correct graphs, including labelling | 2 |
| **Total** | **/5** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Interpretation** |
| Discussion of frequency/proportion, measures of central tendency, removal of outliers and measures of spreadSample interpretation:It is clear from looking at measures of central tendency, such as mean and median, that males performed faster on the reflex activity.Outliers have been removed from six data points, as these would have increased the mean and median for female reflexes.Females produced better results on the concentration activity, with the mean and median indicating females were faster.The range of scores for males was higher for the reflex activity, and higher for females on the concentration activity.The inter-quartile ranges are higher for females in both reaction times and also the concentration activity.On the concentration task there was a greater range for the female results, which is confirmed by the larger standard deviation compared with the males. The distribution for females is symmetrical, but the male distribution indicates a tail of students with larger times, indicating a positive skew in the results. |
| **Specific behaviours** | **Marks** |
| Discusses frequency  | 1 |
| Discusses proportion e.g. median | 1 |
| Discusses removal of outliers and effects on mean, median | 1 |
| Makes comparisons using measures of spread e.g. range, IQR | 1 |
| Makes comparisons using central tendency measures: mean and median | 1 |
| Discusses clusters of results in the data | 1 |
| Interpretation linked to numerical and graphical data | 1 |
| **Total** | **/7** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Conclusion** |
| Short statement outlining summary of findings Sample conclusion:To summarise, while the mean and median scores were better for males than those for females for the reflex activity, female concentration times were better than males, with a cluster of males with slower concentration results and a significant number of females with very good concentration results (with the median being lower than the mean). Reaction times and concentration are important skills for driving, but we would need to make a study of other skills or data to answer the question posed. Other skills are important, such as general knowledge and adherence to road rules, risk taking behaviour etc. Road accident statistics could also help to answer the question, ‘Are males better drivers than female drivers?’ |
| **Specific behaviours** | **Marks** |
| Makes a valid statement about the results | 1 |
| Relates conclusion back to the original question | 1 |
| Proposes that other data should be collected to help answer question | 1 |
| Provides a concise and coherent summary of the analysis | 1 |
| **Total** | **/4** |

## Part B: In-class validation

**Time allowed for this task:** Up to 50 minutes, in class, under supervised conditions

**Materials required:** Standard writing equipment, calculator with graphic/statistical capabilities, drawing templates

**Marks available:** 31 marks

**Task weighting for Part B:**

2%

Some of the students who completed the activity in Part A thought that the non-dominant hand reaction time could also provide significant evidence in answering the question, ‘Are males better drivers than female drivers?’

Another sample of data, this time from the 2014 *Census At School* survey, was extracted and is provided below. The data were generated from a random sample of 25 female and 25 male Year 11 and 12 students who provided the information. The tables below display the students’ reaction times using their non-dominant hand, and the results for the concentration activity.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Female** |   | **Male** |
|  | **Reaction time (sec)****(non-dominant hand)** | **Concentration****activity (sec)** |   |  | **Reaction time (sec)****(non-dominant hand)** | **Concentration****activity (sec)** |
| 1 | 0.42 | 69 |   | 1 | 0.33 | 5 |
| 2 | 0.35 | 36 |   | 2 | 0.38 | 5 |
| 3 | 0.97 | 66 |   | 3 | 0.37 | 60 |
| 4 | 0.33 | 49 |   | 4 | 3.3 | 15 |
| 5 | 0.37 | 54 |   | 5 | 0.35 | 5 |
| 6 | 0.38 | 31 |   | 6 | 0.29 | 3 |
| 7 | 0.37 | 36 |   | 7 | 0.32 | 2 |
| 8 | 0.44 | 31 |   | 8 | 0.32 | 10 |
| 9 | 0.47 | 51 |   | 9 | 0.28 | 2 |
| 10 | 2 | 50 |   | 10 | 0.45 | 25 |
| 11 | 1.6 | 35 |   | 11 | 0.39 | 30 |
| 12 | 0.36 | 50 |   | 12 | 0.36 | 6 |
| 13 | 0.45 | 30 |   | 13 | 0.4 | 30 |
| 14 | 0.29 | 41 |   | 14 | 0.47 | 5 |
| 15 | 0.4 | 33 |   | 15 | 0.38 | 17 |
| 16 | 0.4 | 28 |   | 16 | 0.34 | 20 |
| 17 | 0.18 | 46 |   | 17 | 0.37 | 8 |
| 18 | 0.32 | 32 |   | 18 | 0.33 | 10 |
| 19 | 0.4 | 28 |   | 19 | 0.42 | 20 |
| 20 | 0.35 | 56 |   | 20 | 2.4 | 10 |
| 21 | 0.42 | 33 |   | 21 | 0.3 | 10 |
| 22 | 0.39 | 24 |   | 22 | 0.29 | 10 |
| 23 | 0.42 | 34 |   | 23 | 0.37 | 25 |
| 24 | 0.4 | 36 |   | 24 | 0.38 | 45 |
| 25 | 0.32 | 33 |  | 25 | 0.31 | 11 |

**Question 1 (12 marks)**

One of the class members conducted a numerical analysis of the data, producing the following results.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Non-dominant****hand**  | **Concentration activity**  |
| Females | Mean | 0.512 | 40.48 |
| (f) | Median | 0.4 | 36 |
|  | Standard deviation | 0.405 | 11.88 |
| Males | Mean | 0.556 | 15.56 |
| (m) | Median | 0.37 | 10 |
|  | Standard deviation | 0.69 | 13.82 |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Female** **non-dominant**  | **Male** **non-dominant**  | **Female****concentration**  | **Male****concentration**  |
| Minimum | 0.18 | 0.28 | 28 | 2 |
| Q1 | 0.35 | 0.32 | 31.5 | 5 |
| Median | 0.4 | 0.37 | 36 | 10 |
| Q3 | 0.43 | 0.395 | 50 | 22.5 |
| Maximum | 2 | 3.3 | 69 | 60 |

She also provided the following graphical display of the data on reaction time.





Another class member argued that this was misleading as the data obviously included outliers and these should be removed before drawing conclusions. She provided the following alternative, but incomplete analysis, after the removal of outliers.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Non-dominant****hand**  | **Concentration activity**  |
| Females | Mean | 0.38 |  |
| (f) | Median | 0.38 |  |
|  | Standard deviation | 0.045 |  |
| Males | Mean | 0.36 |  |
| (m) | Median | 0.36 |  |
|  | Standard deviation | 0.049 |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Female** **non-dominant**  | **Male** **non-dominant**  | **Female****concentration**  | **Male****concentration**  |
| Minimum | 0.29 | 0.28 |  |  |
| Q1 | 0.35 | 0.32 |  |  |
| Median | 0.39 | 0.36 |  |  |
| Q3 | 0.42 | 0.38 |  |  |
| Maximum | 0.47 | 0.47 |  |  |

1. Remove any outliers from the data, providing evidence of how you decided which data were outliers, and complete the tables above. (6 marks)

The distributions of the reaction times for males and females, with outliers removed, are displayed below.





1. Interpret these displays and state any conclusions that you think can be drawn from the data relating to the non-dominant hand reaction times of males and females. (6 marks)

**Question 2 (12 marks)**

1. Provide a suitable graphical display for the comparison of the data relating to the concentration activity. (6 marks)
2. Interpret your graphical displays and state any conclusions that you think can be drawn from the data relating to the concentration activity times of males and females. (6 marks)

**Question 3 (7 marks)**

Summarise your overall findings and conclusions, based on analysis of the data provided, in relation to the question ‘Are males better drivers than female drivers?’

# Marking key for sample assessment task 9 – Part B

**Question 1**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Using data from calculator for

**Females:** Q3 – Q1 =18.5, so for outliers, the concentration time needs to be less than 3.75 (= Q1 -1.5🞨18.5) or greater than 81.5 (= Q3 +1.5🞨18.5). Hence no outliers in the data.**Males:** Q3 – Q1 =17.5, so for outliers, the concentration time needs to be less than 0 or greater than 48.75. Hence no outliers below Q1 but the 60 needs to be removed as an outlier above Q3.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Non-dominant****hand** | **Concentration activity** |
| Females | Mean | 0.38 | **40.48** |
| (f) | Median | 0.38 | **36** |
|  | Standard deviation | 0.045 | **11.88** |
| Males | Mean | 0.36 | **13.75** |
| (m) | Median | 0.36 | **10** |
|  | Standard deviation | 0.049 | **10.64** |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Female** **non-dominant** | **Male** **non-dominant** | **Female****concentration** | **Male****concentration** |
| Minimum | 0.29 | 0.28 | **28** | **2** |
| Q1 | 0.35 | 0.32 | **31.5** | **5** |
| Median | 0.39 | 0.36 | **36** | **10** |
| Q3 | 0.42 | 0.38 | **50** | **20** |
| Maximum | 0.47 | 0.47 | **69** | **45** |
|  |  |  |  |  |

 |
| **Specific behaviours** | **Marks** |
| Calculates Q3 – Q1 | 1 |
| Calculates the correct ‘boundaries’ to identify outliers | 1 |
| Identifies no outliers for the females and enters the required statistics correctly | 1 |
| Identifies the need to remove the 60 from the male data | 1 |
| Calculates and enters the required new statistics for males correctly | 2 |
| **Total** | **/6** |
| 1. Reaction time comparisons

After the removal of outliers, the median reaction time for males is slightly less than for females (0.36 compared with 0.39 seconds) and while there is not much difference in the range between the two data sets (min: 0.28 (M) 0.29(F) and max: 0.47(M and F)), Q3 is higher for females than males (0.42 compared with 0.38). The distribution for females is skewed towards higher reaction times compared with the distribution for males, which is skewed towards lower reaction times. Overall this tends to suggest that males have lower reaction times (although it is only a small sample). |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Specific behaviours** | **Marks** |
| Discusses proportion e.g. median | 1 |
| Makes comparisons using measures of spread e.g. range, IQR | 1 |
| Makes comparisons using central tendency measures: mean and median | 1 |
| Discusses clusters of results or ‘skewness’ in the data | 2 |
| Links results and draws inferences relating to original question | 1 |
| **Total** | **/6** |

**Question 2**

|  |
| --- |
| 1. Graphical displays

 |
| **Specific behaviours** | **Marks** |
| Constructs simple single graphs | 1 |
| Shows comparative graphs: stem and leaf, dot frequency etc.  | 1 |
| Uses box and whisker plots to compare male and female attributes | 1 |
| Presents correct graphs, including labelling | 2 |
| Graphs reflect use of data with outliers removed | 1 |
| **Total** | **/6** |

|  |
| --- |
| 1. Discussion of frequency/proportion, measures of central tendency and measures of spread.

Sample interpretation:Females produced far better results on the concentration activity, with the mean and median indicating females concentrate for longer. The inter-quartile range for both males and females is roughly the same, but the standard deviation of the females was higher than for the males. 75% of the males surveyed had a lower concentration time than the female with the lowest time.The distribution for females is more symmetrical, although both distributions indicate a close ‘clumping’ of students at the lower end of the data. However, there is more ‘clumping’ of males in the lower half.  |
| **Specific behaviours** | **Marks** |
| Discusses frequency  | 1 |
| Discusses proportion, e.g. median | 1 |
| Makes comparisons using measures of spread, e.g. range, IQR | 1 |
| Makes comparisons using central tendency measures: mean and median | 1 |
| Makes comment about the ‘skewness’ or symmetry of the distributions | 1 |
| Draws an appropriate conclusion(s) | 1 |
| **Total** | **/6** |

**Question 3**

|  |
| --- |
| Statement outlining summary of findings and any conclusions drawn.Sample:To summarise, while the mean and median scores were slightly better for males than those for females for the non-dominant hand reaction time activity, female concentration times were far better than males, with all the females showing a better concentration time than 75% of the males. Reaction times and concentration are important skills for driving and if they were the only factors, then it could be concluded that ‘females are better drivers than males’. However, there is a need to make a study of other skills or data to answer the question posed. Other skills are important, such as general knowledge and adherence to road rules, risk taking behaviour etc. Road accident statistics could also help to answer the question. |
| **Specific behaviours** | **Marks** |
| Makes valid statement(s) about the results | 2 |
| Provides a concise and coherent summary of the analysis | 2 |
| Relates conclusion back to the original question | 1 |
| Proposes that other data should be collected to help answer question | 2 |
| **Total** | **/7** |

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Data from: Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2013). [Driver reaction time and concentration activity data]. Retrieved May, 2014, from [www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/CaSHome.nsf/Home/CaSMa06+ARE+MALES+BETTER+DRIVERS#hello](http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/CaSHome.nsf/Home/CaSMa06%2BARE%2BMALES%2BBETTER%2BDRIVERS#hello)

Used under Creative Commons [Attribution 2.5 Australia](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.5/au/) licence.