

Lesson 7.7 Using Measures of Center

Measures of center can be used to describe a data set. Each measure of center allows for different observations about the set.

The **mean** is the most popular measure of center. It is the average, so it provides the clearest picture of the center of the data, but only if there are no outliers (values that are far away from the majority of the numbers in the set).

The **median** is the most useful measure when the data set contains outliers.

The **mode** is the most useful measure when the values in the data set are non-numerical.

Tell which measure of center would be best for describing each data set.

a

1. 3, 4, 5, 5, 7, 6, 21

2. 54, 72, 85, 67, 93, 85, 61, 89

3. \$14.60, \$7.25, \$15.70, \$15.25, \$14.90

4. 0, 1, 3, 5, 5, 5, 7, 9, 9, 11, 15, 99

b

62, 65, 72, 68, 66

red, blue, green, red, blue, yellow, blue

8, 25, 19, 19, 25, 9, 9, 18, 25, 9, 8, 7, 10

A, B, C, A, B, C, D, A, B, B

**Lesson 7.7****Using Measures of Center**

Find the measures of center for each data set and decide which would be best to describe the data set.

a**b**

1. Cesar's Test Scores: 84, 80, 78, 90, 76, 88, 86, 80, 94

mean: _____

Which is the best measure of center? _____

median: _____

mode: _____

2. Basketball Team Scores: 78, 77, 81, 84, 67, 78, 75, 42

mean: _____

Which is the best measure of center? _____

median: _____

mode: _____

3. Daily Theater Attendance: 124, 127, 111, 119, 107, 99, 115

mean: _____

Which is the best measure of center? _____

median: _____

mode: _____

4. Marisa's Daily Tips: \$15, \$21, \$18, \$13, \$52, \$21, \$25

mean: _____

Which is the best measure of center? _____

median: _____

mode: _____