

7.5: Central Limit Theorem - Pocket Change (Worksheet)

Name: _____

Section: _____

Student ID#: _____

Work in groups on these problems. You should try to answer the questions without referring to your textbook. If you get stuck, try asking another group for help.

Student Learning Outcomes

- The student will demonstrate and compare properties of the central limit theorem.

NOTE

This lab works best when sampling from several classes and combining data.

Collect the Data

- Count the change in your pocket. (Do not include bills.)
- Randomly survey 30 classmates. Record the values of the change in [Table](#).

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

- Construct a histogram. Make five to six intervals. Sketch the graph using a ruler and pencil. Scale the axes.


 Blank graph template. The horizontal axis is labeled Value of the change and the vertical axis is labeled Frequency.

Figure 7.5.1.

- Calculate the following ($n = 1$; surveying one person at a time):

1. $\bar{x} =$ _____

2. $s =$ _____

- Draw a smooth curve through the tops of the bars of the histogram. Use one to two complete sentences to describe the general shape of the curve.

Collecting Averages of Pairs

Repeat steps one through five of the section [Collect the Data](#). with one exception. Instead of recording the change of 30 classmates, record the average change of 30 pairs.

- Randomly survey 30 **pairs** of classmates.
- Record the values of the average of their change in [Table](#).

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

- Construct a histogram. Scale the axes using the same scaling you used for the section titled [Collect the Data](#). Sketch the graph using a ruler and a pencil.


 This is a blank graph template. The horizontal axis is labeled Value of the change and the vertical axis is labeled Frequency.

Figure 7.5.2.

- Calculate the following ($n = 2$; surveying two people at a time):

- $\bar{x} =$ _____
- $s =$ _____

- Draw a smooth curve through tops of the bars of the histogram. Use one to two complete sentences to describe the general shape of the curve.

Collecting Averages of Groups of Five

Repeat steps one through five (of the section titled [Collect the Data](#)) with one exception. Instead of recording the change of 30 classmates, record the average change of 30 groups of five.

- Randomly survey 30 **groups of five** classmates.
- Record the values of the average of their change.

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

- Construct a histogram. Scale the axes using the same scaling you used for the section titled [Collect the Data](#). Sketch the graph using a ruler and a pencil.


 This is a blank graph template. The horizontal axis is labeled Value of the change and the vertical axis is labeled Frequency.

Figure 7.5.3.

- Calculate the following ($n = 5$; surveying five people at a time):

- $\bar{x} =$ _____
- $s =$ _____

- Draw a smooth curve through tops of the bars of the histogram. Use one to two complete sentences to describe the general shape of the curve.

Discussion Questions

- Why did the shape of the distribution of the data change, as n changed? Use one to two complete sentences to explain what happened.
- In the section titled [Collect the Data](#), what was the approximate distribution of the data? X _____ (_____, _____)
- In the section titled [Collecting Averages of Groups of Five](#), what was the approximate distribution of the averages? \bar{X} _____ (_____, _____)
- In one to two complete sentences, explain any differences in your answers to the previous two questions.

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