

Name _____

Date _____

Unit 16 · Interpreting and discussing results — glossary

All 18 key words, with a worked example for each.

Term	Meaning	Example
mode	The value that occurs most often.	<i>The mode of 3, 7, 7, 2 is 7.</i>
median	The middle value when the data is in order.	<i>The median of 2, 3, 5, 7, 9 is 5.</i>
mean	The total divided by how many values there are.	<i>The mean of 4, 6, 8 is 6.</i>
range	The largest value minus the smallest.	<i>$9 - 2 = 7$.</i>
average	A single value that stands for a whole set.	<i>Mode, median and mean are all averages.</i>
spread	How far apart the values are.	<i>Measured by the range.</i>
outlier	A value far away from all the others.	<i>The 950 in 180, 200, 210, 950.</i>
consistent	Varying little; having a small range.	<i>A range of 2 rather than 20.</i>
frequency	How many times a value occurs.	<i>The column in a table.</i>
bar chart	A chart whose bar heights show frequencies.	<i>One bar for each day.</i>
line graph	Points joined in order, for data that changes over time.	<i>Temperature through the day.</i>
pie chart	A circle divided into sectors showing shares of a whole.	<i>The sectors total 360°.</i>
sector	One slice of a pie chart.	<i>A 90° sector is a quarter.</i>
trend	The general direction data is moving in.	<i>Sales rising each year.</i>
sample	The part of a population actually surveyed.	<i>28 learners out of 900.</i>
bias	A sample chosen in a way that makes it unrepresentative.	<i>Asking only gym members about exercise.</i>
population	Everyone or everything you want to know about.	<i>The whole school.</i>

Term	Meaning	Example
variation	The reasons readings differ from one another.	<i>Weather, time of day, who was asked.</i>