

Worksheet 10 - Gettysburg Address

Wednesday, February 25, 2026

Math 58B - Jo Hardin

Name: _____

Work alone today. Do your best.

Task: Consider the Gettysburg Address.

1. Choose 10 words that you think represent the Gettysburg address. I am purposefully not telling you what is meant by the word “represent,” just use your best judgement. Write down the 10 words here.
2. Do something with those words (wait for class instructions). Provide the number asked for in class.
3. Choose a new set of 10 words (wait for class instructions). Write down the 10 words here.
4. Do the same thing with the new set of words. Provide the number asked for in class.

Solution:

For the large majority of students, the average word length of the words selected to be “representative” is longer than the average word length of the words selected randomly. Was that true for you? Remember, when we sample, the data should represent the population in **all** conceivable ways.

If the sampling distribution of the statistic is systematically different than the true parameter (here, the statistics are almost all above the true parameter), we say that the sampling method is **biased**. When the sampling distribution is centered at the true parameter, we say it is **unbiased**.