

Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

What Makes A Good Explanation?

STUDENT A

Step 4. Sindy was absent on Friday, made up the quiz and got a 40. Will this score have a greater influence on the median or the mean? Explain how you know.

The measure of central tendency that would change the most if the 40 was added would be the mean because with 10 numbers, it is 81, but with 1 more number it makes 11. So your mean is 77. The mean changed by 4 points.

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STUDENT B

Step 4. Sindy was absent on Friday, made up the quiz and got a 40. Will this score have a greater influence on the median or the mean? Explain how you know.

The mean goes from 81 to 77 and the median goes from 79 to 78. Both are lowered when you add the 40.

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What Makes A Good Explanation?

STUDENT C

Step 4. Sindy was absent on Friday, made up the quiz and got a 40. Will this score have a greater influence on the median or the mean? Explain how you know.

The one that would change the most is the mean. When you add the 40, the mean decreases by 4, going from 81 to 77. The median decreases by 1, going from 79 to 78. Even though both the mean and median are lower when you add the 40, the mean decreases more.