

AP STATS EXAM TIP #1

When asked to describe a distribution, be sure to address shape, center, and variability in the context of the problem.



AP STATS EXAM TIP #2

When asked to compare two distributions, be sure to compare shape, center, and variability in the context of the problem. Don't simply list. Use words like "greater than, less than, similar to."



AP STATS EXAM TIP #3

If you are using a calculator command to answer a free response question, be sure to label each input. Example: $\text{binomialpdf}(n=20, p=0.80, X=14)$



AP STATS EXAM TIP #4

Use -ly words to avoid making too bold of a statement. "The data are approximate-ly normal. The scatterplot is fair-ly linear. The residual plot shows a slight-ly curved pattern."



AP STATS EXAM TIP #5

When asked to describe the relationship between two quantitative variables, be sure to address the direction, form, strength, and any unusual features in the context of the problem.



AP STATS EXAM TIP #6

When interpreting slope and y-intercept for the regression equation, be sure to use the word "predicted" or "estimated" in front of the y-variable.

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AP STATS EXAM TIP #7

There is no firm rule for how many decimal places to show on the AP Statistics Exam. Make your decimal based on the context of the problem.

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AP STATS EXAM TIP #8

When explaining how a sample design leads to bias, be sure to explain how the sample responses might differ from the population responses AND how this might lead to an estimate that is higher or lower than the truth.

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AP STATS EXAM TIP #9

When asked to explain a confounding variable, be sure to explain how the variable is connected to the explanatory variable AND how it might influence the response variable.

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AP STATS EXAM TIP #10

For probability questions, be sure to show your work. A fraction and then the final answer is usually sufficient.

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AP STATS EXAM TIP #11

The mean of a random variable CAN be expressed as a decimal. Don't round.



AP STATS EXAM TIP #12

When defining a parameter, be sure your description is referring to the population and NOT the sample. Avoid past tense whenever possible.



AP STATS EXAM TIP #13

A good sample design or increasing the sample size does not make your estimate more accurate. It makes your estimate more precise.



AP STATS EXAM TIP #14

When interpreting a confidence interval, always use the word confident (not probability) and be sure to refer to the population parameter and not the sample statistic.



AP STATS EXAM TIP #15

When writing hypotheses for a significance test, be sure to use the population parameter and not the sample statistic. Also, be sure to define any parameters.



AP STATS EXAM TIP #16

When a significance test yields a P-value greater than alpha, we fail to reject the null. Don't "accept the null." Just don't.



AP STATS EXAM TIP #17

Use p-combined only when doing a significance test for the difference between two proportions. It is needed to check the Large Counts condition and for the SE.



AP STATS EXAM TIP #18

When using your calculator to perform a two-sample significance test for a difference in means, don't POOL. Just don't.



AP STATS EXAM TIP #19

Know how to interpret a P-value. "Assuming the null is true, the P-value is the probability of getting the observed result or more extreme, purely by chance."



AP STATS EXAM TIP #20

Know how to read computer regression output. Do you know which values are the slope and y-intercept?

Regression Analysis: Price (\$) versus
Miles driven

Predictor	Coef	SE Coef	T	P
Constant	38257	2446	15.64	0.000
Miles driven	-0.16292	0.03096	-5.26	0.000

S = 5740.13 R-Sq = 66.4% R-Sq(adj) = 64.0%



AP STATS EXAM TIP #21

Clearly communicate your understanding. Correct answers are usually not enough for full credit.



AP STATS EXAM TIP #22

Always include context in your answers. Just do it.



AP STATS EXAM TIP #23

Be precise in your language and vocabulary.



AP STATS EXAM TIP #24

Use appropriate notation. You will get marked down for using incorrect notation.



AP STATS EXAM TIP #27

**Do not leave
anything blank.
Seriously.**

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AP STATS EXAM TIP #28

**Know the formula
sheet (new 2020
version). Don't rely on
it, but know where
stuff is.**

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AP STATS EXAM TIP #29

**Know your inference.
One sample or two
samples? Means or
proportions? Interval
or test?**

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AP STATS EXAM TIP #30

**Be confident! You have
done all the preparation.
There is nothing they
can put on this exam
that you can't handle.**

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