**Central Tendencies**

**Mean** – “average” ; add all the numbers together then divide by the number of numbers

5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 5, 2, 3, 1 = 46 46/9 5.1 = mean

**Mode** – most often seen number

1, 2, 3, 5, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 Mode is 5

**Median** – middle number

1, 2, 3, 5, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 Median is 5

When there is an even amount of numbers, the median number can be a half number.

1, 3, 6, 7, 9, 10 Median is 6.5

How to read **frequency charts**:

Athletes spent varying times per day preparing for the meet.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Hours | Frequency |
| 1 | 10 |
| 2 | 15 |
| 3 | 5 |
| 4 | 2 |

This chart says:

10 athletes spent 1 hour preparing

15 athletes spent 2 hours

5 athletes spent 3 hours

2 athletes spent 4 hours

The total time spent practicing by all athletes is (1 x 10) + (2 x 15) + (3 x 5) + (4 x 2) or 10 + 30 + 15 + 8 or

53 hours total.

When asked to determine the best central tendency method, look over the mode, mean and median to determine what is most representative of what happened.

**Outliers**- Those are numbers that are so far away from the rest of the numbers that they are often discounted or unused.