

STATISTICS

Every question, eight papers

DBE · National Senior Certificate · Mathematics Paper 2

November 2021 - 2024 and May/June 2021, 2022, 2024, 2025

16 questions · 163 marks · 8 papers

Each question is a clip of the original DBE page. The wording, the mark allocations and the diagrams are exactly as they were printed - nothing has been retyped or redrawn. Only the blank answer space has been removed, so work in a separate book.

How it is arranged

One chapter per topic, so you can work through a whole skill at a time.

Inside a chapter the questions run from fewest marks to most. That is an order by size, not by difficulty: unlike the IEB, the DBE does not split its papers into an easier and a harder section, and its marking guidelines carry no cognitive-level tags. Nothing in these papers ranks one question as harder than another, so this booklet does not pretend otherwise.

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Summarising one data set	4 questions, 41 marks
8 to 14 marks each	
Grouped data and the ogive	5 questions, 50 marks
8 to 12 marks each	
Two variables: the scatter plot, the line and r	7 questions, 72 marks
8 to 12 marks each	

Summarising one data set

A list of numbers, and the few figures that stand for it: the mean, the median, the quartiles, and the standard deviation. Then the question DBE nearly always follows with - which values lie far enough out to count as outliers, and what they do to the figures you just calculated.

4 questions · 41 marks

8 to 14 marks each

1. Glasses of water a day, from a frequency table

DBE NSC Paper 2 · November 2023 · Q2 · 8 marks

QUESTION 2

At a certain school, the staff committee wanted to determine how many glasses of water the staff members drank during a school day. All teachers present on a specific day were interviewed. The information is shown in the table below.

NUMBER OF GLASSES OF WATER DRANK PER DAY	NUMBER OF STAFF MEMBERS
$0 \leq x < 2$	5
$2 \leq x < 4$	15
$4 \leq x < 6$	13
$6 \leq x < 8$	5
$8 \leq x < 10$	2

- 2.1 Complete the cumulative frequency column provided in the table in the ANSWER BOOK. (2)
- 2.2 How many staff members were interviewed? (1)
- 2.3 How many staff members drank fewer than 6 glasses of water during a school day? (1)
- 2.4 The staff committee observed that k teachers were absent on the day of the interviews. It was found that half of these k teachers drank from 0 to fewer than 2 (that is $0 \leq x < 2$) glasses of water per day, while the remainder of them drank from 4 to fewer than 6 (that is $4 \leq x < 6$) glasses of water per day. When these k teachers are included in the data, the estimated mean is 4 glasses of water per staff member per day.
- How many teachers were absent on the day of the interviews? (4)

[8]

2. Fifteen insurance premiums: the mean, then the spread

DBE NSC Paper 2 · May/June 2025 · Q1 · 9 marks

QUESTION 1

An insurance broker signed contracts with 15 people. The monthly premium (in rands) payable on each contract is given below.

134	215	325	326	362	429	515	531	598	610	624	728	923	1 034	1 200
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- 1.1 Calculate the mean of the data. (2)
- 1.2 Write down the standard deviation of the data. (1)
- 1.3 Calculate how many monthly premiums are within ONE standard deviation of the mean. (2)
- 1.4 The insurance company decided to increase the monthly premiums.
- Monthly premiums that were less than R500 increased by 18%
 - Monthly premiums that were equal to or more than R500 increased by $k\%$

After these increases were applied to the above data, the new mean monthly premium was R686,44. Calculate the value of k .

(4)
[9]

3. Loaves of bread over 18 days, and the values that sit far out

DBE NSC Paper 2 · November 2021 · Q1 · 10 marks

QUESTION 1

A bakery kept a record of the number of loaves of bread a tuck-shop ordered daily over the last 18 days. The information is shown in the table below.

10	11	13	14	14	15	16	18	18
19	19	20	21	35	35	37	40	41

1.1 Calculate the:

1.1.1 Mean number of loaves of bread ordered daily (2)

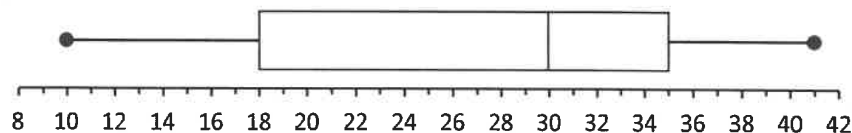
1.1.2 Standard deviation of the data (1)

1.1.3 Number of days on which the number of loaves of bread ordered was more than one standard deviation above the mean (2)

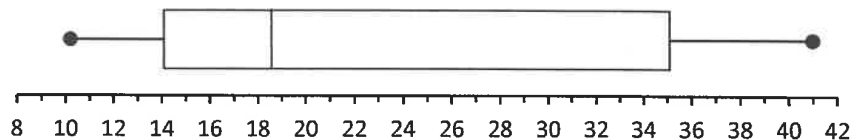
1.2 The tuck-shop owner was not able to sell all the loaves of bread delivered daily. He calculated the mean number of loaves sold over the 18 days to be 20. Calculate the number of loaves of bread which were NOT sold over the 18 days. (2)

1.3 One of the two box and whisker diagrams drawn below represents the data given in the table above.

Graph A:



Graph B:



1.3.1 Which ONE of the two box and whisker diagrams, drawn above, correctly represents the data? Write down a reason for your answer. (2)

1.3.2 Describe the skewness of the data. (1)

[10]

4. Fifteen days of mobile data: the mean, then the standard deviation

DBE NSC Paper 2 · May/June 2021 · Q1 · 14 marks

QUESTION 1

- 1.1 Sam recorded the amount of data (in MB) that she had used on each of the first 15 days in April. The information is shown in the table below.

26	13	3	18	12	34	24	58	16	10	15	69	20	17	40
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- 1.1.1 Calculate the:

(a) Mean for the data set (2)

(b) Standard deviation for the data set (1)

- 1.1.2 Determine the number of days on which the amount of data used was greater than one standard deviation above the mean. (2)

- 1.1.3 Calculate the maximum total amount of data that Sam must use for the remainder of the month if she wishes for the overall mean of April to be 80% of the mean for the first 15 days. (3)

- 1.2 The wind speed (in km per hour) and temperature (in °C) for a certain town were recorded at 16:00 for a period of 10 days. The information is shown in the table below.

WIND SPEED IN km/h (x)	2	6	15	20	25	17	11	24	13	22
TEMPERATURE IN °C (y)	28	26	22	22	16	20	24	19	26	19

- 1.2.1 Determine the equation of the least squares regression line for the data. (3)

- 1.2.2 Predict the temperature at 16:00 if, on a certain day, the wind speed of this town was 9 km per hour. (2)

- 1.2.3 Interpret the value of b in the context of the data. (1)
- [14]

Grouped data and the ogive

The same work when the data arrives already grouped into intervals. You no longer have the individual values, so the mean becomes an estimate built from interval midpoints, and the median is read off the cumulative frequency curve rather than counted.

5 questions · 50 marks

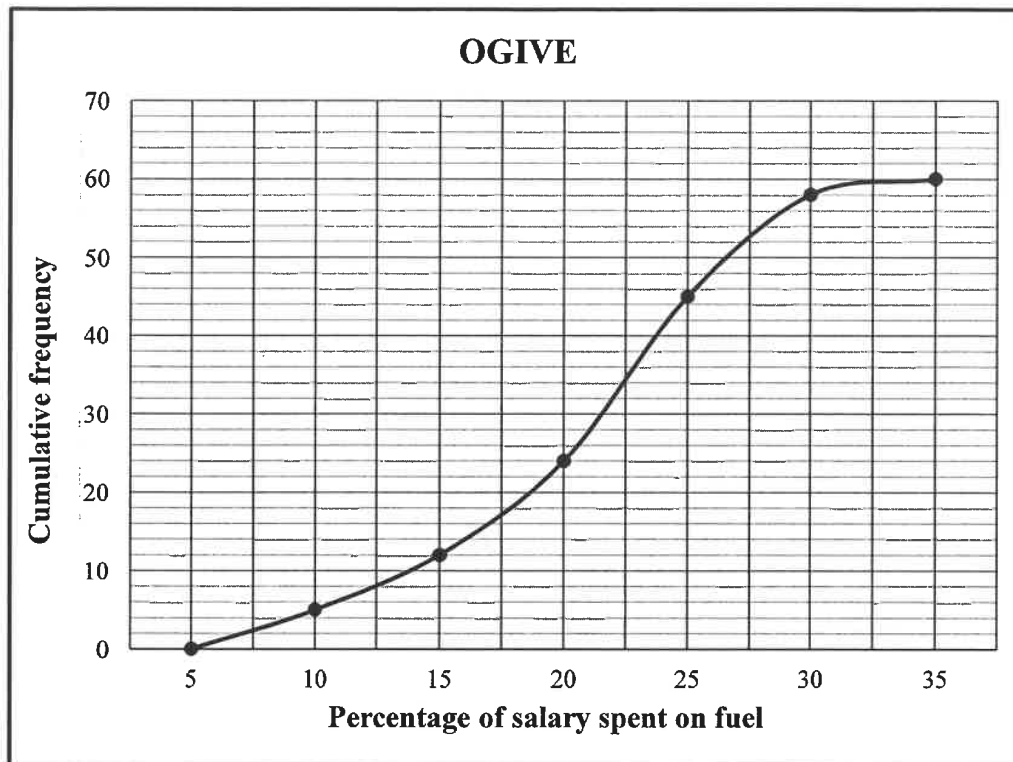
8 to 12 marks each

5. An ogive of what employees spend on fuel

DBE NSC Paper 2 · November 2022 · Q2 · 8 marks

QUESTION 2

A company conducted research among all its employees on what percentage of their monthly salary was spent on fuel in a particular month. The data is represented in the ogive (cumulative frequency graph) below.



- 2.1 How many people are employed at this company? (1)
- 2.2 Write down the modal class of the data. (1)
- 2.3 How many employees spent more than 22,5% of their monthly salary on fuel? (2)
- 2.4 An employee spent R2 400 of his salary on fuel in that particular month. Determine the monthly salary of this employee if he spends 7% of his salary on fuel. (2)
- 2.5 The monthly salaries of these employees remains constant and the number of litres of fuel used in each month also remains constant. If the fuel price increases from R21,43 per litre to R22,79 per litre at the beginning of the next month, how will the above ogive change? (2)

[8]

6. Days absent, grouped: the modal class and an estimated mean

DBE NSC Paper 2 · May/June 2021 · Q2 · 9 marks

QUESTION 2

The number of days that Grade 8 learners were absent at a certain high school during a year was recorded. This information is represented in the table below.

NUMBER OF DAYS ABSENT	NUMBER OF LEARNERS
$0 \leq x < 5$	34
$5 \leq x < 10$	45
$10 \leq x < 15$	98
$15 \leq x < 20$	43
$20 \leq x < 25$	7
$25 \leq x < 30$	3

- 2.1 Write down the modal class for the data. (1)
- 2.2 How many learners were absent from school for less than 15 days? (1)
- 2.3 How many Grade 8 learners are at the school? (1)
- 2.4 Draw a cumulative frequency graph (ogive) to represent the data above on the grid provided in the ANSWER BOOK. (4)
- 2.5 Use the cumulative frequency graph to determine the median number of days the Grade 8 learners were absent. (2)

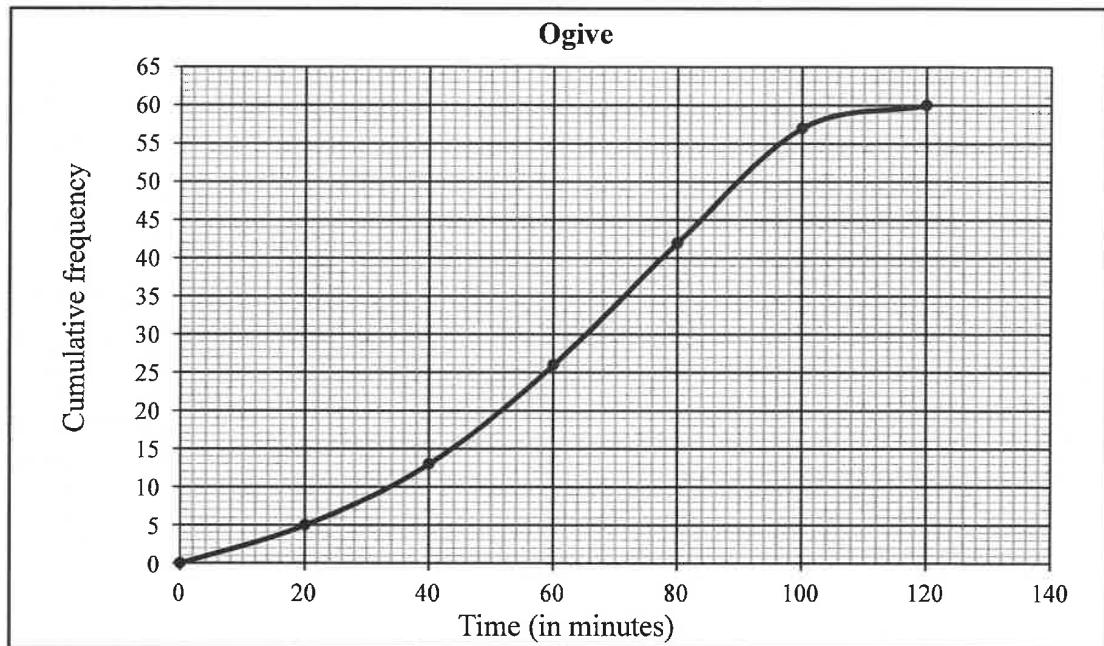
[9]

7. Sixty travel times on one ogive, then a rule about working from home

DBE NSC Paper 2 · November 2024 · Q2 · 10 marks

QUESTION 2

The cumulative frequency graph (ogive) shows the time taken (in minutes) for 60 employees to travel to work each morning.



- 2.1 Estimate the median travel time. (1)
- 2.2 Estimate the lower quartile. (1)
- 2.3 Estimate the interquartile range. (2)
- 2.4 The minimum and maximum times taken for an employee to travel to work are 5 and 120 minutes respectively. On the scaled line in the ANSWER BOOK, draw a box and whisker diagram to indicate the distribution of the data as represented in the ogive above. (2)
- 2.5 The company manager decided that all employees who travel for an hour or more will be allowed to work from home for part of the day. What percentage of the employees will be allowed to work from home for part of the day? (2)
- 2.6 Employees work 8 hours in a normal working day. The manager decided on the following rule for time to work from home:
- An employee is allowed to work half an hour from home for each time interval of 20 minutes, or part thereof, above an hour taken to travel to work.

On a certain day, an employee takes 110 minutes to travel to work. Calculate the number of minutes that this employee will be allowed to work from home on this day.

(2)
[10]

8. How far fifty athletes travel to reach a training facility

DBE NSC Paper 2 · May/June 2024 · Q2 · 11 marks

QUESTION 2

Fifty athletes need to access suitable training facilities. The table below shows the distances, in km, that they need to travel to obtain access to suitable training facilities.

DISTANCE (x km)	NUMBER OF ATHLETES
$0 \leq x < 5$	3
$5 \leq x < 10$	7
$10 \leq x < 15$	20
$15 \leq x < 20$	12
$20 \leq x < 25$	5
$25 \leq x < 30$	3

- 2.1 Complete the cumulative frequency column provided in the table in the ANSWER BOOK. (2)
- 2.2 On the grid provided in the ANSWER BOOK, draw a cumulative frequency graph (ogive) to represent the above data. (3)
- 2.3 Calculate the interquartile range (IQR) of the above data. (2)
- 2.4 The families of 4 of the athletes above who stay between 15 and 20 km from a suitable training facility, decide to move 10 kilometres closer to the facility. In which interval will the number of athletes increase? (1)
- 2.5 Calculate the estimated mean distance that the fifty athletes need to travel after the 4 families have moved 10 kilometres closer to the facility. Clearly show ALL working. (3)
- [11]

9. Eighty school bags: build the cumulative column, then the ogive

DBE NSC Paper 2 · May/June 2022 · Q1 · 12 marks

QUESTION 1

The table below shows the mass (in kg) of the school bags of 80 learners.

MASS (in kg)	FREQUENCY
$5 < m \leq 7$	6
$7 < m \leq 9$	18
$9 < m \leq 11$	21
$11 < m \leq 13$	19
$13 < m \leq 15$	11
$15 < m \leq 17$	4
$17 < m \leq 19$	1

- 1.1 Write down the modal class of the data. (1)
- 1.2 Complete the cumulative frequency column in the table in the ANSWER BOOK. (2)
- 1.3 Draw a cumulative frequency graph (ogive) for the given data on the grid provided in the ANSWER BOOK. (3)
- 1.4 Use the graph to determine the median mass for this data. (2)
- 1.5 The international guideline for the mass of a school bag is that it should not exceed 10% of a learner's body mass.
- 1.5.1 Calculate the estimated mean mass of the school bags. (2)
- 1.5.2 The mean mass of this group of learners was found to be 80 kg. On average, are these school bags satisfying the international guideline with regard to mass? Motivate your answer. (2)

[12]

Two variables: the scatter plot, the line and r

Two measurements on the same person or object. The scatter plot shows whether there is a relationship, the least squares line puts a number on it, and r says how strong it is. The calculator does the arithmetic - the marks are for choosing correctly and for saying what the answer means.

7 questions · 72 marks
8 to 12 marks each

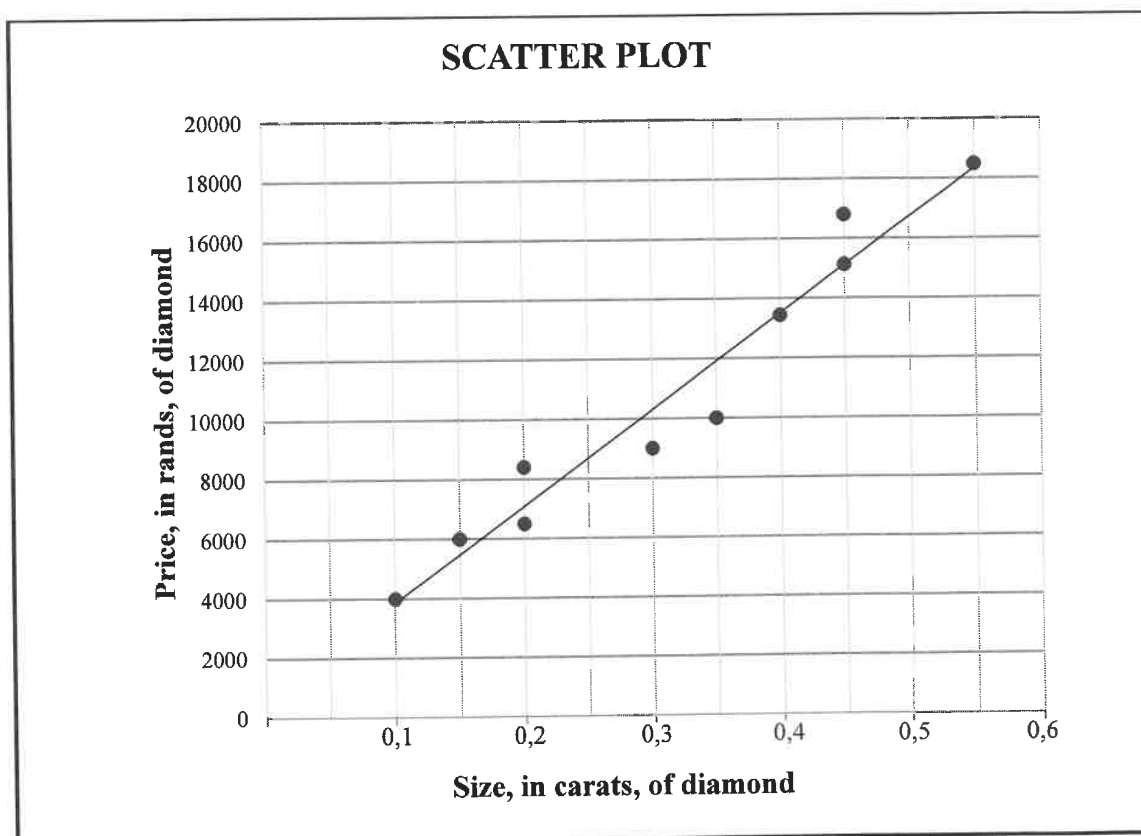
10. Diamonds: size against price, with the line already drawn

DBE NSC Paper 2 · May/June 2022 · Q2 · 8 marks

QUESTION 2

The table below shows the size (in carats) and the price (in rands) of 10 diamonds that were sold by a diamond trader. This information is also presented in the scatter plot below. The least squares regression line for the data is drawn.

Size, in carats, of diamond (x)	0,1	0,15	0,2	0,2	0,3	0,35	0,4	0,45	0,45	0,55
Price, in rands, of diamond (y)	4 000	6 000	6 500	8 400	9 000	10 000	13 440	15 120	16 800	18 480



- 2.1 Determine the equation of the least squares regression line for the data. (3)
- 2.2 If the trader sold a diamond that was 0,25 carats in size, predict the selling price of this diamond in rands. (2)
- 2.3 Calculate the average price increase per 0,05 carat of the diamonds. (2)
- 2.4 It was later found that the selling price of the 0,35 carat diamond was recorded incorrectly. The correct price is R11 500. When this correction is made to the data set, the correlation between the size and price of these diamonds gets stronger. Explain the reason for this by referring to the given scatter plot. (1)

[8]

11. Milk: the price against how many containers sell

DBE NSC Paper 2 · November 2021 · Q2 · 10 marks

QUESTION 2

A farm stall sells milk in 5-litre containers to the local community. The price varies according to the availability of milk at the farm stall. The price of milk, in rands per 5-litre container, and the number of 5-litre containers of milk sold, are recorded in the table below.

Price of milk in rands per 5-litre container (x)	26	32	36	28	40	33	29	34	27	30
Number of 5-litre containers of milk sold (y)	48	30	26	44	23	32	39	29	42	33

- 2.1 On the grid provided in the ANSWER BOOK, draw the scatter plot to represent the data. (3)
- 2.2 Determine the equation of the least squares regression line for the data. (3)
- 2.3 If the farmer sells a 5-litre container of milk for R38, predict the number of 5-litre containers of milk he will sell. (2)
- 2.4 Refer to the correlation between the price of 5-litre containers of milk and the number of 5-litre containers of milk sold, and comment on the accuracy of your answer to QUESTION 2.3. (2)
- [10]**

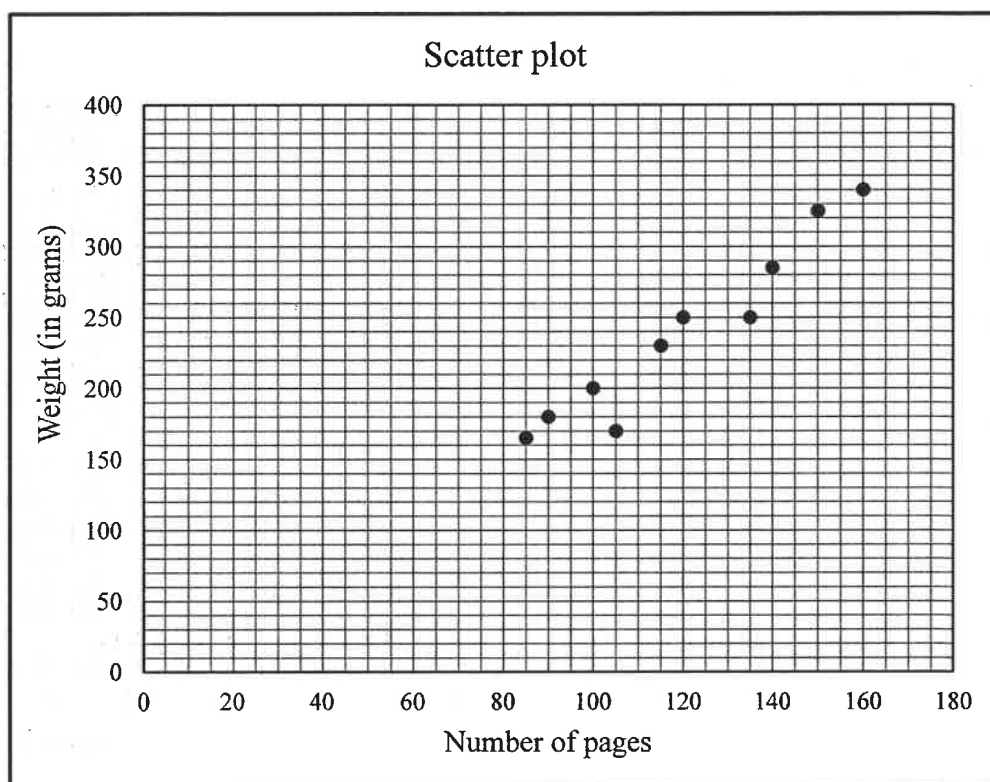
12. Pages against weight for ten books

DBE NSC Paper 2 · May/June 2024 · Q1 · 10 marks

QUESTION 1

The number of pages in ten A4 books and their corresponding weights (in grams) are given in the table below. The data is also represented in the scatter plot.

Number of pages (x)	85	150	100	120	90	140	135	105	115	160
Weight (in grams) (y)	165	325	200	250	180	285	250	170	230	340



- 1.1 Determine the equation of the least squares regression line. (3)
 - 1.2 Draw the least squares regression line on the scatter plot in the ANSWER BOOK. (2)
 - 1.3 Predict the weight of an A4 book that has 110 pages. (2)
 - 1.4 Calculate the percentage weight increase between a book with 110 pages and a book with 130 pages. (3)
- [10]**

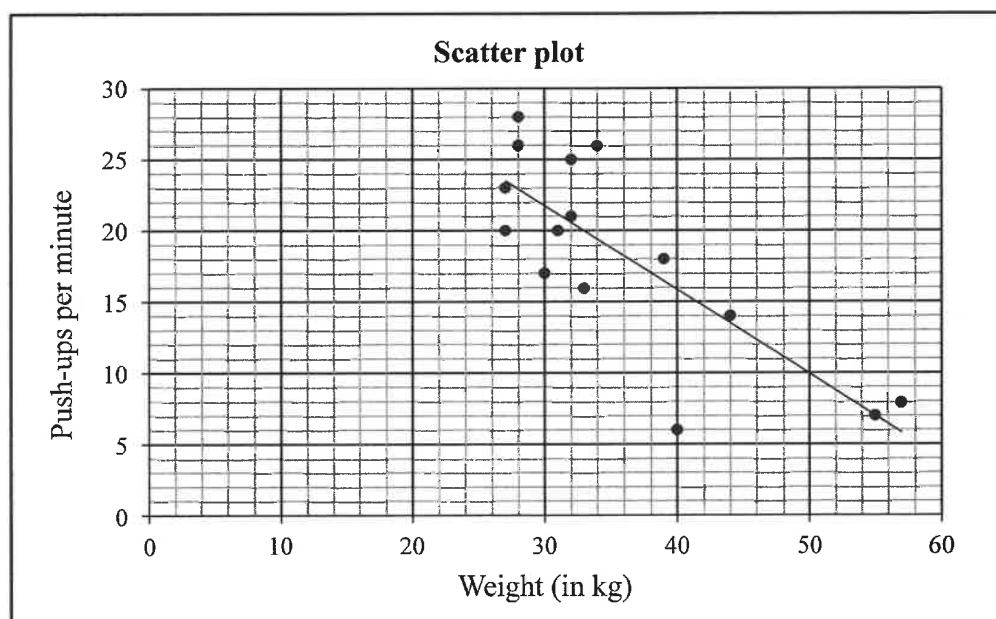
13. Rugby players: weight against push-ups in a minute

DBE NSC Paper 2 · November 2024 · Q1 · 10 marks

QUESTION 1

At the beginning of a season, the coach of a junior boys' rugby team recorded the weight (in kg) of the 15 players in his team and the number of push-ups that each player was able to do in one minute. The data is represented in the table and scatter plot below. The least squares regression line for the data is drawn. ..

Weight (in kg) (x)	34	32	40	27	33	28	27	55	39	44	30	57	28	32	31
Number of push-ups per minute (y)	26	21	6	20	16	26	23	7	18	14	17	8	28	25	20



- 1.1 Determine the equation of the least squares regression line for the data. (3)
- 1.2 Write down the correlation coefficient. (1)
- 1.3 The coach uses the least squares regression line to set the target for the minimum number of push-ups by each team member according to their weight. Predict the number of push-ups that a member of the team, who weighs 29 kg, should do to meet the target. (2)
- 1.4 Write down the mean number of push-ups for the given data. (1)
- 1.5 The players trained hard during the season. At the end of the season, the coach reported that each player was able to do 5 more push-ups per minute than they did at the beginning of the season. How does the increase in the number of push-ups influence the standard deviation of the data? (1)
- 1.6 At the beginning of the season, the coach used the least squares regression line as the minimum target for a player to aim for. Determine the maximum possible increase in the number of push-ups that a team member must obtain to reach the minimum target. (2)

[10]

14. Online orders against the time taken to pack them

DBE NSC Paper 2 · May/June 2025 · Q2 · 10 marks

QUESTION 2

The manager of a supermarket decided to do a survey on the number of items that a customer ordered online and the time (in minutes) that a packer took to have the order ready for delivery. The supermarket received 10 online orders on a certain day. The information for these 10 orders is shown in the table below.

Number of items (x)	10	3	20	14	17	9	12	18	15	19
Time (in minutes) (y)	5	5	9	7	6	6	8	11	10	12

- 2.1 Draw a scatter plot on the grid provided in the ANSWER BOOK. (3)
- 2.2 Determine the equation of the least squares regression line. (3)
- 2.3 Write down the correlation coefficient of the data. (1)
- 2.4 The supermarket received an online order for 13 items. Predict how long (in minutes) it will take a packer to pack the order and have it ready for delivery. (2)
- 2.5 Explain why the y -intercept of the least squares regression line in QUESTION 2.2 does NOT make sense in this context. (1)

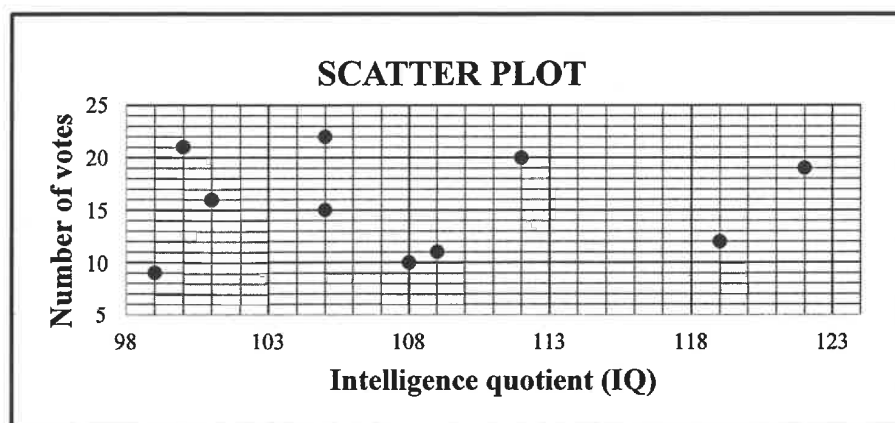
[10]

15. IQ against votes received - and whether that means anything

DBE NSC Paper 2 · November 2022 · Q1 · 12 marks

QUESTION 1

The matric class of a certain high school had to vote for the chairperson of the RCL (representative council of learners). The scatter plot below shows the IQ (intelligence quotient) of the 10 learners who received the most votes and the number of votes that they received.



Before the election, the popularity of each of these ten learners was established and a popularity score (out of a 100) was assigned to each. The popularity scores and the number of votes of the same 10 learners who received the most votes are shown in the table below.

Popularity score (x)	32	89	35	82	50	59	81	40	79	65
Number of votes (y)	9	22	10	21	11	15	20	12	19	16

1.1 Calculate the:

1.1.1 Mean number of votes that these 10 learners received (2)

1.1.2 Standard deviation of the number of votes that these 10 learners received (1)

1.2 The learners who received fewer votes than one standard deviation below the mean were not invited for an interview. How many learners were invited? (2)

1.3 Determine the equation of the least squares regression line for the data given in the table. (3)

1.4 Predict the number of votes that a learner with a popularity score of 72 will receive. (2)

1.5 Using the scatter plot and table above, provide a reason why:

1.5.1 IQ is not a good indicator of the number of votes that a learner could receive (1)

1.5.2 The prediction in QUESTION 1.4 is reliable (1)

[12]

16. How far a truck driver travels against how long he rests

DBE NSC Paper 2 · November 2023 · Q1 · 12 marks

QUESTION 1

Truck drivers travel a certain distance and have a rest before travelling further. A driver kept record of the distance he travelled (in km) on 8 trips and the amount of time he rested (in minutes) before he continued his journey. The information is given in the table below.

Distance travelled (in km) (x)	180	200	400	600	170	350	270	300
Amount of rest time (in minutes) (y)	20	25	55	120	15	50	40	45

- 1.1 Determine the equation of the least squares regression line for the data. (3)
- 1.2 If a truck driver travelled 550 km, predict the amount of time (in minutes) that he should rest before continuing his journey. (2)
- 1.3 Write down the correlation coefficient for the data. (1)
- 1.4 Interpret your answer to QUESTION 1.3. (1)
- 1.5 At each stop, the truck driver spent money buying food and other refreshments. The amount spent (in rands) is given in the table below.

100	150	130	200	50	180	200	190
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- 1.5.1 Calculate the mean amount of money he spent at each stop. (2)
- 1.5.2 Calculate the standard deviation for the data. (1)
- 1.5.3 At how many stops did the driver spend an amount that was less than one standard deviation below the mean? (2)

[12]

Index by paper

Every statistics question in each paper, and where it sits in this booklet.

May/June 2021		2 questions, 23 of 150 marks
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Q2	Days absent, grouped: the modal class and an estimated mean	9 marks p9
November 2021		2 questions, 20 of 150 marks
Q1	Loaves of bread over 18 days, and the values that sit far out	10 marks p5
Q2	Milk: the price against how many containers sell	10 marks p15
May/June 2022		2 questions, 20 of 150 marks
Q1	Eighty school bags: build the cumulative column, then the ogive	12 marks p12
Q2	Diamonds: size against price, with the line already drawn	8 marks p14
November 2022		2 questions, 20 of 150 marks
Q1	IQ against votes received - and whether that means anything	12 marks p19
Q2	An ogive of what employees spend on fuel	8 marks p8
November 2023		2 questions, 20 of 150 marks
Q1	How far a truck driver travels against how long he rests	12 marks p20
Q2	Glasses of water a day, from a frequency table	8 marks p3
May/June 2024		2 questions, 21 of 150 marks
Q1	Pages against weight for ten books	10 marks p16
Q2	How far fifty athletes travel to reach a training facility	11 marks p11
November 2024		2 questions, 20 of 150 marks
Q1	Rugby players: weight against push-ups in a minute	10 marks p17
Q2	Sixty travel times on one ogive, then a rule about working from home	10 marks p10
May/June 2025		2 questions, 19 of 150 marks
Q1	Fifteen insurance premiums: the mean, then the spread	9 marks p4
Q2	Online orders against the time taken to pack them	10 marks p18

Index by topic

A question appears under every topic it uses, so it can be found even when it is filed in another chapter.

Mean, median and mode

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2. Fifteen insurance premiums: the mean, then the spread p4
3. Loaves of bread over 18 days, and the values that sit far out p5
4. Fifteen days of mobile data: the mean, then the standard deviation p6
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6. Days absent, grouped: the modal class and an estimated mean p9
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4. Fifteen days of mobile data: the mean, then the standard deviation p6

Outliers

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4. Fifteen days of mobile data: the mean, then the standard deviation p6

Quartiles and the five-number summary

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Grouped data and the estimated mean

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5. An ogive of what employees spend on fuel p8
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7. Sixty travel times on one ogive, then a rule about working from home p10
8. How far fifty athletes travel to reach a training facility p11
9. Eighty school bags: build the cumulative column, then the ogive p12

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6. Days absent, grouped: the modal class and an estimated mean p9
9. Eighty school bags: build the cumulative column, then the ogive p12

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5. An ogive of what employees spend on fuel p8
7. Sixty travel times on one ogive, then a rule about working from home p10
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10. Diamonds: size against price, with the line already drawn p14
11. Milk: the price against how many containers sell p15
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The least squares regression line

7 questions

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|-----|---|-----|
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The correlation coefficient

5 questions

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| 12. | Pages against weight for ten books | p16 |
| 13. | Rugby players: weight against push-ups in a minute | p17 |
| 14. | Online orders against the time taken to pack them | p18 |
| 15. | IQ against votes received - and whether that means anything | p19 |
| 16. | How far a truck driver travels against how long he rests | p20 |

Predicting from the line

4 questions

- | | | |
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| 10. | Diamonds: size against price, with the line already drawn | p14 |
| 11. | Milk: the price against how many containers sell | p15 |
| 14. | Online orders against the time taken to pack them | p18 |
| 16. | How far a truck driver travels against how long he rests | p20 |

Where these came from

So that "every statistics question" is a claim you can check.

Eight DBE NSC Mathematics Paper 2 papers were read end to end:
November 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and May/June 2021, 2022, 2024, 2025.

All 338 questions in them were classified. These papers are scans - they carry no text layer at all - so the structure was rebuilt by reading them with OCR, and then checked three ways: every paper adds back up to exactly 150, the Afrikaans paper matches the English question for question, and the official marking guideline, which IS ordinary text, agrees with the marks read off every question.

DBE publishes an official marking guideline for every one of these papers. The companion file "CAPS_P2_Statistics_Solutions.pdf" carries the guideline for each question here, in the same order and under the same numbers.