

Instructions and grading rubric:

	Exemplary	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
A) Find an article in the popular press that concerns a quantitative variable. You should choose an article that provides a good clear example of the concept, not a an instance where you need to struggle to see the variable.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B) Write a short essay addressing the following points:			
1) In about 10 words or less, name and describe the variable that your article concerns.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2) What kind of variable is it? What are its possible values?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3) What is the reference class? If this is not clear from the article, say so, and suggest at least two classes, groups or populations that the reference class <i>might</i> be.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4) What procedure is used to measure the variable? If this is not clear, say so, and suggest a clear and precise procedure that <i>might</i> have been used.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5) What did the article report about the variable? Why is this in the news?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C) Follow these directions for preparing and submitting your article and essay.			
1) Your essay should be as brief as possible, while fulfilling the requirements. In any case, do not exceed 200 words. Type or write neatly on an 8.5" × 11" sheet of paper, and write your name on the upper right corner.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2) Print, copy or tape your article on an 8.5" × 11" sheet of paper.			
3) Submit assignment with THIS SHEET FIRST, your ESSAY SECOND and ARTICLE LAST. The three sheets should be stapled in the upper left corner. DO NOT FOLD!			

Grading rules:

1. If any part is unsatisfactory, your assignment will be returned to you and no grade will be given. You will have until the next class to make improvements and resubmit.
2. "Satisfactory" on all parts will result in a grade of "C". Three "exemplary" boxes earn a "B". If all boxes are "exemplary", you get an "A". If you are not satisfied with your grade, you may revise and resubmit at the beginning of the class following the day on which the paper was returned.
3. Only one resubmitting is allowed.