

Skills Worksheet

Directed Reading B

Section: Organizing Your Data (pp. 50–55)

CREATING A DATA TABLE

A.

1. Which of the following can be the first step to take in organizing data?

- a. Choose a topic.
- b. Gather information.
- c. Create a data table.
- d. Analyze data.

A.

2. Which of the following should you do before an experiment starts?

- a. Determine what information is going to be gathered.
- b. Draw conclusions about the information before it is gathered.
- c. Miss information that might be important.
- d. Analyze the information after it is gathered.

3. A factor that is deliberately changed in an experiment is called a(n)

independent variable

4. Where do you find the independent variable in a data table?

in the first column

5. The factor that changes as a result of manipulation and is measured is called

a(n) dependent variable

6. Where do you find the dependent variable in a data table?

in the second column

Variable and Controlled Parameters

7. What is the difference between controlled parameters and variable parameters?

Controlled parameters are factors that stay constant throughout the experiment.
Variable parameters are factors that change or vary, throughout the experiment.

CREATING A GRAPH

8. Graphs make it easy to do what two things?

Identify trends and make predictions

Directed Reading B *continued*

Match the correct description with the correct term. Write the letter in the space provided.

c. axis

9. is one of two or more reference lines that mark the borders of a graph

a. range

b. dependent variable

d. independent variable

10. usually represented by the *x*-axis in a data table

c. axis

d. independent variable

b. dependent variable

11. usually represented by the *y*-axis in a data table

e. scale

f. line of best fit

a. range

12. found by subtracting the smallest value of a variable from the largest value of the same variable

g. data point

e. scale

13. is the size used for each box or grid mark on a graph

g. data point

14. plotted by putting a dot on the graph for a pair of data in the table

f. line of best fit

15. shows how data differ from the pattern; a smooth line drawn to include some but not all of the data points

16. The last step when creating a graph is giving the graph a(n)

title

17. What two things do scientists often include in the titles of their graphs?

a legend showing the independent variable description and dependent variable description.