

Imagine you are taking a sociology class. You really want to finish in the top half of this class. Students who finish in the top half (i.e., those who score higher than 50% of their classmates) become eligible for an upper-level course that involves field trips that are very interesting to you. There are about 180 students in the course. There are 4 multiple choice exams (3 regular exams and 1 comprehensive final). The average of these scores is your total course average, which is used to determine which students fall in the upper or lower half of the course distribution.

Please estimate the extent to which you think each of the following events would detrimentally effect (“would greatly hurt”) or beneficially effect (“would greatly help”) your chances of scoring in the top half of the class.

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|--|----|----|---|----|----|--|
| -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 | +1 | +2 | +3 |
| would greatly hurt my chances of scoring in the top half | | | | | | would greatly help my chances of scoring in the top half |

- _____ 1. You lose your textbook the night before the exam.
- _____ 2. You are hospitalized for 2 weeks in the middle of the semester.
- _____ 3. Your job causes you to be 15 minutes late to class on 3 days.
- _____ 4. You buy a textbook that has already been highlighted with yellow marker.
- _____ 5. For the final exam, the instructor decided to use an exam that he/she typically uses for a graduate-level course.
- _____ 6. The TA for the course takes detailed notes on the professor’s lecture and, with the professor’s permission, posts these detailed notes on the web after each lecture.
- _____ 7. You fail to study at all for one of the course’s 4 exams.
- _____ 8. A roommate of yours helps you with the course material.
- _____ 9. The instructor distributes free study-guide booklets for all students.
- _____ 10. The instructor meets with you for a half-hour the week before the final exam to give you tips on how to study for the final.
- _____ 11. You miss 6 class periods, but get excellent notes from a friend.
- _____ 12. On the comprehensive final exam, 40 of the questions come from material covered in the first half of the semester and only 10 questions come from material covered in the last half.
- _____ 13. You buy a set of notes from last semester’s course, which greatly overlaps with the current course.
- _____ 14. All lectures are videotaped, and the recordings of each lecture can be downloaded using the web.
- _____ 15. On the class period before Exam 3, the instructor announces that the exam will be an essay exam rather than a multiple-choice exam.