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## How to Compare Distributions

When you compare two or more data sets, focus on four features:

* Graphically, the $\qquad$ of a distribution is the point where about half of the observations are on either side.
$\star$ The $\qquad$ of a distribution refers to the variability of the data. If the observations cover a wide range, the spread is larger. If the observations are clustered around a single value, the spread is smaller.
$\star$ The $\qquad$ of a distribution is described by symmetry, skewness, number of peaks, etc.
$\star$ $\qquad$ : refer to gaps (areas of the distribution where there are no observations) and outliers.


## SPREAD

The spread of a distribution refers to the variability of the data. If the data cluster around a single central value, the spread is smaller. The further the observations fall from the center, the greater the spread or variability of the set.


1. $\qquad$

2. $\qquad$

## SHAPE

The shape of a distribution is described by symmetry, number of peaks, direction of skew, or uniformity

3.



5.
$\qquad$
4. _


7. $\qquad$


8. $\qquad$

## UNUSUAL FEATURES

Sometimes, statisticians refer to unusual features in a set of data. The two most common unusual features are gaps and outliers.

9. $\qquad$
Kentucky Derby Times

## Practice Problems:

What shape would the following situations have?

1) A really hard test
2) A really easy test
3) Results of rolling a 6 sided die 1000 times
4) Heights of student at Hillgrove?
5) Heights of NBA players?
