

Mathematics in Forensic Science

Significant Figures

any figures which are significant or important to the value of the number

Fraction

part of a whole number expressed as a numerator above a denominator

Units

labels for quantities

Mass

quantity of matter, weight

Length

measurement from end to end of an object

Volume

amount of space a substance occupies

Density

measurement of compactness of a substance

Force

energy changing the number of an object

Conversion

act of changing the units without changing the size or amount of a measurement

Equation

mathematical phrase which indicates two mathematical expressions are equal to one another

Function

method to express how one variable's value is dependent on the value of another variable

Formula

function based on real world applications or behaviors

Order of Operations

specific rank each mathematical operation is completed in

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Polynomials

mathematical expressions containing the sum or difference of two or more terms

Inverse Operations

mathematical operations which reverse the effect of another operation

Data

series of collected measurements resulting from experiments or observation

Mean

average

Outlier

value which is much larger or smaller than most of the other data points

Median

data point which lies in the center of the data

Mode

value most repeated in the set of data

Correlation

relationship between two variables in which changing one variable changes the second variable

Linear Function

function which generates a straight line when graphed

Slope

rate at which y increased relative to x

Y-Intercept

value of y when x equals 0

Linear Regression

process of calculating the linear function best representing the line of best fit for a set of data

Standard Deviation

measurement of how spread out the numbers are in a data set

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Pythagorean Theorem

equation which can be used to determine an unknown side of a right triangle

Right Triangle

triangle in which one of the angles is 90°