

AP Stats 2017-18

Name: _____

Block: _____

HW #1: Questions on *Counting on Dyscalculia*

By John Allen Paulos, taken from DISCOVER Magazine in March, 199x

Please answer the following questions:

- 1) What are the three common causes of the problem for misinterpreting statistics that are cited by the author?
- 2) The author states that we have a preference for remembering statistics that are nice round numbers, typically ones that are multiples of what?
- 3) What aspect is most critical about a random sample?
- 4) Are these two phrases the same (meaning are they equally likely): (1) probability that someone is a U.S. citizen given that he or she speaks English, vs (2) probability that someone speaks English given that he or she is a U.S. citizen? Why or why not?
- 5) Considering that hear that 1 in 8 women will develop breast cancer, should all women be equally fearful of developing the disease within the next few years? Give an example to help explain your answer.
- 6) On a scale of 1 to 5 (1 = easy and 5 = extremely difficult), rate how challenging it was to understand the ideas presented in this article. This scaled rating is known as a _____.
- 7) Based on the author's figure of "452,888,988,750 cases of *dyscalculia* recorded in this country annually", what was the population of the U.S. at the time this article was written?
- 8) What year was this article published?

NOTE: You should have *hand written* responses to these questions, *preferably on a separate sheet of paper*, by **FRIDAY, August 18th**.