

Practice OE (2 sample tests)

2001 AP® STATISTICS FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

5. A growing number of employers are trying to hold down the costs that they pay for medical insurance for their employees. As part of this effort, many medical insurance companies are now requiring clients to use generic brand medicines when filling prescriptions. An independent consumer advocacy group wanted to determine if there was a difference, in milligrams, in the amount of active ingredient between a certain "name" brand drug and its generic counterpart. Pharmacies may store drugs under different conditions. Therefore, the consumer group randomly selected ten different pharmacies in a large city and filled two prescriptions at each of these pharmacies, one for the "name" brand and the other for the generic brand of the drug. The consumer group's laboratory then tested a randomly selected pill from each prescription to determine the amount of active ingredient in the pill. The results are given in the following table.

ACTIVE INGREDIENT  
(in milligrams)

Pharmacy	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Name brand	245	244	240	250	243	246	246	246	247	250
Generic brand	246	240	235	237	243	239	241	238	238	234

Based on these results, what should the consumer group's laboratory report about the difference in the active ingredient in the two brands of pills? Give appropriate statistical evidence to support your response.

4. Baby walkers are seats hanging from frames that allow babies to sit upright with their legs dangling and feet touching the floor. Walkers have wheels on their legs that allow the infant to propel the walker around the house long before he or she can walk or even crawl. Typically, babies use walkers between the ages of 4 months and 11 months.

Because most walkers have tray tables in front that block babies' views of their feet, child psychologists have begun to question whether walkers affect infants' cognitive development. One study compared mental skills of a random sample of those who used walkers with a random sample of those who never used walkers. Mental skill scores averaged 113 for 54 babies who used walkers (standard deviation of 12) and 123 for 55 babies who did not use walkers (standard deviation of 15).

- (a) Is there evidence that the mean mental skill score of babies who use walkers is different from the mean mental skill score of babies who do not use walkers? Explain your answer.

- (b) Suppose that a study using this design found a statistically significant result. Would it be reasonable to conclude that using a walker causes a change in mean mental skill score? Explain your answer.
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