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Reflective Paper

As a student in Statistics class, I was asked along with other students to provide information based on a bag of Skittles and my height in inches. The information was organized into the numbers of colored Skittles, total number of Skittles per bag, and heights of students. We analyzed the data throughout the semester using methods in the course curriculum.

As a result of this project, I learned that almost every bag of Skittles will have about 60 candies in them. I learned that I should not currently produce graphs because I struggle with their logistics. I slightly learned how to use StatCrunch, technology I hope to never need to use again; and I learned how to rely on my calculator while doing statistics.

In part three I learned how to statistically prove that the number of Skittles in a bag is not relatable to the height of community college students. I’m sure I will definitely use these skills in my career as an ASL/English interpreter, since this is questioned so frequently.

I wish I could say that this project helped me develop my problem solving skills, but for the majority of the time, it did not. I actually struggled for over eight hours trying to figure out how to do part two and still didn’t have any results. The most useful information I got was how to convert a document to a PDF file so that I could turn in my assignments.

Overall, I did not gain much from doing this project. I did, on the other hand, learn a significant amount of information in class. I learned about data, how to compute it, how to analyze the data and the results, how to interpret the results, what the results implicate, and many other things which actually will be useful in my future research. I have used many of the concepts I have learned in my statistics class in my ASL/Interpreting Research course where we analyzed the characteristics and word choices of men and women. I’m grateful for what I’ve learned in the class, even if most of it didn’t come from doing this six-part project.