

## **Biased or Unbiased Survey Questions**

*For the following examples, determine whether the survey sample is biased or unbiased. Explain your answers.*

1. Question: What is your favorite sport? Sample is chosen from people attending a soccer game.

2. Question: What is your favorite soft drink? Sample is chosen by picking names out of a telephone book.

*For the following examples, determine whether the survey sample is biased or unbiased. Explain your answers.*

3. Question: Should more money be put into athletic programs or music programs at school? Sample is chosen from students in the band program.

4. Question: What is your favorite vacation destination? Sample is chosen by asking every student in the class.

***Tell whether the question is potentially biased. Explain your answer. If the question is potentially biased, rewrite it so that it is not.***

5. Don't you agree that the voting age should be lowered to 16 because many 16-year-olds are responsible and informed?

6. Do you think the city should risk an increase in pollution by allowing expansion of the Northern Industrial Park?



***Tell whether the question is potentially biased. Explain your answer. If the question is potentially biased, rewrite it so that it is not.***

9. Would you pay even higher concert ticket prices to finance a new arena?

10. The budget of the Wake County Public School System is short of funds. Should taxes be raised in order for this district to fund extra-curricular sports programs?

***Tell whether the question is potentially biased. Explain your answer. If the question is potentially biased, rewrite it so that it is not.***

11. Due to diminishing resources, should a law be made to require people to recycle?

12. You want to determine whether to serve hamburgers or pizza at a soccer team party.

a) Write a survey question that would likely produce biased results.

b) Write a survey question that would likely produce unbiased results.

***Tell whether the question is potentially biased. Explain your answer. If the question is potentially biased, rewrite it so that it is not.***

13. You want to find students' opinions on the current attendance policy. Give two ways that your sample for the survey might be selected. The first must be an example of a biased sample and the second must be an example of an unbiased sample. Thoroughly explain your answers.

14. Two toothpaste manufacturers each claim that 4 out of every 5 dentists use their brand exclusively. Both manufacturers can support their claims with survey results. Explain how this is possible.