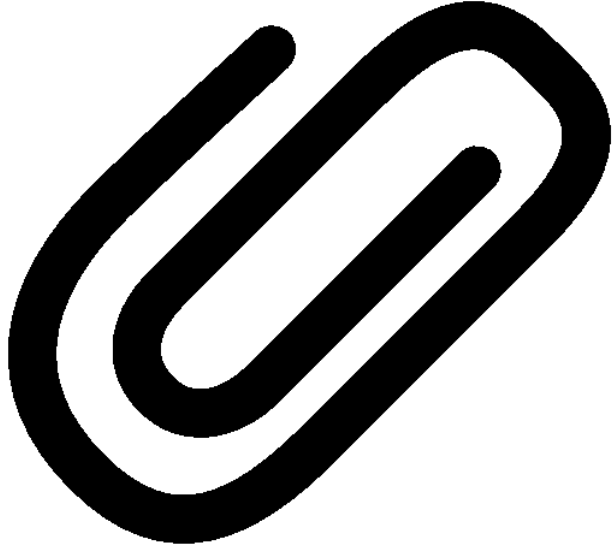


# Z-scores

More on the Bell Curve



## The paper clip test

You have exactly two minutes to write down, as fast as you can, all the different uses you can think of for an ordinary paper clip.

## Evaluating The Alternative Uses Test of Creativity

Caitlin Dippo  
College of Design  
University of Minnesota Twin Cities  
100 Church St. SE  
Minneapolis, MN 55455

Faculty Advisor Barry Kudrowitz

### Abstract

Alternative Uses Test is a means of evaluating divergent thinking abilities. The test requires a common object. In our studies, participants were given three minutes to think of alternative uses for the object. There are several objectives of this research. Firstly, we are testing the hypothesis that more responses will have more creative responses. Similarly, we hypothesize that as one lists more items, the items suggested first will be less creative/novel than the items towards the end. This data

## 4. Results

All responses were digitized. In this study, the term response will refer to each alternative use that was listed on an index card. In total there were 2999 responses from the 293 participants. The median number of responses per participant was 10 and the average was 10.2 with a standard deviation of 4.6. A distribution of the quantity of responses is shown in Fig. 1.

The order in which each participant listed each response was preserved in the digitization. The only personal information recorded for each participant was their age, gender, and their industry/school affiliation.

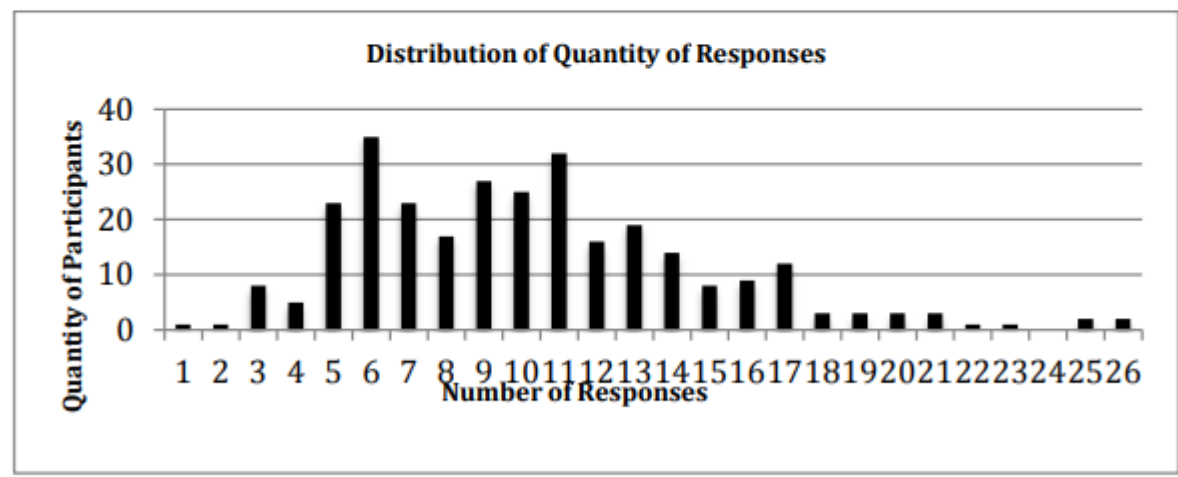
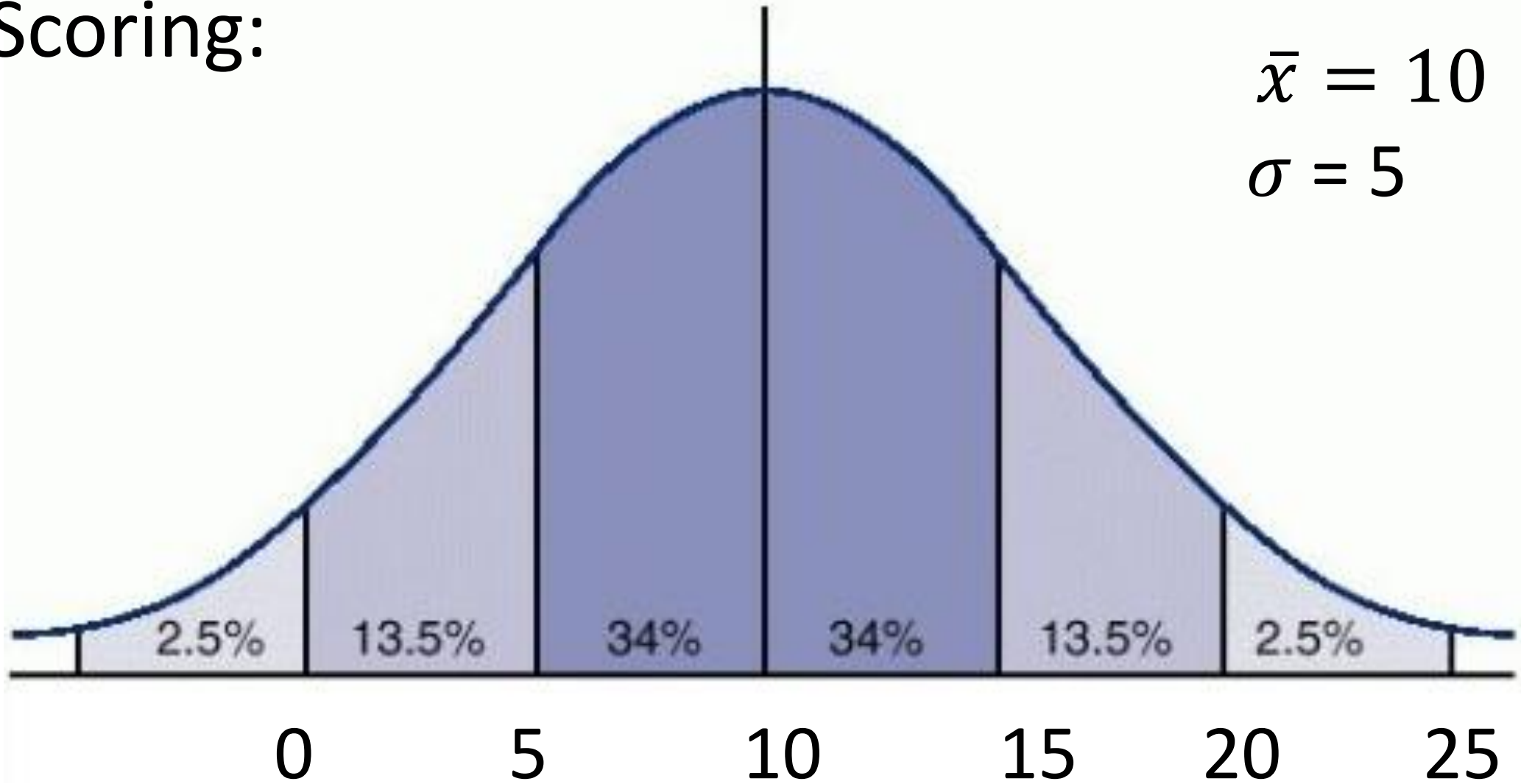


Figure 1. Distribution of Quantity of Responses

Scoring:

$$\bar{x} = 10$$
$$\sigma = 5$$



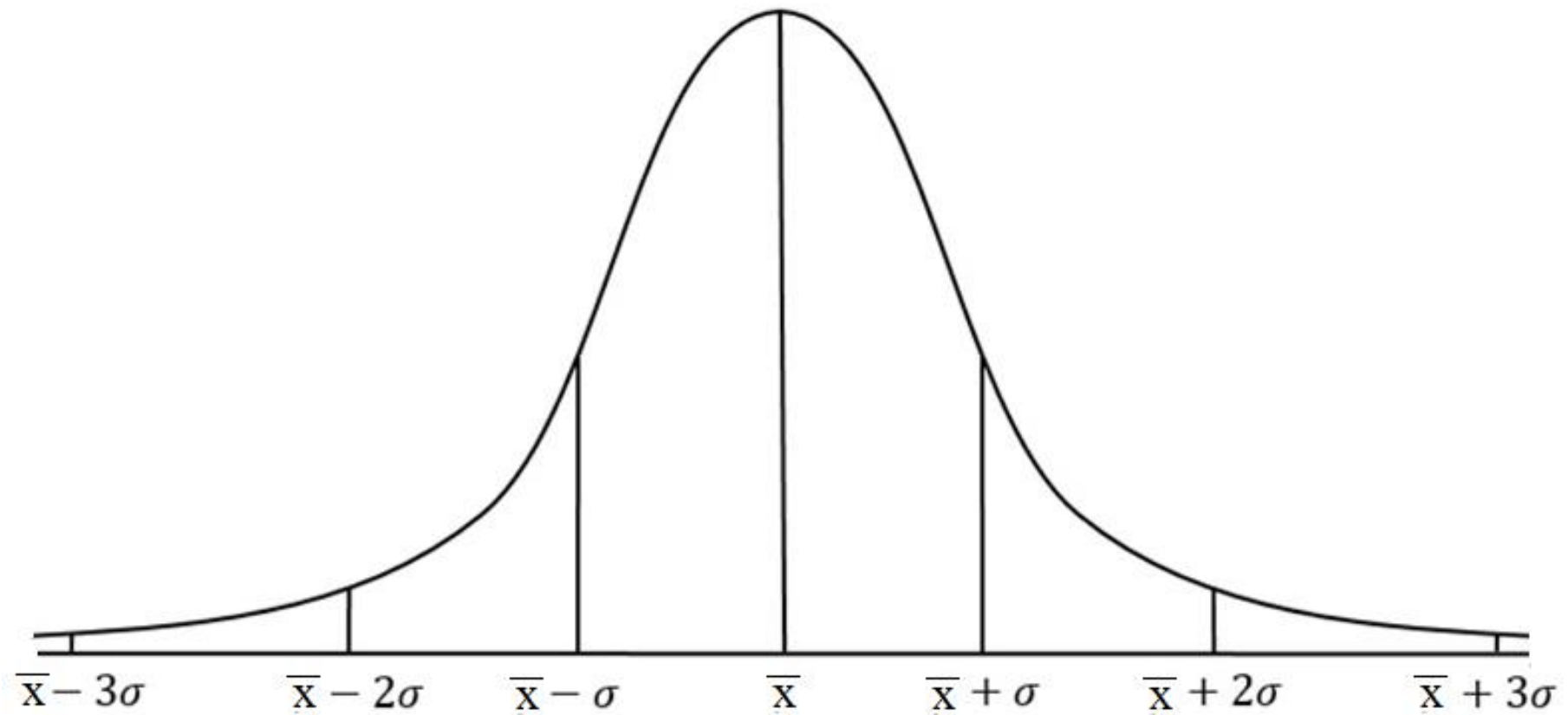
$$z = \frac{x - \bar{x}}{\sigma}$$

$x$  = the value

$\bar{x}$  = the average

$\sigma$  = the standard deviation

$z$  = the number of standard deviations  $x$   
is above or below the mean



What is the highest z-score in the table?

What is the lowest z-score in the table?



## Standard Normal Cumulative Probability Table



Cumulative probabilities for POSITIVE z-values are shown in the following table:

z	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.07	0.08	0.09
0.0	0.5000	0.5040	0.5080	0.5120	0.5160	0.5199	0.5239	0.5279	0.5319	0.5359
0.1	0.5398	0.5438	0.5478	0.5517	0.5557	0.5596	0.5636	0.5675	0.5714	0.5753
0.2	0.5793	0.5832	0.5871	0.5910	0.5948	0.5987	0.6026	0.6064	0.6103	0.6141
0.3	0.6179	0.6217	0.6255	0.6293	0.6331	0.6368	0.6406	0.6443	0.6480	0.6517
0.4	0.6554	0.6591	0.6628	0.6664	0.6700	0.6736	0.6772	0.6808	0.6844	0.6879
0.5	0.6915	0.6950	0.6985	0.7019	0.7054	0.7088	0.7123	0.7157	0.7190	0.7224
0.6	0.7257	0.7291	0.7324	0.7357	0.7389	0.7422	0.7454	0.7486	0.7517	0.7549
0.7	0.7580	0.7611	0.7642	0.7673	0.7704	0.7734	0.7764	0.7794	0.7823	0.7852
0.8	0.7881	0.7910	0.7939	0.7967	0.7995	0.8023	0.8051	0.8078	0.8106	0.8133
0.9	0.8159	0.8186	0.8212	0.8238	0.8264	0.8289	0.8315	0.8340	0.8365	0.8389
1.0	0.8413	0.8438	0.8461	0.8485	0.8508	0.8531	0.8554	0.8577	0.8599	0.8621
1.1	0.8643	0.8665	0.8686	0.8708	0.8729	0.8749	0.8770	0.8790	0.8810	0.8830
1.2	0.8849	0.8869	0.8888	0.8907	0.8925	0.8944	0.8962	0.8980	0.8997	0.9015
1.3	0.9032	0.9049	0.9066	0.9082	0.9099	0.9115	0.9131	0.9147	0.9162	0.9177
1.4	0.9192	0.9207	0.9222	0.9236	0.9251	0.9265	0.9279	0.9292	0.9306	0.9319
1.5	0.9332	0.9345	0.9357	0.9370	0.9382	0.9394	0.9406	0.9418	0.9429	0.9441
1.6	0.9452	0.9463	0.9474	0.9484	0.9495	0.9505	0.9515	0.9525	0.9535	0.9545
1.7	0.9554	0.9564	0.9573	0.9582	0.9591	0.9599	0.9608	0.9616	0.9625	0.9633
1.8	0.9641	0.9649	0.9656	0.9664	0.9671	0.9678	0.9686	0.9693	0.9699	0.9706
1.9	0.9713	0.9719	0.9726	0.9732	0.9738	0.9744	0.9750	0.9756	0.9761	0.9767

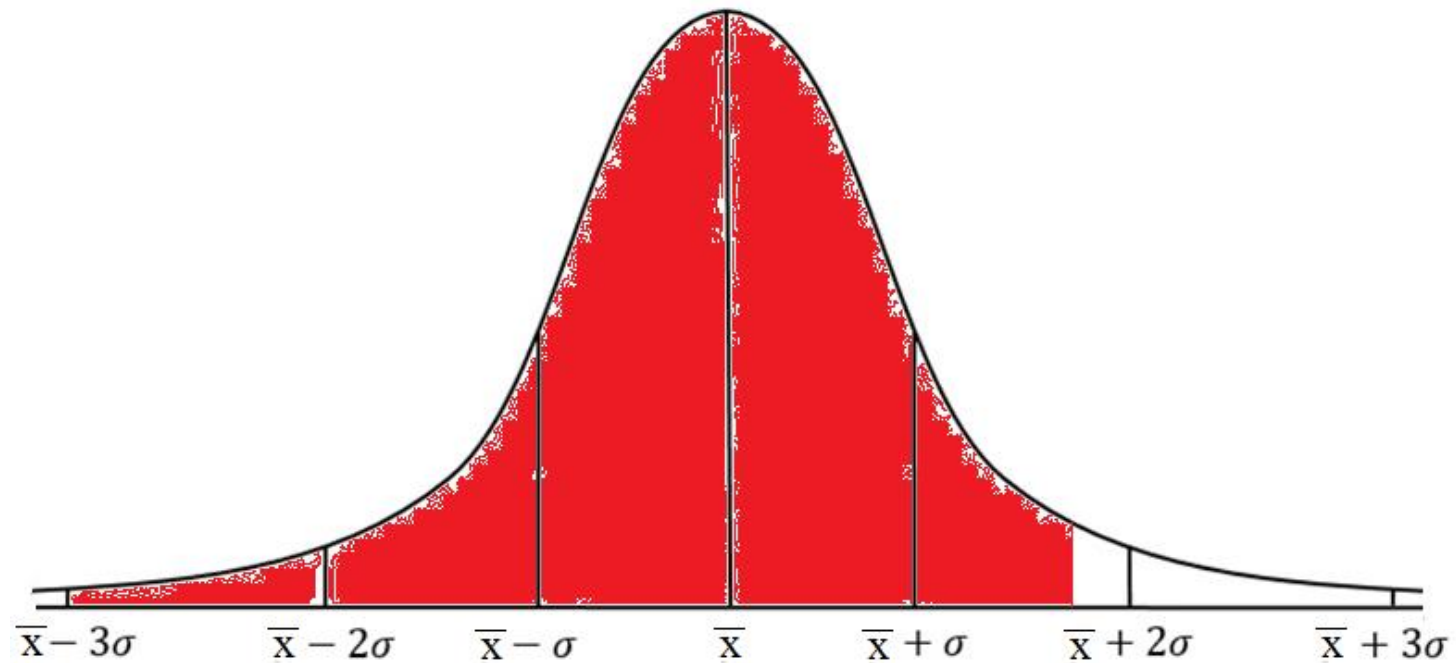
$$P(z < 1.7) = 0.9554 = 95.54\%$$

$$P(z < 1.73) = 0.9582 = 95.82\%$$



$$P(z < 1.7)$$
$$= 0.9554$$
$$= 95.54\%$$

$$P(z < 1.73)$$
$$= 0.9582$$
$$= 95.82\%$$



# Standard Normal Cumulative Probability Table

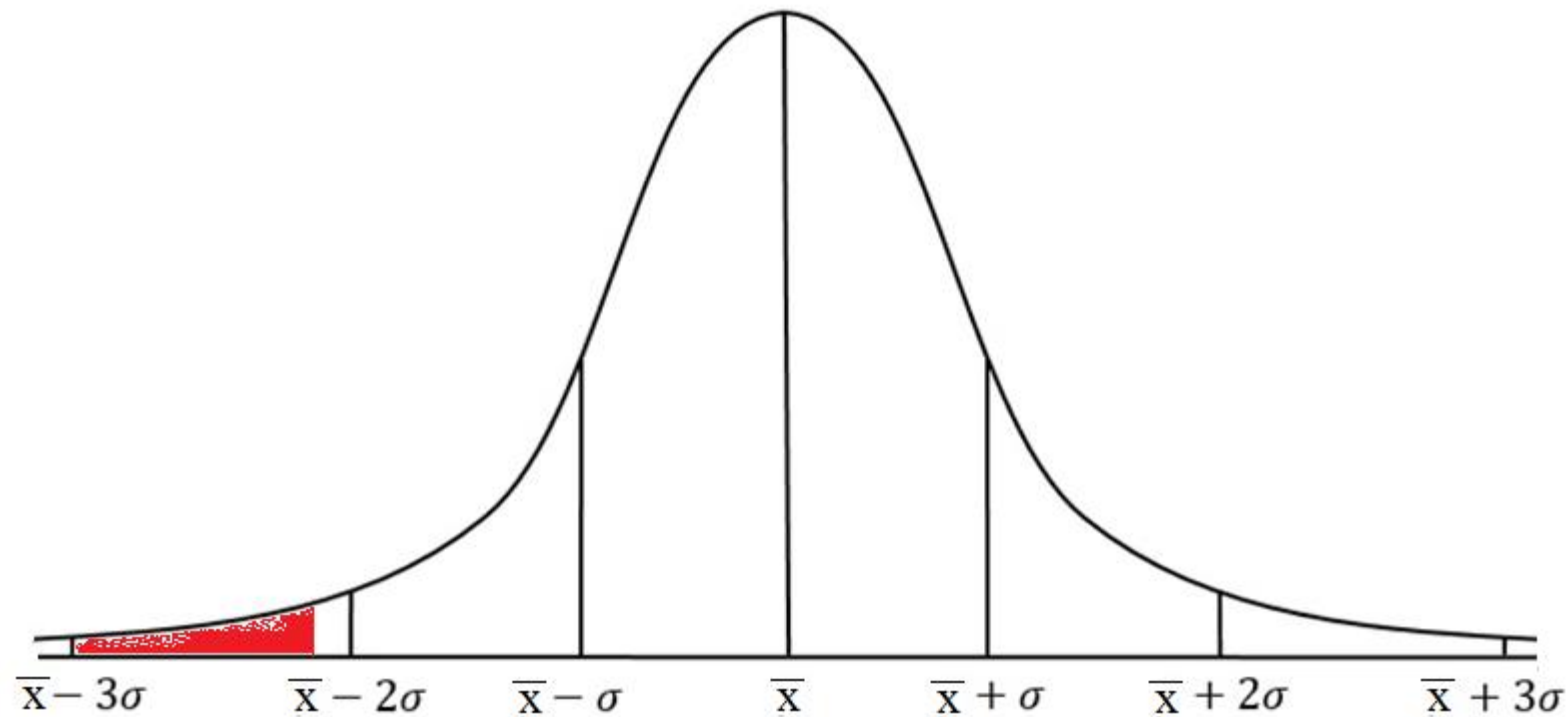
$$P(z < -2.25) = 0.0122 = 1.22\%$$

Cumulative probabilities for NEGATIVE z-values are shown in the following table:

z	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.06			
-3.4	0.0003	0.0003	0.0003	0.0003	0.0003	0.0003	0.0003	0.0003	0.0003	0.0002
-3.3	0.0005	0.0005	0.0005	0.0004	0.0004	0.0004	0.0004	0.0004	0.0004	0.0003
-3.2	0.0007	0.0007	0.0006	0.0006	0.0006	0.0006	0.0006	0.0005	0.0005	0.0005
-3.1	0.0010	0.0009	0.0009	0.0009	0.0008	0.0008	0.0008	0.0008	0.0007	0.0007
-3.0	0.0013	0.0013	0.0013	0.0012	0.0012	0.0011	0.0011	0.0011	0.0010	0.0010
-2.9	0.0019	0.0018	0.0018	0.0017	0.0016	0.0016	0.0015	0.0015	0.0014	0.0014
-2.8	0.0026	0.0025	0.0024	0.0023	0.0023	0.0022	0.0021	0.0021	0.0020	0.0019
-2.7	0.0035	0.0034	0.0033	0.0032	0.0031	0.0030	0.0029	0.0028	0.0027	0.0026
-2.6	0.0047	0.0045	0.0044	0.0043	0.0041	0.0040	0.0039	0.0038	0.0037	0.0036
-2.5	0.0062	0.0060	0.0059	0.0057	0.0055	0.0054	0.0052	0.0051	0.0049	0.0048
-2.4	0.0082	0.0080	0.0078	0.0075	0.0073	0.0071	0.0069	0.0068	0.0066	0.0064
-2.3	0.0107	0.0104	0.0102	0.0099	0.0096	0.0094	0.0091	0.0089	0.0087	0.0084
-2.2	0.0139	0.0136	0.0132	0.0129	0.0125	0.0122	0.0119	0.0116	0.0113	0.0110
-2.1	0.0179	0.0174	0.0170	0.0166	0.0162	0.0158	0.0154	0.0150	0.0146	0.0143
-2.0	0.0228	0.0222	0.0217	0.0212	0.0207	0.0202	0.0197	0.0192	0.0188	0.0183

$$P(z < -2.2)$$
$$= 0.0548$$
$$= 5.48\%$$

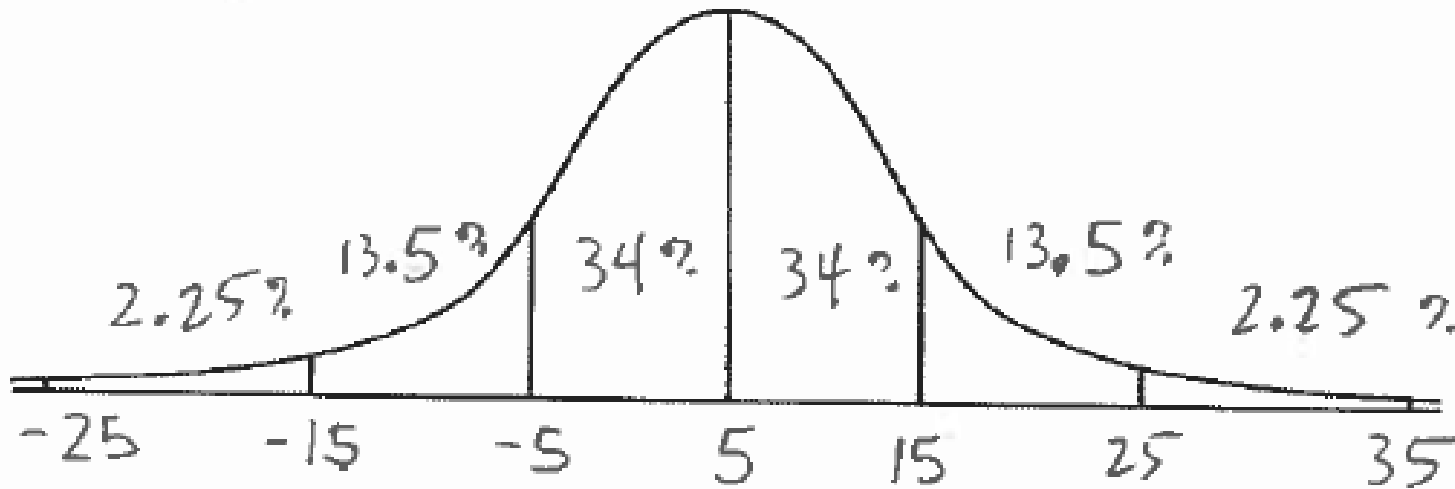
$$P(z < -2.24)$$
$$= 0.0505$$
$$= 5.05\%$$



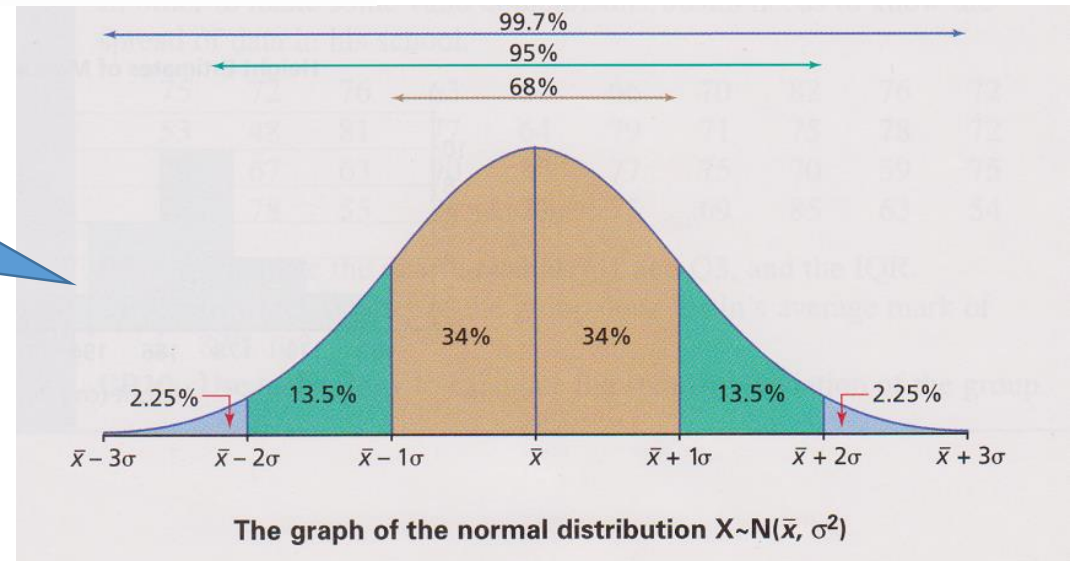
# Normal Distribution #1

Fill in the 7 values on the x axis. Fill in the 6 percentages in each graph.

1.  $\bar{x}=5, \sigma=10$



The percentages are the same old ones from here:



## Z-Scores #1

Fill in the  $P(Z)$  from the Z-Score table.

1.  $P(z < -1) = 0.1587$

Look up -1 in the  
Z-Score Table.

## Z-scores #2

Use the Z-score probability to calculate the percentage of data **greater than** the value.

$$\begin{aligned} 1. P(z > -3) &= 1 - P(z < -3) \\ &= 1 - .0044 \\ &= 0.9956 \end{aligned}$$

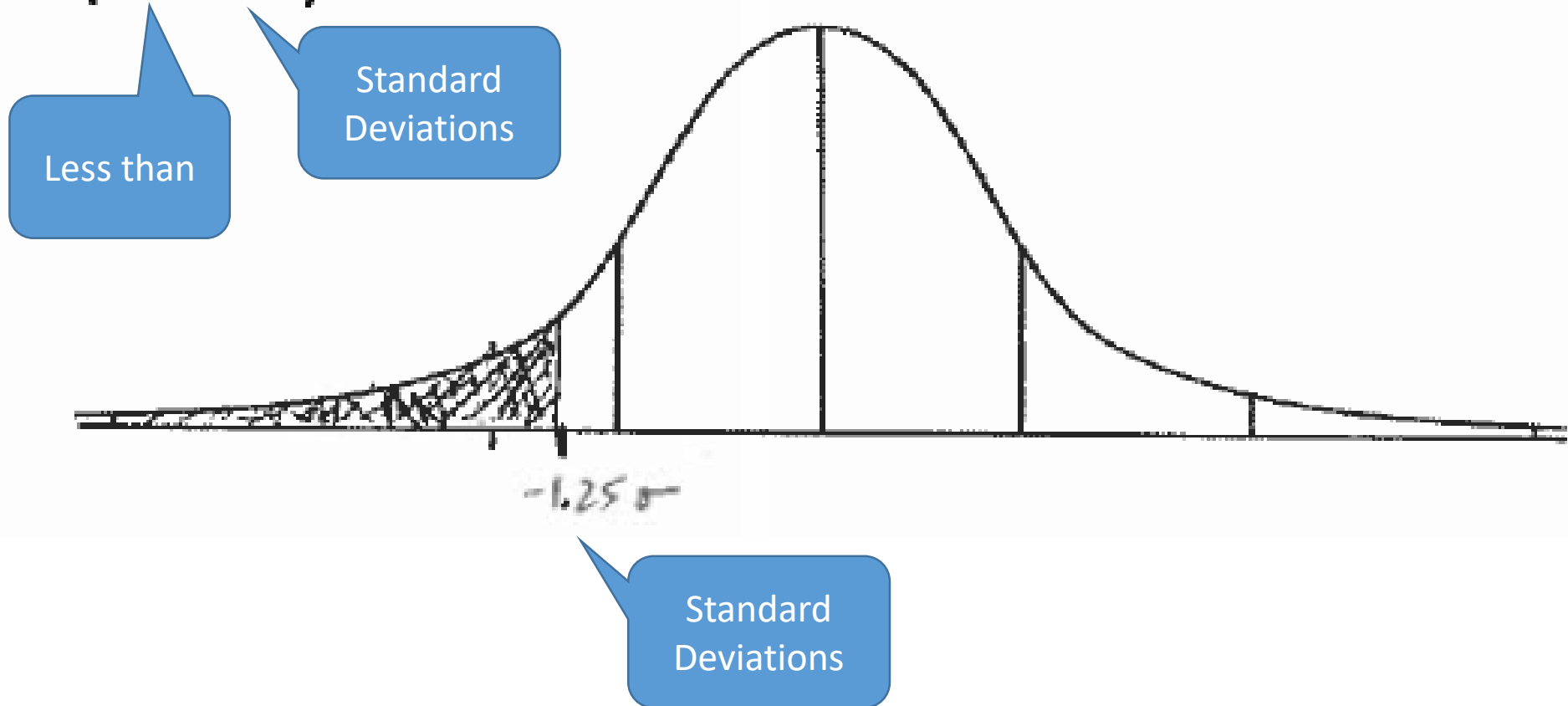
The z-score percentage is LESS than.

Subtract from 100% (or 1) to find GREATER than.

### Z-Scores #3

Shade in the region indicated by the z-score.

1.  $P(z < -1.25)$



## Z-Scores #4

Calculate number of standard deviations  $x$  is from the mean.

1.  $\bar{x}=350, \sigma=50, x = 314$

$$z = \frac{x - \bar{x}}{\sigma} = \frac{314 - 350}{50} = -0.72$$

Use formula

Calculate z-score.



## Z-scores #5

Calculate the z-score and find the proportion of data less than the calculated value.

1.  $\bar{x}=250, \sigma=15, x = 269$

$$z = \frac{x - \bar{x}}{\sigma} = \frac{269 - 250}{15} \quad P(z) = 0.8980$$
$$= 1.27$$

1. Use formula to Calculate z-score.

2. Look up the z-score in the chart

- 2** The contents of cans of a certain brand of soft drink are normally distributed with mean 377 mL and standard deviation 4.2 mL.
- a** Find the percentage of cans with contents:
    - i** less than 368.6 mL
    - ii** between 372.8 mL and 389.6 mL.
  - b** Find the probability that a randomly selected can contains between 377 mL and 381.2 mL.

**2** The contents of cans of a certain brand of soft drink are normally distributed with mean 377 mL and standard deviation 4.2 mL.

**a** Find the percentage of cans with contents:

**i** less than 368.6 mL

**ii** between 372.8 mL and 389.6 mL.

**b** Find the probability that a randomly selected can contains between 377 mL and 381.2 mL.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) i) } z &= \frac{x - \bar{x}}{\sigma} \\ &= \frac{368.6 - 377}{4.2} \\ &= -2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(z < -2) &= 0.0228 \\ &= 2.28\% \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ii) } \text{for } 372.8 \\ z &= \frac{x - \bar{x}}{\sigma} \\ &= \frac{372.8 - 377}{4.2} \\ &= -1 \end{aligned}$$

$$P(z < -1) = 0.1587$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{for } 389.6 \\ z &= \frac{x - \bar{x}}{\sigma} \\ &= \frac{389.6 - 377}{4.2} \\ &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

$$P(z < 3) = 0.9987$$

Between 372.8 + 389.6

$$\begin{aligned} P(z > -1 \text{ \& } z < 3) &= 0.9987 - 0.1587 \\ &= 84\% \end{aligned}$$

**2** The contents of cans of a certain brand of soft drink are normally distributed with mean 377 mL and standard deviation 4.2 mL.

**a** Find the percentage of cans with contents:

**i** less than 368.6 mL

**ii** between 372.8 mL and 389.6 mL.

**b** Find the probability that a randomly selected can contains between 377 mL and 381.2 mL.

b) for 377  
 $z = 0$  (it's the mean)  
 $P(z) = 50\%$

for 381.2  
 $z = \frac{x - \bar{x}}{\sigma}$   
 $= \frac{381.2 - 377}{4.2}$   
 $= 1$   
 $P(z < 1) = 0.8413$

Between 377 + 381.2

$$P(z > 377 \ \&\& \ z < 381.2) = 0.8413 - 0.5$$
$$= 0.341$$
$$= 34.1\%$$