

Subject ID _____

Text-Messaging Survey

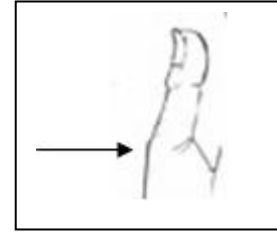
1. Gender: M F
2. Age (closest year): _____ years
3. How long have you been texting? _____ months
4. Number of messages sent yesterday: _____
5. Phone billing company: _____
6. Texting style: Word (iTAP, T9) Character (ABC)
7. Handedness (if both, select primary): Left Right
8. Thumb length (to nearest tenth of cm):
Left: _____ cm
Right: _____ cm
9. "Thumbing style" used: Left only Right only Both
- 10A. Time to text "Statistics students are above average.": _____ secs
Plus the number of mistakes: _____
Score: _____
- 10B. Time to text "Meet me at my car after school today.": _____ secs
Plus the number of mistakes: _____
Score: _____
- Total (two message) score:

Survey Directions/Script

Enter an ID for the subject (initials or number) at the top of the survey sheet.

Collect data on questions 1–10.

For question 10, measure the length of the thumb in centimeters (to the nearest tenth), from its tip to the end of its second joint or use the template provided (to the nearest half centimeter).



Decide as a class: Why is it important that all measurements are taken the same way?

For each student, use a coin (or other random generator) to determine which message to give first (for example, heads = A first, tails = B first).

Have a student volunteer turn on the phone and prepare it for sending and receiving messages. Say to sender:

Turn on your phone and be ready to text the message I put in front of you.
As soon as the message is in front of you, the timer will begin. Say “done” when you press “enter” (you don’t need to actually send the message). This will stop the timer.

Ask if subject is ready. Record, by circling 10A or 10B, which message the student is assigned to text first.

Place the first message in front of sender and start the timer. When subject says “done,” stop the timer.

Observe the text on the sender’s phone and count the number of **keystrokes** that are in error (whole words in T9 or iTAP mode or characters in character mode).

Add the error penalty to students’ time (nearest second). Tally their final score for the message. Repeat with the second message. Add the two scores for a **total** texting score.

Messages:

Statistics students are above average.

(A)

Meet me at my car after school today.

(B)