



“FRAPPY” {Free Response AP Problem...Yay!}

The following problem is taken from an actual Advanced Placement Statistics Examination. Your task is to generate a complete, concise statistical response in 15 minutes. You will be graded based on the AP rubric and will earn a score of 0-4. After grading, keep this problem in your binder for your AP Exam preparation.

When a law firm represents a group of people in a class action lawsuit and wins that lawsuit, the firm receives a percentage of the group’s monetary settlement. That settlement amount is based on the total number of people in the group - the larger the group and the larger the settlement, the more money the firm will receive.

A law firm is trying to decide whether to represent car owners in a class action lawsuit against the manufacturer of a certain make and model for a particular defect. If 5 percent or less of the cars of this make and model have the defect, the firm will not recover its expenses. Therefore, the firm will handle the lawsuit only if it is convinced that more than 5 percent of cars of this make and model have the defect. The firm plans to take a random sample of 1,000 people who bought this car and ask them if they experienced this defect in their cars.

Scoring:

(a) Define the parameter of interest and state the null and alternative hypotheses that the law firm should test.

E P I

(b) In the context of this situation, describe Type I and Type II errors and describe the consequences of each of these for the law firm.

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Total: /4

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(a) Let p = proportion of cars of this make and model that experienced the defect

$$H_0: p = 0.05$$

$$H_A: p > 0.05$$

(b) Type I: The data shows that more than 5% of the cars have the defect when, in fact, 5% or less actually have it.

The consequence for the law firm would be that they take on the lawsuit and do not recover expenses.

Type II: The data shows that the percentage of cars experiencing the defect is not greater than 5% when it actually is.

The consequence is that the law firm will not accept the case and lose the opportunity for profit.