

## Indicator 36-38 Class Notes by Mrs. Joshi Stem-and Leaf Plots

Sometimes it is hard to read data in a table. You can use a stem-and-leaf plot to organize large data sets so that they can be read and interpreted easily. In a **stem-and-leaf plot**, the data is ordered from least to greatest and is organized by place value.

**SPORTS** The number of points scored by the winning team in each NCAA women's basketball championship game from 1982 to 2002 is shown.

NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Points Scored by Winning Teams, 1982–2002						
76	70	56	70	60	68	71
69	97	76	78	70	93	68
72	67	88	84	83	62	82

- Source: The World Almanac
- 1. What were the least and greatest number of points scored?
- 2. Which number of points occurred most often?

## EXAMPLE

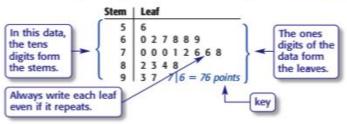
## Construct a Stem-and-Leaf Plot

SPORTS Make a stem-and-leaf plot of the data above.

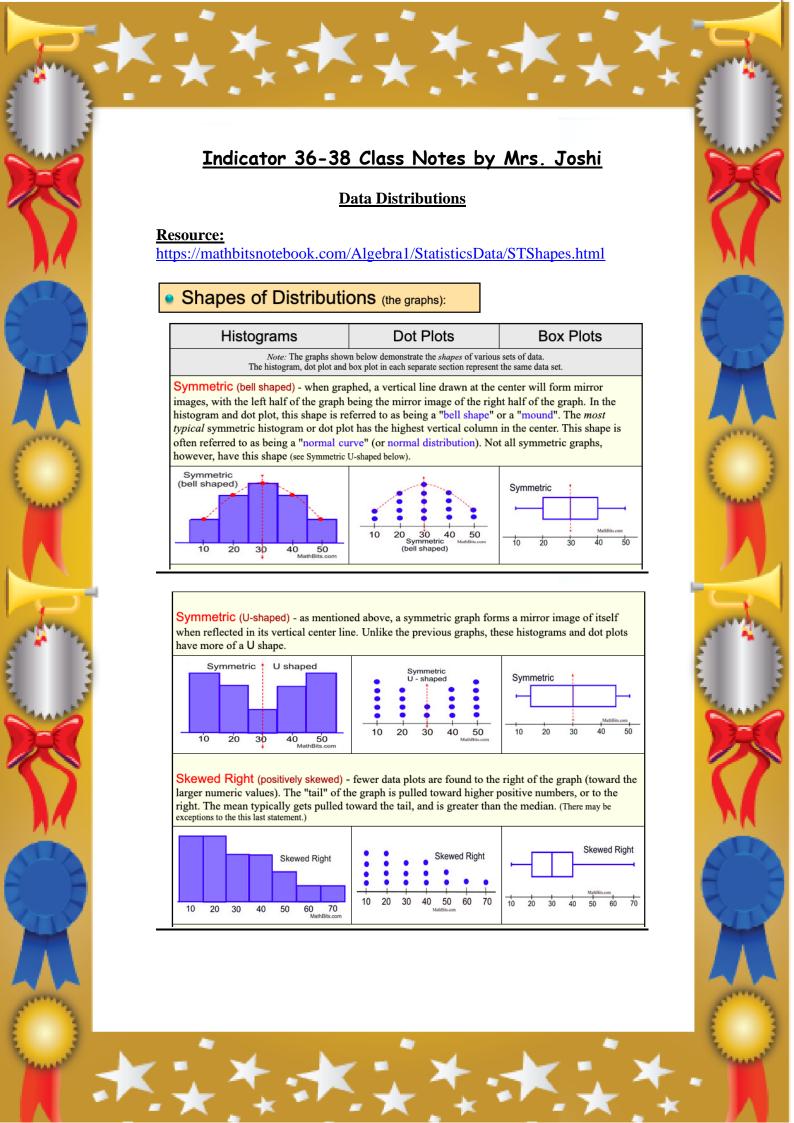
Step 1 Order the data from least to greatest.

56 60 62 67 68 68 69 70 70 70 71 72 76 76 78 82 83 84 88 93 97

- Step 2 Draw a vertical line and write the tens digits from least to greatest to the left of the line. These digits form the stems. Since the least value is 56 and the greatest value is 97, the stems are 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9.
- Step 3 Write the units digits in order to the right of the line with the corresponding stem. The units digits form the leaves.



Step 4 Include a key that explains the stems and leaves.



## Indicator 36-38 Class Notes by Mrs. Joshi **Data Distributions** Skewed Left (negatively skewed) - fewer data plots are found to the left of the graph (toward the smaller numeric values). The "tail" of the graph is pulled toward the lower or negative numbers, or to the left. The mean typically gets pulled toward the tail, and is less than the median. (There may be exceptions to the this last statement.) Skewed Left Skewed Left Uniform - The data is spread equally across the range. There are no clear peaks in these graphs, since each data entry appears the same number of times in the set. Notice in the boxplot how each section is of equal length: min to $Q_1$ , $Q_1$ to median, median to $Q_3$ , and $Q_3$ to max. These graphs are also symmetric. Uniform MathBits.com

