Representative Samples: Random vs. Biased

When the subjects, objects, or events in a population all have the same chance of being selected, the selection creates a **random sample**.

When some subjects, objects, or events in a population have higher or lower chances of being selected, the selection creates a **biased sample**.

Representative samples accurately reflect their populations. Random samples tend to be representative. Biased samples tend *not* to be representative.

Check the box to tell whether or not the sample is likely to be representative.

	Likely	Unlikely
 Those with bank account numbers ending in a zero are surveyed about their banking experiences. 		





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6. Mrs. Duarte wonders if her exam was too difficult. She asks the three students who finish last in each class.

Tell why the sample is biased. Then tell how to select a sample likely to be representative.

- 7. To find out if the student body is interested in adding a statistics elective, a school asks the students in its elective advanced algebra class.
- 8. Madilynn tries to predict who will win in her city's upcoming elections by polling all of her friends and family members.

ANSWER KEY

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