

6.4 Setting Up a Test for a Population Proportion

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 9 marks

Objective

Build the skills to answer exam questions on **setting up a test for a population proportion**.

You must be able to:

- state the **null** 零假设 and **alternative hypotheses** 备择假设
- write the test statistic $z = \frac{\hat{p} - p_0}{\sqrt{\frac{p_0(1 - p_0)}{n}}}$
- state the conditions for the test

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a question type used later.

■ Hypotheses

- Null** $H_0 : p = p_0$ (a specific value — “no effect”).
- Alternative** $H_a : p \neq p_0$ (or $< p_0$, or $> p_0$).

■ Test statistic

$$z = \frac{\hat{p} - p_0}{\sqrt{\frac{p_0(1 - p_0)}{n}}}$$

The standard error uses the **null value** p_0 . Conditions: **random, independent** (10% rule), and **large counts** ($np_0 \geq 10$, $n(1 - p_0) \geq 10$).

2 Practice

2.1 State the null hypothesis for a test about a proportion.

[1]

2.2 Write the test-statistic formula for a proportion. [1]

2.3 State one condition needed to run the test. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 The null hypothesis H_0 usually states that [1]

- **A** there is an effect
 - **B** there is no effect (a specific value)
 - **C** the sample is biased
 - **D** nothing at all
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3.2 The test statistic for a proportion computes the standard error using [1]

- **A** $\hat{p}$
 - **B** p_0 (the null value)
 - **C** zero
 - **D** the sample size only
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3.3 A test checks whether $p \neq 0.5$, using $\hat{p} = 0.6$ and $n = 100$.

(a) Write H_0 . [1]

(b) Write H_a . [1]

(c) Compute the test statistic z . [2]

4 Go further

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- work through the **6.4 Setting Up a Test for a Population Proportion** lesson on the **Learn** page;
 - read the **Inference for Categorical Data: Proportions** section of the AP Statistics handout on the **Know** page.

Solutions

2.1 $H_0 : p = p_0$ (a specific value).

2.2 $z = \frac{\hat{p} - p_0}{\sqrt{p_0(1 - p_0)/n}}.$

2.3 any one of: random sample, independence (10% rule), large counts.

3.1 B.

3.2 B.

3.3 (a) $H_0 : p = 0.5$. (b) $H_a : p \neq 0.5$. (c) $z = \frac{0.6 - 0.5}{\sqrt{0.5(0.5)/100}} = \frac{0.1}{0.05} = 2.0$.