Objectives
At the end of the central tendency lesson, students will be able to:
• Recognize and apply the concepts of mean, median, and mode in real-life problems.

Video
Introduce the video by asking students to think about how much money they spend on food away from home. How would they go about finding that number? Would it be the same from month to month? What number would be the most useful way to answer that question?
Show the video Statistical Terms.

After the video, focus on these points:
• Data is bits of information. It is often in numerical terms.
• Mean, median, and mode are different ways to describe the typical values of a set of data.
• The mean, or average, tells us what number may be used to represent a group of numbers. It is found by adding all the data, then dividing the total by the number of items.
• The median is the number in the middle of a range of data that has been ordered from least to greatest.
• The mode is the piece of data that appears most often, or the number that is repeated the most times in the collection of data. It does not have to be calculated, just identified by observation.
Worksheets/Practice

This worksheet packet provides practice and reinforces concepts presented in the video. The pages are from the GED Connection Mathematics workbook.
- Skill Practice, p. 223
- GED Practice, p. 224, problem numbers 1, 4 and 6
- GED Practice, p. 225, problem numbers 8, 9, 10 and 11
- GED Practice, p. 226, problem numbers 15, 16, 17 and 19

Online Activities

Further practice can be found online at LiteracyLink (www.pbs.org/literacy). Individuals or teams can play a Jeopardy game online at SuperTeachers Jeopardy Game.
For more resources and an overview of the 2002 GED® test, click www.gedmathstrategies.com.

Test Tips:

- Use your calculator, when permitted, to find the mean. You will save time for more difficult problems.
- Remember to put data values in order before finding the median.
- Be sure you understand the question a problem is asking.
- Sometimes two or more problems are based upon one graphic. These item sets share the same information. Avoid errors by reading the direction line to see which test items are based on the graphic.

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