**What words/numbers can I use to describe graphs?**

For one-variable quantitative graphs (Dotplots, Stemplots, Boxplots, Histograms)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **S**HAPE | Symmetric  Skewed  Clusters  Gaps  Mound-Shaped (Normal)  Uniform | Use your favorite “-ly” word  “Fairly symmetric”  “Roughly normal” |
| **O**UTLIERS | Outside the pattern of the rest of the data | When a data set has outliers, the mean will be affected by the outliers. May want to use the median to describe the center |
| **C**ENTER | Middle  Mean  Median | When a data set is pretty skewed, the mean will be “skewed” too. May want to use the median to describe the center |
| **S**PREAD | Range  IQR (Interquartile Range = Q3-Q1)  (Standard deviation) |  |
| When **COMPARING** two graphs…use your “-er” words.  *“The center of graph A is LOWER than the center of graph B”*  *“The spread of graph A is LARGER than the spread of graph B”*  *“Graph A is MORE symmetric than Graph B”* | | |

For two-variable quantitative graphs (scatterplots)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Direction**  Positive  Negative | **Strength**  Strong  Weak  Fairly strong/weak | **Form**  Linear  Nonlinear |