

Reading a Chart – I

A Look at Averages

Name _____

Date _____

Instructions

Using the chart provided by your teacher, answer the questions below.

1. For what years does the chart have food prices listed? _____

2. What do the numbers in the columns actually represent? _____

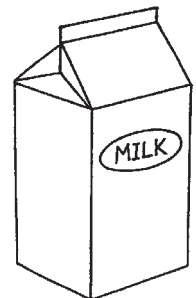
3. How many food items are represented in this chart? _____

4. Why do you suppose the United States decided to have these food items available for price comparison? _____

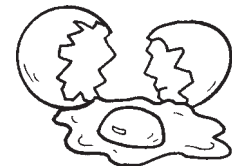
5. Averages:

a) What does *average* mean in math? _____

b) How much did an average one-half gallon of milk cost in 2005?



c) In 1970, did every dozen eggs cost 61 cents? Explain.



d) How do you think the average retail price of food is determined? _____

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6. How many cents did an average pound of tomatoes cost in 1960? _____ ¢. Express that number using a dollar sign and a decimal. _____

7. Did all food items listed in the chart cost more in 2000 than they did in 1990?

Yes No. Explain. _____

8. An Average Meal:

Suppose it is 1970. Your family is going to have a hearty meal consisting of one loaf of bread, two pounds of chicken, 3 pounds of potatoes, $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon of milk, and a salad made of $\frac{1}{2}$ pound of tomatoes and one bunch of leaf lettuce (the lettuce cost 29 cents).

a) What would the total average cost be for this meal? _____ Show how you got your answer in the space below.

b) Explain why some families would have paid more for this meal and why some families would have paid less for this meal. _____

c) Using the trends you see in the chart, would the same meal today cost more or less than the meal in 1970? More Less.

9. What is one thing you found interesting about the chart of data? (*Write your answer in a complete sentence.*) _____
