DAY 9 – Statistics and Probability in the Media

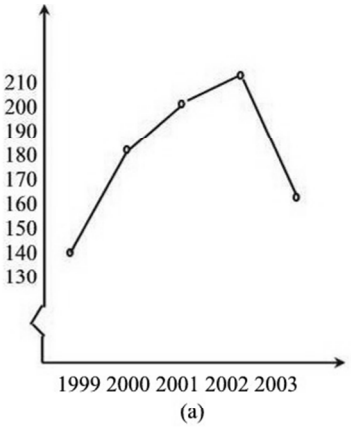
1. What is wrong with the information represented on this graph?

2. A survey was conducted to determine what food would be served at the French club party. Explain how the graph misrepresents the data.

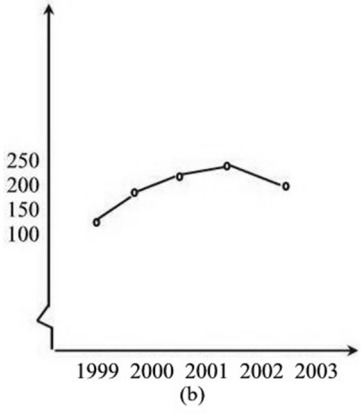
3. The number of graduates from a community college for the years 1999 through 2003 is given with the following data:

Year	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
# of Graduates	140	180	200	210	160

Which graph best represents the data? Give reasons for your answer.



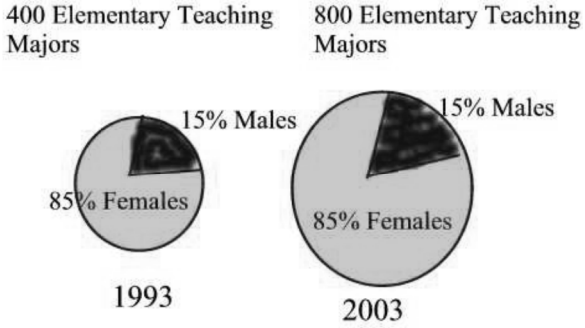
(a)



(b)

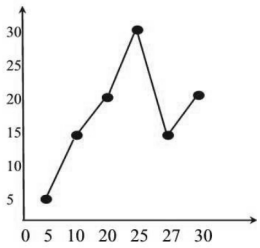
4. Jenny averaged 70 on her quizzes during the first part of the quarter and 80 on her quizzes during the second part of the quarter. When she found out that her final average for the quarter was not 75, she went to argue with her teacher. What could cause this discrepancy?

5. Suppose the following circle graphs are used to illustrate the fact that the number of elementary teaching majors at teachers' colleges has doubled between 1993 and 2003, while the percent of male elementary teaching majors has stayed the same. What is misleading about the way the graphs are constructed?

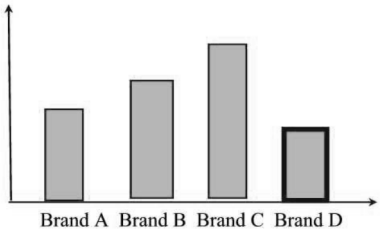


6. What is wrong with each of the following graphs?

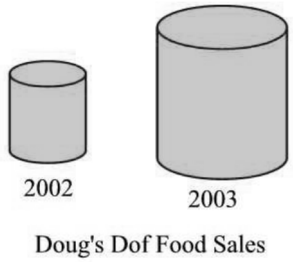
a.



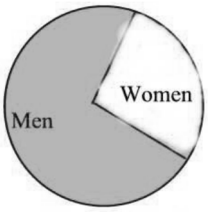
b.



7. Doug's Dog Food Company wanted to impress the public with the magnitude of the company's growth. Sales of Doug's Dog Food had doubled from 2002 to 2003, so the company displayed the following graph, in which the radius of the base and the height of the 2003 can are double those of the 2002 can. What does the graph really show with respect to the growth of the company?



8. Based on the pie graph, Ms McNulty claims that we can conclude that men are worse drivers than women. Can that conclusion be reached from the pictograph or do you need more information? If more information is needed, what would you need to know?



Drivers in Fatal Accident

9. Which graph could be used to indicate a greater decrease in the price of gasoline? Explain.