

Data types and vocabulary

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

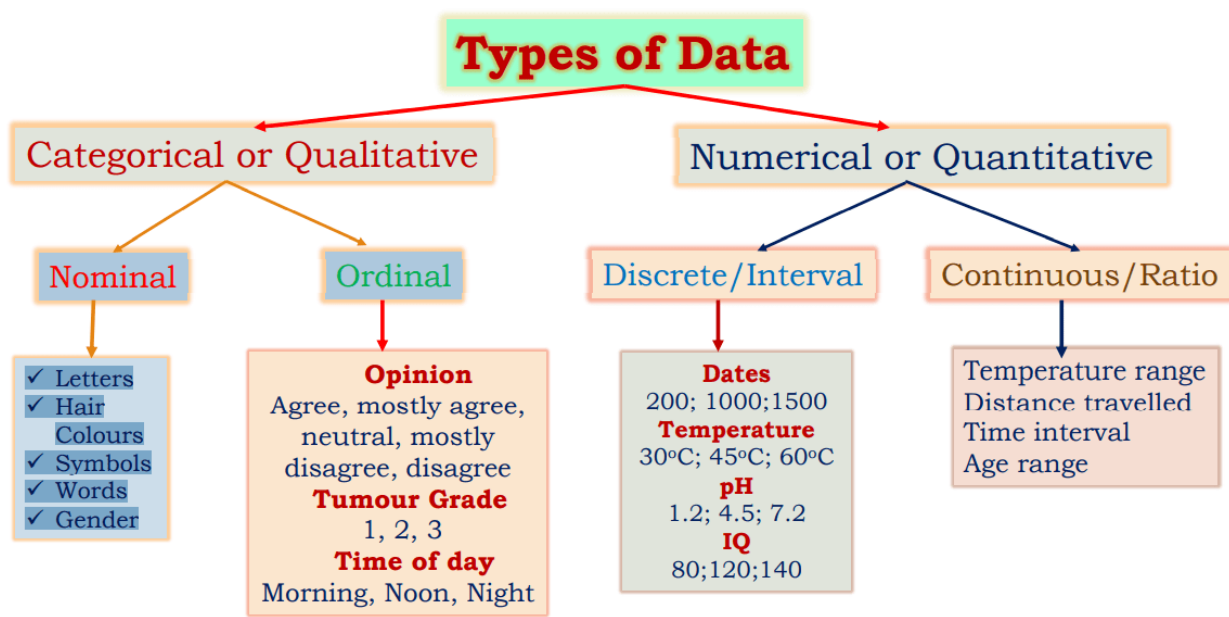
In order to understand data and what we do with it, we have to know some of the words that we use to describe data.

First off, what is Data?

Data: Data is information such as facts and numbers used to analyze something or make decisions. (Vocabulary.com)

Datum – Singular of Data – A single data point.

Data can come in a variety of forms and can be categorized in different ways. If the data is in a number form, it is called, **quantitative** or '**Numeric Data**'. If it is any other type of data, it is called, **qualitative** or '**categorical**.' Numeric data can be something that you count (**discrete data**) which can only be whole numbers or it is (**continuous data**) which is measured and can be decimals too.



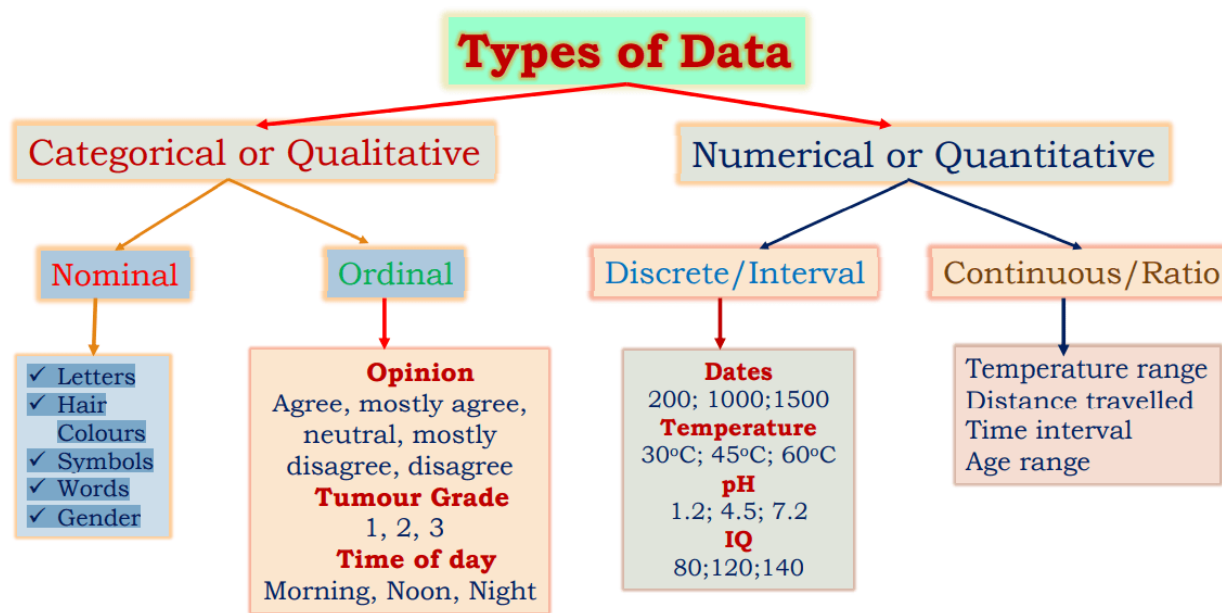
The way we display data to visualize it is varied and it depends on the type of data and the purpose of the display and the audience. We often display data to make it easier to understand.

As a means of reviewing the types of graphs, try to come up with a list of different graphs or data displays that you have worked with in the past. Then we will look for examples of each of the graphs in magazines, or newspapers.

Primary Data Types

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All data can be classified by the type of data it is. Here is a classification chart:



For each of the data that we collected, classify what type of data it is:

Your name: Categorical/Qualitative and Nominal

Height: Numerical and discrete

Shoe size: Numerical and discrete

Eye colour: Categorical/Qualitative and Nominal

Hair colour: Categorical/Qualitative and Nominal

Favourite Food: Categorical/Qualitative and Nominal

Favourite Movie: Categorical/Qualitative and Nominal

Favourite Music Type: Categorical/Qualitative and Nominal

Number of pets at home: Numerical and discrete

Number of Languages spoken: Numerical and discrete