

If the data is arranged according to the order of weights, it will be easy for answering the questions. Observe the following table.

S. No	Name	Weight (kg)	S. No	Name	Weight (kg)
1	Nambi	19	6	Pavithra	23
2	Anbu	20	7	Arul	24
3	Nanthitha	20	8	Kumanan	25
4	Arthi	21	9	Mari	25
5	Mathu	22	10	Beeman	26

Now we can answer the above questions easily. Hence it is essential to organise the data to obtain any kind of inferences from the data.

Organisation of data is helpful to understand quickly and get an overall view of data. It becomes easy to understand and interpret which in turn also helps to take decision accordingly.

5.4 Representative values

We have come across situations where we use the term ‘average’ in our day-to-day life. Consider the following statements.

- The average temperature at Chennai in the month of May is 40°C .
- The average marks in mathematics unit test of class VI is 74.
- Mala’s average study time is 4 hours.
- Mathan’s average pocket money per week is ₹ 100.

We come across many more statements of such kind in our daily life. Let us take the example, “the average marks scored by class VI students in maths test is 74”. Does it mean that every student has scored 74? No, certainly not. Some students would have got more than 74 and some students would have got less than 74. Average is the value that represents the general performance of class VI students in maths test.



Try these

Collect the height of students of your class. Organise the data in ascending order.

Similarly, 40°C is the representative temperature of Chennai in the month of May which does not mean that everyday temperature is 40°C in the month of May. Since the average lies between the highest and the lowest value of the given data, we say average is a measure of central tendency of the group of data. Different forms of data need different forms of representative or central value to describe it. We study three types of central values of data namely Arithmetic Mean, Mode and Median in this chapter.