

Collecting and Organising Data

Chapter 4: Data Handling and Presentation · Topic 1

Key Concept

Collecting good data requires careful planning — deciding what question to ask, who or what to observe, and how to record responses consistently. Once collected, organising raw data (like a long list of survey responses) into a frequency table immediately reveals patterns, such as which category is most or least common, that would be very difficult to notice by looking at the unorganised raw list alone.

Quick Revision Notes

- Data is collected through observation, surveys, or measurements.
- A frequency table organises data by showing how often each value/category occurs.
- Careful planning (what to ask, who to observe) improves data collection quality.
- Organised data reveals patterns not obvious in a raw, unorganised list.

Practice Questions

- 1 Conduct a small survey and organise the data in a table.
- 2 Explain why a frequency table is more useful than a raw list of data.
- 3 List two things to plan before collecting data for a survey.