

**Answers using TI 83:**

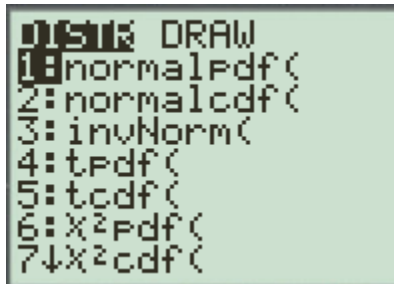
A multiple choice test has 10 questions. Each question has four answer choices. What is the probability that a student, choosing answers at random:

**1a. Gets 7 questions correct (exactly 7)?**

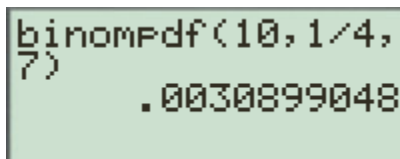
Number of trials is  $n=10$ , probability of success is  $p=1/4 = 0.25$

Proceed:

2<sup>nd</sup> VARS (DISTR)



Select `binompdf(10, 1/4, 7)` # comment: the format is (n, p, x)

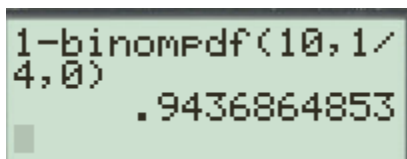


**1b. Has at least one question correct?**

At least one correct =  $1 - P$  no correct (zero correct)

Type 1 – then repeat steps for 1a:

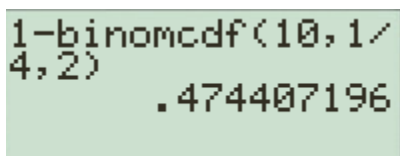
1- `binompdf(10, 1/4, 0)`



**1c. Has at least 3 questions correct?**

$P$  at least 3 questions correct =  $1 - [P(0)+P(1)+P(2)]$

In this case, we use binomial cdf, which is the “cumulative” value from zero up to a given X, in this case 2.



1d. Has at most 1 question correct?

“At most” means from zero to a number  $x$ , in this case 1. Therefore, we use binomial cdf:

```
binomcdf(10,1/4,
1)
.2440252304
```

1e. Has at most 4 questions correct?

Same as 1d, just set  $x = 4$ .

```
binomcdf(10,1/4,
4)
.9218730926
```

1f. Has all questions correct?

For all questions correct, set  $x = 10$ . That is 10 out of 10 correct, binomial pdf:

```
binompdf(10,1/4,
10)
9.536743164E-7
```

The output in scientific notation is  $9.536743164 \times 10^{-7}$  as a decimal: 0.000009536743164

1g. Has all questions wrong?

All questions wrong means zero correct. Binomial pdf:

```
binompdf(10,1/4,
0)
.0563135147
```

1h. What is the mean number of correct questions the student may expect?

Means of the binomial distribution

$$\mu = n \cdot p = 10 \cdot \frac{1}{4} = 2.5$$

1i. What is the standard deviation of the variable *number of questions correct*?

$$\sigma = \sqrt{n \cdot p \cdot q} = \sqrt{10 \cdot \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{3}{4}} = 1.37$$

**Note:**  $q = 1 - p = 1 - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4}$ .

1j. What is the minimum and maximum usual values of correct questions the student may expect?

The minimum usual value is given by  $\mu - 2\sigma$ :  $2.50 - 2(1.37) = -0.24$

The interpretation of this result: if someone answer 10 questions at random, with a probability of  $\frac{1}{4}$  of being correct on each instance, it will be “usual” getting all questions wrong (zero correct). The value -0.24 doesn’t have a physical meaning, since no one can go lower of zero correct.

The maximum usual value is given by  $\mu + 2\sigma$ :  $2.50 + 2(1.37) = 2.5 + 2 \cdot 1.37 = 5.24$  So the test taker may expect up to 5 questions correct. Anything above that result will be “unusual” or exceptionally high.

1k. May we consider 6 as a usual number of correct questions under the conditions of this experiment?

Six questions correct would be an unusual high number of correct answers under the conditions of this experiment.