

The mean as a measure of centre

WHAT THIS LESSON TEACHES

The mean is the value each item would have if the total were shared equally. Add all values then divide by how many values.

→ The mean of 4, 6 and 8 is $(4 + 6 + 8) \div 3 = 6$.

→ Towers of 4, 6, 8 cubes level off to three towers of 6.

MODEL THIS ON THE BOARD

WORKED EXAMPLE: TOTAL FROM THE MEAN

- ① Two GAA players scored a mean of 5 points across 2 games.
- ② Multiply the mean by the number of games: $5 \times 2 = 10$.
- ③ The total points scored is 10.

ANSWER KEY

c) 10

Q1: 14

Q2: 18

Q3: 5

Q4: 60

Q5: 10

a) **Always** — Always add all values and divide by the count.

b) **Never** — The mean is often not one of the numbers, like mean of 1 and 2 is 1.5.

c) **Always** — Total equals mean times count, always.

d) **Sometimes** — Sometimes true, like 2 and 4 mean 3 which is odd.

EXTENSION SHEET · STRETCH ANSWERS

S1: 35.5

S2: 34.5

S3: 32.5

S4: 25

S5: 17