

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Identifying Biased Samples

### Instructions:

For each example given below, explain why the resulting sample might be biased.

1. A researcher sends out 500 questionnaires about pollution in Los Angeles to local residents by mail. She receives 340 responses.

Population of interest: \_\_\_\_\_

Why might the sample be biased? Explain. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. A researcher is interested in learning the typical number people per household who own cell phones. He conducts a survey by randomly calling phones that have land-lines.

Population of interest: \_\_\_\_\_

Why might the sample be biased? Explain. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. A researcher has concluded that dolphins are nice animals by surveying people who were assisted by one in a shark attack.

Population of interest: \_\_\_\_\_

Why might the sample be biased? Explain. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. A radio station host wants to know what proportion of her listeners enjoy the "Daily Dilemma" segment. She asks listeners to call into the station and respond.

Population of interest: \_\_\_\_\_

Why might the sample be biased? Explain. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. A researcher wants to know how many students at UCLA own pets. He stands outside the student health center and asks students before they enter the building.

Population of interest: \_\_\_\_\_

Why might the sample be biased? Explain. \_\_\_\_\_

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