



ENGW 1110 Introduction to First Year Writing
Kelly Garneau
Data Ethics and Data Collection

About

This handout provides key words and definitions about data ethics and data collection, specifically on the collection process using Google Sheets.

Key Words and Vocabulary

- **Data Ethics:** Questions how data is collected, by whom, from whom, and for what purpose to think critically about impact (potentially harming or benefiting others).
- **Big Data:** Collects large information at rapid speeds to quickly categorize behaviors and patterns, adjusting categories as further data is collected and analyzed.
- **Google Sheets:** Google's free cloud spreadsheet creator. You will use Google Sheets to keep track of your writing practices.
 - **Rows:** the vertical numbers
 - **Columns:** the horizontal letters
 - **Cells:** the individual rectangular box that has a unique ID based on placement (column + row)
- **Charts:** visualizations that can be created about your data
- **Functions:** mathematical functions that can be used on numerical data
- **Data Validation:** the input specifications for particular cells (input only dates, only numbers, or select from a list)
- **Conditional Formatting:** filter for data that lets you highlight or mark information (highlight blank vs not blank cells)

Questions to Consider

- How do your column choices impact how you view your writing patterns?
- Which information will you choose to omit or highlight, both as you're collecting data and then as you're reflecting on that data?
- How do you think about your audience and your purpose while you're writing? How can you highlight this through your data collection?

Helpful Resources

- DIY Guide to Feminist Cybersecurity: <https://hackblossom.org/cybersecurity/>
- Google Sheets Tutorial – Designed for Beginners: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M3-MDhnZzPU>

Find these slides and more at <http://bit.ly/2KsBbv0>

Questions? Contact us!

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Adopt or Not?

You and your partner work for an animal shelter and just received an adoption application! Someone is interested in adopting one of your dogs. Now you have to decide if a person should adopt or not.

Previous Applicants

Below are two previous applications. Two were **accepted** and two were **rejected**. Based on these two applications, determine if your new applicant can adopt a dog or not.

Accepted Applications

Person 1

How many people live in your home? **4**

Do any children live in the house? If so, what are their ages? **2 children, 7 years old and 10 years old**

Are there any other pets in the house? If so, what pets? **1 pet, Cat**

If there is another dog in the house, do they have experience living or interacting often with another dog? **Not applicable**

How many hours do the main people who will be taking care of the dog work a day? **4**

How many days do the main people who will be taking care of the dog work a week? **5**

Will there be anyone home during the day to let the dog out or play with the dog? **Yes**

Are there any family members whose health may be affected by the dog? **Yes**

Do you own or rent your property? **Own**

Do you live in a house or an apartment? **House**

Is there a backyard or area on your property for the dog to run freely? **Yes**

If there is a backyard, is it fully fenced in? **Yes**

Do you have a trusted veterinarian in your location? **Yes**

Are there dog parks in your location? **Yes**

Will you buy your dog pet insurance? **Yes**

Person 2

How many people live in your home? **2**

Do any children live in the house? If so, what are their ages? **0**

Are there any other pets in the house? If so, what pets? **1, Dog**

If there is another dog in the house, do they have experience living or interacting often with another dog? **Yes**

How many hours do the main people who will be taking care of the dog work a day? **8**

How many days do the main people who will be taking care of the dog work a week? **5**

Will there be anyone home during the day to let the dog out or play with the dog? **Yes, dogwalker**

Are there any family members whose health may be affected by the dog? **No**

Do you own or rent your property? **Own**

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Do you live in a house or an apartment? **Apartment**
Is there a backyard or area on your property for the dog to run freely? **Yes**
If there is a backyard, is it fully fenced in? **Yes**
Do you have a trusted veterinarian in your location? **Yes**
Are there dog parks in your location? **Yes**
Will you buy your dog pet insurance? **No**

Rejected Applications

Person 3

How many people live in your home? **1**
Do any children live in the house? If so, what are their ages? **0**
Are there any other pets in the house? If so, what pets? **0**
If there is another dog in the house, do they have experience living or interacting often with another dog? **Not applicable**
How many hours do the main people who will be taking care of the dog work a day? **8**
How many days do the main people who will be taking care of the dog work a week? **5**
Will there be anyone home during the day to let the dog out or play with the dog? **No**
Are there any family members whose health may be affected by the dog? **No**
Do you own or rent your property? **Own**
Do you live in a house or an apartment? **Apartment**
Is there a backyard or area on your property for the dog to run freely? **No**
If there is a backyard, is it fully fenced in? **Not applicable**
Do you have a trusted veterinarian in your location? **Yes**
Are there dog parks in your location? **Yes**
Will you buy your dog pet insurance? **No**

Person 4

How many people live in your home? **3**
Do any children live in the house? If so, what are their ages? **1, 8 years old**
Are there any other pets in the house? If so, what pets? **0**
If there is another dog in the house, do they have experience living or interacting often with another dog? **Not applicable**
How many hours do the main people who will be taking care of the dog work a day? **8**
How many days do the main people who will be taking care of the dog work a week? **5**
Will there be anyone home during the day to let the dog out or play with the dog? **No**
Are there any family members whose health may be affected by the dog? **No**
Do you own or rent your property? **Rent**
Do you live in a house or an apartment? **House**
Is there a backyard or area on your property for the dog to run freely? **Yes**

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If there is a backyard, is it fully fenced in? **No**
Do you have a trusted veterinarian in your location? **Yes**
Are there dog parks in your location? **Yes**
Will you buy your dog pet insurance? **No**

New Application

How many people live in your home? **2**
Do any children live in the house? If so, what are their ages? **0**
Are there any other pets in the house? If so, what pets? **1, Lizard**
If there is another dog in the house, do they have experience living or interacting often with another dog? **Not applicable**
How many hours do the main people who will be taking care of the dog work a day? **6**
How many days do the main people who will be taking care of the dog work a week? **5**
Will there be anyone home during the day to let the dog out or play with the dog? **Yes**
Are there any family members whose health may be affected by the dog? **Yes (allergies)**
Do you own or rent your property? **Rent**
Do you live in a house or an apartment? **Apartment**
Is there a backyard or area on your property for the dog to run freely? **No**
If there is a backyard, is it fully fenced in? **No**
Do you have a trusted veterinarian in your location? **Yes**
Are there dog parks in your location? **Yes**
Will you buy your dog pet insurance? **Yes**

Do you **ACCEPT** or **REJECT** their application? Why?

What questions from the application did you weigh more? Why?

What might be some implicit biases in this application?