

From the Desk of  
R. J. Rabindu  
HiTech Inc.

---

MAT 3310 Class:

I hear you are looking for interesting problems to consider in your class. Perhaps you can help me. I am CEO of a small hi-tech computer firm, HiTech, Inc., which sells, installs, and maintains computer systems. We are trying to understand what will happen in the company when the question of unionization is brought forward to our employees.

The information (in a file that Dr. Hirst has been sent) contains the friendship ties among the employees, which were gathered by means of the question: Who do you consider to be a personal friend? Three employees (Fran, Quincy, and York) did not return the questionnaire. Note that most friendship nominations are reciprocated, but not all (112 out of 147). A friendship choice is only included in the list below if both persons involved acknowledge it.

In addition, we asked how each employee felt about joining a union, and most indicated that they had no opinion (or left the question blank). There were a few who indicated support and a few who indicated opposition.

Can you help analyze these data to determine what we can expect so that we can prepare?

HiTech Incorporated  
Employees

ID	NAME	Feelings Toward Unionization
1	"Abe"	no opinion / not answered
2	"Bob"	no opinion / not answered
3	"Carl"	no opinion / not answered
4	"Dale"	opposed
5	"Ev"	no opinion / not answered
6	"Fred"	no opinion / not answered
7	"Gary"	no opinion / not answered
8	"Hal"	support
9	"Ivo"	support
10	"Jack"	support
11	"Ken"	no opinion / not answered
12	"Len"	no opinion / not answered
13	"Mel"	opposed
14	"Nan"	no opinion / not answered
15	"Ovid"	support
16	"Pat"	opposed
17	"Quincy"	no opinion / not answered
18	"Robin"	opposed
19	"Steve"	opposed
20	"Tom"	no opinion / not answered
21	"Upton"	no opinion / not answered
22	"Vic"	no opinion / not answered
23	"Walt"	no opinion / not answered
24	"Rick"	no opinion / not answered
25	"York"	no opinion / not answered
26	"Zoe"	no opinion / not answered
27	"Alex"	no opinion / not answered
28	"Ben"	no opinion / not answered
29	"Chris"	support
30	"Dan"	no opinion / not answered
31	"Earl"	no opinion / not answered
32	"Fran"	no opinion / not answered
33	"Gerry"	no opinion / not answered
34	"Hugh"	no opinion / not answered
35	"Irv"	no opinion / not answered
36	"Jim"	opposed