Homework 5 - Math 421

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Due Friday, September 29. Be sure to show any work you needed to do. You can use a calculator or computer, but give exact (not decimal) answers when possible.

1. Two balls are randomly selected from an urn containing 4 red, 3 blue, and 2 gray balls. Suppose that we win \$2 for each blue ball, but lose \$1 for each red ball, and gray balls don't win or lose anything. Let X denote our total winnings. Find E(X). This is the same situation as problem 1 from HW4.

2. An elementary school has 4 bus routes. Bus 1 has 40 students, bus 2 has 30, bus 3 has 25, and bus 4 has 45 students. If you randomly select one of the students who rides a bus, let X be the number of students who ride their bus. If you randomly select one of the bus drivers, let Y be the number of students who ride their bus. What are E(X) and E(Y)? Why does it make sense that E(X) and E(Y) are different?

3. A volunteer needs to collect 5 signatures for a ballot initiative. Assume that each person the volunteer asks has an independent 40% chance to sign the proposal. Let X be the number of people they talk to fill their quota of signatures.

(a) Find P(X = 8).

(b) Find E(X).

4. Find Var(X) and Var(Y) for the random variables X and Y from the problem about school buses.

5. Suppose Z is a random variable with E(Z) = 1 and Var(Z) = 3. Find
(a) Var(4+3Z).

(b) $E((2+Z)^2)$. Hint: Use the fact that $Var(X) = E(X^2) - E(X)^2$.

6. An urn has 5 red and 5 blue balls. Suppose you take two balls from the urn. If they have the same color, you win \$3, otherwise you lose \$2. Find the expected value and variance for this game.

7. If $Y \sim \text{Geom}(p)$, prove that P(Y = n + k | Y > n) = P(Y = k).