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Did the Gamemakers fix the lottery in the Hunger Games?

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Summary: The Hunger Games is an annual event in the fictional country of Panem. Each year, 24 children (tributes) are chosen by lottery from 12 districts to fight to the death in the arena for the entertainment of the Capitol citizens. Using statistical analysis and computer simulations, we will explore the possibility that the Gamemakers, those in charge of planning the Hunger Games, fixed the lottery. Using the fictitious data from Suzanne Collins' book the Hunger Games, we show how students can learn how to perform a permutation goodness of fit test.

Classification: K70 K90 M90

Keywords: teaching statistics; permutation test; computer simulation; hypothesis testing; fiction

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