Non-parametric Tests 2

Q1.

Georgio has designed two new uniforms X and Y for the employees of an airline company. A random sample of 11 employees are each asked to assess each of the two uniforms for practicality and appearance, and to give a total score out of 100. The scores are given in the table.

Employee	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
Uniform X	82	74	42	59	60	73	94	98	62	36	50
Uniform Y	78	75	63	56	67	82	99	90	72	48	61

(a) Give a reason why a Wilcoxon signed-rank test may be more appropriate than a t-test for investigating whether there is any evidence of a preference for one of the uniforms. [1]

(b) Carry out a Wilcoxon matched-pairs signed-rank test at the 10% significance level. [7]

Q2.

A company is developing a new flavour of chocolate by varying the quantities of the ingredients. A random selection of 9 flavours of chocolate are judged by two tasters who each give marks out of 100 to each flavour of chocolate.

Chocolate	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
Taster 1	72	86	75	92	98	79	87	60	62
Taster 2	84	72	74	95	85	87	82	75	68

Carry out a Wilcoxon matched-pairs signed-rank test at the 10% significance level to investigate whether, on average, there is a difference between marks awarded by the two tasters. [7]

Q3.

The blood cholesterol levels, measured in suitable units, of a random sample of 11 women and a random sample of 12 men are shown below.

Women	51	55	242	167	152	256	75	137	98	238	235	
Men	311	262	170	302	175	320	220	260	72	351	86	333

Carry out a Wilcoxon rank-sum test, at the 5% significance level, to test whether, on average, there is a difference in cholesterol levels between women and men. [9]

Non-parametric Tests 2

Q4.

Applicants for a particular college take a written test when they attend for interview. There are two different written tests, A and B, and each applicant takes one or the other. The interviewer wants to determine whether the medians of the distribution of marks obtained in the two tests are equal. The marks obtained by a random sample of 8 applicants who took test A and a random sample of 8 applicants who took test B are as follows.

Test A	46	32	29	12	33	18	25	40
Test B	36	28	49	37	48	35	41	31

(a) Carry out a Wilcoxon rank-sum test at the 5% significance level to determine whether there is a difference in the population median marks obtained in the two tests. [6]

The interviewer considers using the given information to carry out a paired sample t-test to determine whether there is a difference in the population means for the two tests.

(b) Give two reasons why it is not appropriate to use this test. [2]

Q5.

A teacher at a large college gave a mathematical puzzle to all the students. The median time taken by a random sample of 24 students to complete the puzzle was 18.0 minutes. The students were then given practice in solving puzzles. Two weeks later, the students were given another mathematical puzzle of the same type as the first. The times, in minutes, taken by the random sample of 24 students to complete this puzzle are as follows.

18.2	17.5	16.4	15.1	20.5	26.5	19.2	23.2
17.9	18.8	25.8	19.9	17.7	16.2	17.3	16.6
17.1	20.1	20.3	12.6	16.0	21.4	22.7	18.4

The teacher claims that the practice has not made any difference to the average time taken to complete a puzzle of this type.

Carry out a Wilcoxon signed-rank test, at the 10% significance level, to test whether there is sufficient evidence to reject the teacher's claim. [10]
