**Expressing dissatisfaction**
Laurie and Winifred Bauer

Question 29 was designed to elicit how students express their dissatisfaction with something:

**29**    Jostie doesn't think his painting is any good. What would he say about his painting?

There were a very large number of different responses to this question, many of them recorded only once, e.g. *a downer; it rules the toilet and everything inside it; looks like the dog's breakfast; Michael Angelo – not; pollywolly*. There were problems with the grouping of some of the responses to this question. It was unclear whether it was appropriate to group *It stinks* with *It's stink*, for example. There were also many quite varied responses to the effect that the painting was rubbish, and similarly, many to the effect that Jostie was no good at painting. With these last two groups, no individual item was frequent enough to be significant, so all these were treated as one category, albeit of a very different kind from most groupings in this study. With cases like *It stinks* and *It's stink*, a dual approach was taken: they were grouped at one level of analysis, and kept separate at another.

There was one response which was overwhelmingly common: *It sucks.* 128 of the 150 schools reported *it sucks* or a closely related form, e.g. *it's sucky, (or sucksy).* There were a small number of other responses (or groups of responses) which were moderately frequent. These were: *stink* (47); *dumb* (39); *rubbish* (15); *crusty* (14); *budget* (11); *munted* (10).

*Stink* (which combined *It's stink* and *it stinks*) was reported from Northland to Southland. However, it was much less frequent in some areas than others. The first table shows that there is a relatively high proportion in the Northern Region in comparison with the Central Region.

| | Northern Region | | Central Region | | Southern Region | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | No. | % of total | No. | % of total | No. | % of total |
| **Schools** | 57 | 38 | 78 | 52 | 14 | 9 |
| ***Stink*** | 26 | 55 | 16 | 34 | 5 | 11 |

The following table shows the distribution in relation to the North Island-South Island division, and indicates that *stink* is much more common in the North Island than the South.

| | North Island | | South Island | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | No. | % | No. | % |
| **Schools** | 93 | 62 | 57 | 38 |
| ***Stink*** | 36 | 77 | 11 | 23 |

Some more sophisticated statistical analysis will be needed to determine the relative weight of these tendencies.

*Dumb* was reported from Northland to Southland, and was fairly evenly distributed across all regions.

*Rubbish* (which was a theme, rather than a word or phrase) was reported from Northland to Southland, and there did not appear to be any regional patterning.
*Crusty* was reported from Northland to mid Canterbury. It is unclear whether its absence from the Southern area is significant.
*Budget* (or *budge*) was reported from Northland to Otago. It was less common in the Central Region than elsewhere, but the numbers are small, so not too much weight can be placed on this:

|  | Northern Region | | Central Region | | Southern Region | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | No. | % of total | No. | % of total | No. | % of total |
| **Schools** | 57 | 38 | 78 | 52 | 14 | 9 |
| ***Budget*** | 5 | 45 | 4 | 36 | 2 | 18 |

*Munted* was reported from Northland to Southland, but there is a large gap in the reports in the middle of the country. Given that we know that the word is found throughout, this may be yet another indication that its sense varies somewhat from one region to another. The regional figures are:

|  | Northern Region | | Central Region | | Southern Region | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | No. | % of total | No. | % of total | No. | % of total |
| **Schools** | 53 | 35 | 77 | 51 | 14 | 9 |
| ***Munted*** | 5 | 50 | 4 | 40 | 1 | 10 |

Thus of these forms, only *stink* shows any clear tendency to regionalisation.
A common thread in the responses was to associate the painting with excrement. Three terms were commonly used for this: *shit, crap* and *crud.* These were mapped in case they showed regional variation, but they do not seem to. Neither do they show any clear tendency to social variation.
*It stinks* was compared with *it's stink. It's stink* was found from Northland to Southland, and *it stinks* was found from Northland to South Canterbury. However, there is a curious lack of reports of *it's stink* in the Waikato, Bay of Plenty, timber belt and volcanic plateau, and also in Canterbury. The figures for these by region follow:

|  | Northern Region | | Central Region | | Southern Region | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | No. | % of total | No. | % of total | No. | % of total |
| **Schools** | 57 | 38 | 78 | 52 | 14 | 9 |
| ***It's stink*** | 15 | 54 | 8 | 29 | 5 | 18 |
| ***It stinks*** | 16 | 67 | 8 | 33 | 0 | 0 |

The figures for the two-way island division are as follows:

|  | North Island | | South Island | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | No. | % | No. | % |
| **Schools** | 93 | 62 | 57 | 38 |
| ***It's stink*** | 21 | 75 | 7 | 25 |
| ***It stinks*** | 20 | 83 | 4 | 17 |

Thus both of the forms which made up the group *stink* discussed above show the same patterning as the group as a whole, and it is clearly not the case that combining these two forms obscured or created the pattern observed.

A few low frequency forms were considered: *I suck at painting* (7); *It's patu* (8); *It's rude* (4). None of these showed much sign of patterning.

*I suck at painting* was reported 6 times in the North Island and only once in the South Island.

*It's patu* was reported 4 times from Hawkes Bay, with the other reports scattered in Northland, South Auckland, Taranaki and Christchurch.

*It's rude* was reported three times in Auckland and once in Timaru.

Because the numbers are so low, these forms do not offer a great deal of support for any hypothesis. The large number of other forms showed even less sign of patterning, and were ignored.

**Statistical Analysis**

Two forms only were the subject of statistical analysis, *munted* and *stink*. (This was the combined *it's stink* and *it stinks*, since they showed the same patterns individually.)

In relation to Decile, *stink* was shown to approach significance as a low decile form (p-value 0.0514). In terms of Main Regions, *stink* was shown by a contrast statement to be significantly more common in the Northern than the Central Region (p-value 0.0019). In terms of Island, *stink* was shown to be significantly more common in the North Island than the South Island (p-value 0.0145).

It was necessary to investigate the interaction of Main Region and Island in relation to *stink*. This investigation showed that Main Region is perhaps a little stronger than Island in its effect when the Northern and Central Regions are compared, but there is little in it. The p-value for Island variation when Main Region is taken into account is 0.1181; the p-value for the contrast between the Northern and Central Regions when Island is taken into account is 0.1005 (obtained by a contrast statement). Neither of these is significant. Thus to a large extent, either of these factors can explain the other.
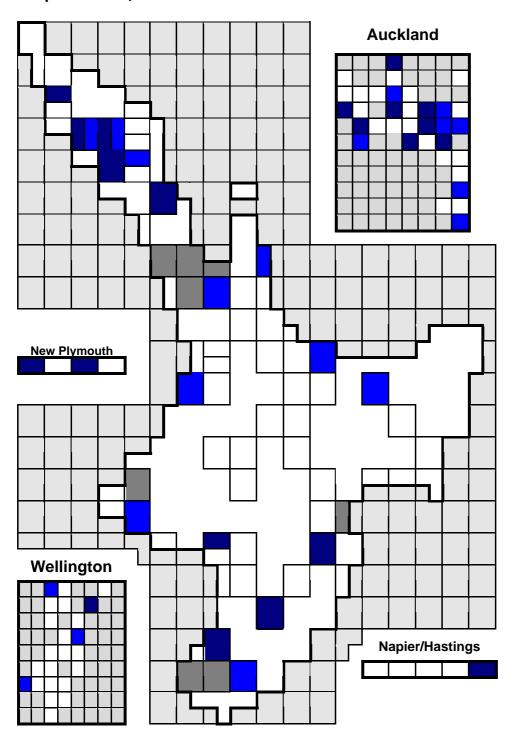
The comparisons between Main Region and Decile and Island and Decile for *stink* showed, as expected that Decile has less effect than the other two factors. *Stink* is Northern, North Island, and almost significantly low decile. Main Region is a little stronger than Island in its effect.

*Munted* does not correlate significantly with any of the factors considered. In particular, the contrast between the Northern and Central Regions was not significant.

**Summary**

The prevalence of *It sucks* as a response to this probably contributed to the lack of regionalised results for this question. Nevertheless, a map of the two *stink* forms follows.

3

**Map:** *It's stink, it stinks*

Key

Note that the insets are not to scale, nor all on the same scale for practical reasons. Each box represents one school in both urban and rural areas.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ■ It's stink | | ▦ See urban map insert |
| ■ It stinks | | |

### Q29 Statistics: *It's stink*
### *It's stink* by Decile
Analysis Of GEE Parameter Estimates –Empirical Standard Error Estimates
Empirical 95% Confidence Limits

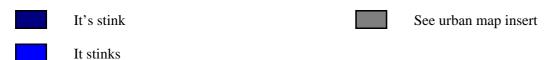| parameter | | Estimate | Std Err | Lower | Upper | Z | Pr>|Z| |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| intercept | 0.0000 | . | . | . | . | . | |
| item | munted | -2.5076 | 0.7636 | -4.0042 | -1.0111 | -3.284 | 0.0010 |
| item | stink | -0.0313 | 0.4033 | -0.8218 | 0.7592 | -.0777 | 0.9381 |
| decile*item | munted | -0.0231 | 0.1229 | -0.2640 | 0.2179 | -.1878 | 0.8511 |
| decile*item | stink | -0.1351 | 0.0693 | -0.2709 | 0.0008 | -1.949 | 0.0514 |
| scale | 1.0026 | . | . | . | . | . | |

### *It's stink* by Main Region
Analysis Of GEE Parameter Estimates –Empirical Standard Error Estimates
Empirical 95% Confidence Limits

| parameter | | Estimate | Std Err | Lower | Upper | Z | Pr>|Z| |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| intercept | 0.0000 | . | . | . | . | . | |
| item | munted | -2.5649 | 1.0377 | -4.5989 | -0.5310 | -2.472 | 0.0134 |
| item | stink | -0.5878 | 0.5578 | -1.6810 | 0.5054 | -1.054 | 0.2920 |
| item*region1 | munted, 1 | 0.2231 | 1.1385 | -2.0083 | 2.4545 | 0.1960 | 0.8446 |
| item*region1 | munted, 2 | -0.3528 | 1.1578 | -2.6220 | 1.9164 | -.3047 | 0.7606 |
| item*region1 | munted, 3 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| item*region1 | stink, 1 | 0.4119 | 0.6179 | -0.7992 | 1.6230 | 0.6666 | 0.5050 |
| item*region1 | stink, 2 | -0.7668 | 0.6243 | -1.9903 | 0.4568 | -1.228 | 0.2194 |
| item*region1 | stink, 3 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| scale | 1.0000 | . | . | . | . | . | |

CONTRAST Statement Results

| Contrast | DF | ChiSquare | Pr>Chi | Type |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 -2 for munted | 1 | 0.6924 | 0.4053 | LR |
| 1 -2 for stink | 1 | 9.6577 | **0.0019** | LR |

### *It's stink* **by Sub-Region**
Analysis Of Initial Parameter Estimates

| parameter | | DF | Estimate | Std Err | ChiSquare | Pr>Chi |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| intercept | 0 | 0.00 | 0.0000 | . | . | |
| item | munted | 1 | -2.5649 | 1.0377 | 6.1090 | 0.0134 |
| item | stink | 1 | -0.5878 | 0.5578 | 1.1105 | 0.2920 |
| item*region2 | munted, 1 | 1 | 0.9555 | 1.5089 | 0.4010 | 0.5266 |
| item*region2 | munted, 2 | 1 | -23.8004 | 216811.094 | 0.0000 | 0.9999 |
| item*region2 | munted, 3 | 1 | 0.4249 | 1.2790 | 0.1104 | 0.7397 |
| item*region2 | munted, 4 | 1 | 0.0800 | 1.2722 | 0.0040 | 0.9498 |
| item*region2 | munted, 5 | 1 | -23.8004 | 153308.595 | 0.0000 | 0.9999 |
| item*region2 | munted, 6 | 1 | -23.8004 | 113225.901 | 0.0000 | 0.9998 |
| item*region2 | munted, 7 | 1 | -23.8004 | 177025.517 | 0.0000 | 0.9999 |
| item*region2 | munted, 8 | 1 | -23.8004 | 216811.094 | 0.0000 | 0.9999 |
| item*region2 | munted, 9 | 1 | 0.4855 | 1.2804 | 0.1438 | 0.7046 |
| item*region2 | munted, 10 | 1 | 1.1787 | 1.3046 | 0.8163 | 0.3663 |
| item*region2 | munted, 11 | 0 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | . | . |
| item*region2 | stink, 1 | 1 | 1.2809 | 1.0301 | 1.5463 | 0.2137 |
| item*region2 | stink, 2 | 1 | -0.1054 | 1.0301 | 0.0105 | 0.9185 |
| item*region2 | stink, 3 | 1 | 1.3610 | 0.7448 | 3.3392 | 0.0676 |
| item*region2 | stink, 4 | 1 | -0.4107 | 0.7118 | 0.3330 | 0.5639 |
| item*region2 | stink, 5 | 1 | -1.0217 | 0.9545 | 1.1456 | 0.2845 |
| item*region2 | stink, 6 | 1 | 0.0282 | 0.7124 | 0.0016 | 0.9685 |
| item*region2 | stink, 7 | 1 | -0.6650 | 0.9767 | 0.4635 | 0.4960 |
| item*region2 | stink, 8 | 1 | -1.0217 | 1.2293 | 0.6907 | 0.4059 |
| item*region2 | stink, 9 | 1 | -1.4917 | 0.9347 | 2.5469 | 0.1105 |
| item*region2 | stink, 10 | 1 | -1.6094 | 1.1926 | 1.8213 | 0.1772 |
| item*region2 | stink, 11 | 0 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | . | . |
| scale | 0 | 1.00 | 0.0000 | . | . | |

### *It's stink* **by Island**
Analysis Of GEE Parameter Estimates –Empirical Standard Error Estimates
Empirical 95% Confidence Limits

| parameter | | Estimate | Std Err | Lower | Upper | Z | Pr>|Z| |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| intercept | 0.0000 | . | . | . | . | . | |
| item | munted | -2.3418 | 0.4682 | -3.2595 | -1.4241 | -5.001 | 0.0000 |
| item | stink | -1.4307 | 0.3356 | -2.0886 | -0.7729 | -4.263 | 0.0000 |
| item*island | munted, 1 | -0.5261 | 0.6562 | -1.8122 | 0.7600 | -.8017 | 0.4227 |
| item*island | munted, 2 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| item*island | stink, 1 | 0.9712 | 0.3975 | 0.1922 | 1.7502 | 2.4436 | **0.0145** |
| item*island | stink, 2 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| scale | 1.0000 | . | . | . | . | . | |

### *It's stink* by Catholic
Analysis Of GEE Parameter Estimates –Empirical Standard Error Estimates
Empirical 95% Confidence Limits

| parameter | | Estimate | Std Err | Lower | Upper | Z | Pr>\|Z\| |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| intercept | 0.0000 | . | . | . | . | . | |
| item | munted | -2.7081 | 1.0328 | -4.7323 | -0.6838 | -2.622 | 0.0087 |
| item | stink | -0.7885 | 0.5394 | -1.8456 | 0.2687 | -1.462 | 0.1438 |
| item*catholic | munted, 1 | 0.1013 | 1.0890 | -2.0332 | 2.2357 | 0.0930 | 0.9259 |
| item*catholic | munted, 2 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| item*catholic | stink, 1 | 0.0022 | 0.5713 | -1.1176 | 1.1220 | 0.0039 | 0.9969 |
| item*catholic | stink, 2 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| scale | 1.0000 | . | . | . | . | . | |

### *It's stink* by Urban/Rural
Analysis Of GEE Parameter Estimates –Empirical Standard Error Estimates
Empirical 95% Confidence Limits

| parameter | | Estimate | Std Err | Lower | Upper | Z | Pr>\|Z\| |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| intercept | 0.0000 | . | . | . | . | . | |
| item | munted | -2.6210 | 0.5179 | -3.6360 | -1.6060 | -5.061 | 0.0000 |
| item | stink | -0.5931 | 0.2719 | -1.1260 | -0.0601 | -2.181 | 0.0292 |
| item*urb_rur | munted, 1 | -0.1640 | 0.6932 | -1.5226 | 1.1947 | -.2365 | 0.8130 |
| item*urb_rur | munted, 2 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| item*urb_rur | stink, 1 | -0.3560 | 0.3629 | -1.0674 | 0.3553 | -.9809 | 0.3266 |
| item*urb_rur | stink, 2 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| scale | 1.0000 | . | . | . | . | . | |

### *It's stink* by Main Region and Island, Model 2 (no sig. figs. in Model 1)
Analysis Of Initial Parameter Estimates

| parameter | | DF | Estimate | Std Err | ChiSquare | Pr>Chi |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| intercept | 0 | 0.00 | 0.0000 | . | . | |
| item | munted | 1 | -2.5649 | 1.0377 | 6.1090 | 0.0134 |
| item | stink | 1 | -0.5878 | 0.5578 | 1.1105 | 0.2920 |
| item*region1 | munted, 1 | 1 | 24.3112 | 1.1385 | 455.9917 | **0.0001** |
| item*region1 | munted, 2 | 1 | 0.2877 | 1.1630 | 0.0612 | 0.8046 |
| item*region1 | munted, 3 | 0 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | . | . |
| item*region1 | stink, 1 | 1 | -0.4910 | 0.8459 | 0.3369 | 0.5616 |
| item*region1 | stink, 2 | 1 | -1.2314 | 0.7105 | 3.0037 | 0.0831 |
| item*region1 | stink, 3 | 0 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | . | . |
| item*island | munted, 1 | 0 | -24.0881 | 0.0000 | . | . |
| item*island | munted, 2 | 0 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | . | . |
| item*island | stink, 1 | 1 | 0.9029 | 0.5777 | 2.4429 | 0.1181 |
| item*island | stink, 2 | 0 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | . | . |
| scale | 0 | 1.00 | 0.0000 | . | . | |

CONTRAST Statement Results

| Contrast | DF | ChiSquare | Pr>Chi | Type |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 –2 for stink | 1 | 2.6979 | 0.1005 | LR |

### *It's stink* by Main Region and Decile, Model 2 (no sig. figs Model 1)
Analysis Of GEE Parameter Estimates –Empirical Standard Error Estimates
Empirical 95% Confidence Limits

| parameter | | Estimate | Std Err | Lower | Upper | Z | Pr>|Z| |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| intercept | 0.0000 | . | . | . | . | . | |
| item | munted | -2.5634 | 1.3568 | -5.2227 | 0.0959 | -1.889 | 0.0589 |
| item | stink | -0.0162 | 0.6770 | -1.3432 | 1.3107 | -.0240 | 0.9809 |
| item*region1 | munted, 1 | 0.2257 | 1.1645 | -2.0566 | 2.5081 | 0.1938 | 0.8463 |
| item*region1 | munted, 2 | -0.3485 | 1.1648 | -2.6314 | 1.9344 | -.2992 | 0.7648 |
| item*region1 | munted, 3 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| item*region1 | stink, 1 | 0.3307 | 0.5935 | -0.8326 | 1.4940 | 0.5572 | 0.5774 |
| item*region1 | stink, 2 | -0.7107 | 0.5915 | -1.8700 | 0.4486 | -1.202 | 0.2295 |
| item*region1 | stink, 3 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| decile*item | munted | -0.0007 | 0.1376 | -0.2705 | 0.2690 | -.0053 | 0.9957 |
| decile*item | stink | -0.1006 | 0.0724 | -0.2425 | 0.0413 | -1.389 | 0.1648 |
| scale | 1.0023 | . | . | . | . | . | |

CONTRAST Statement Results

| Contrast | DF | ChiSquare | Pr>Chi | Type |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 –2 for stink | 1 | 7.0278 | **0.0080** | LR |

### *It's stink* by Decile and Island, Model 2 (no sig. figs Model 1)
Analysis Of GEE Parameter Estimates – Empirical Standard Error Estimates
Empirical 95% Confidence Limits

| parameter | | Est. | Std Err | Lower | Upper | Z | Pr>|Z| |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| intercept | 0.0000 | . | . | . | . | . | |
| item | munted | -2.0373 | 1.0679 | -4.1303 | 0.0556 | -1.908 | 0.0564 |
| item | stink | -0.7568 | 0.5804 | -1.8944 | 0.3809 | -1.304 | 0.1923 |
| item*island | munted, 1 | -0.5873 | 0.7286 | -2.0154 | 0.8408 | -.8060 | 0.4202 |
| item*island | munted, 2 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| item*island | stink, 1 | 0.8501 | 0.4120 | 0.0425 | 1.6577 | 2.0632 | **0.0391** |
| item*island | stink, 2 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| decile*item | munted | -0.0475 | 0.1398 | -0.3215 | 0.2266 | -.3394 | 0.7343 |
| decile*item | stink | -0.1063 | 0.0720 | -0.2474 | 0.0348 | -1.477 | 0.1397 |
| scale | 1.0007 | . | . | . | . | . | |