Answer on Question #85572 – Math – Statistics and Probability

Question

The arithmetic mean of 10 numbers is 4, when an eleventh number, x is added so that the overall mean is changed to 5. When a twelfth number, y is added the mean changes to 4. Determine the values of x and y

Solution

Since the arithmetic mean of N numbers is $m = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i}{N}$, then $\sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i = mN$. Therefore, the sum of 10 numbers is 4 * 10 = 40. Then the sum of 11 numbers is equal to 5 * 11 = 55. It follows that x = 55 - 40 = 15. The sum of 12 numbers is equal to 4 * 12 = 48. Then y = 48 - 55 = -7.

Answer:

x = 15, *y* = -7