Elementary Statistical Methods

**Lab 1 – Ch.3 –** Descriptive Statistics and the Shape of Distributions Critical Thinking; Communication Skills; Empirical/Quantitative Skills

**Data Set 1:** A study was performed on the number of armored plates found on stickleback fish. A random sample of 40 stickleback fish showed the following number of plates:

42	64	62	9	12	62	50	12	27	11
69	64	63	21	49	62	43	65	51	62
12	21	62	62	66	9	64	12	63	10
54	21	61	9	14	63	45	57	60	62

**Data Set 2:** A random sample of 25 healthy adults resulted in the following body temperatures:

98.5	98.6	97.8	98.9	97.9	99	98.2	98.7	98.8	99
98	99.2	99.5	99.4	98.3	99.1	98.4	97.6	97.4	97.7
97.5	98.8	98.6	99.3	98.4					

1. For each of the data sets, calculate the mean and median.

	Mean	Median
Data Set 1 (plates)		
Data Set 2 (temp)		

**2.** Based ONLY on the mean and median, what is the most likely distribution (shape) of each data set? Justify your choices using complete sentences and proper grammar. Write your justification below.

3. Construct a stem-and-leaf plot for each data set. (do not separate values with commas)

## NUMBER OF ARMORED PLATES ON STICKLEBACK FISH

5 | 2 means 52

Stem	Leaves

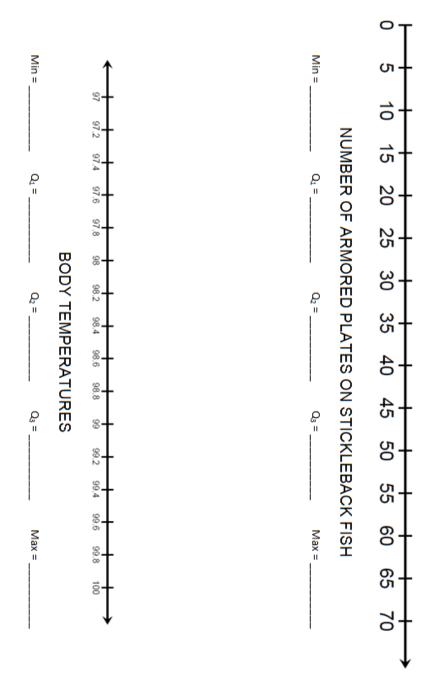
## **BODY TEMPERATURES**

95 | 2 means 95.2

Stem	Leaves

**4.** Based ONLY on the stem and leaf plots, what is the most likely distribution (shape) of each data set? Justify your choices using complete sentences and proper grammar. Write your justification below.

**5.** Write the 5-number summary then construct a boxplot for EACH data set.



**6.** Based ONLY on the box plots, what is the most likely distribution (shape) of each data set? Justify your choices using complete sentences and proper grammar. Write your justification below.