Math 1120: The Spirit and Uses of Mathematics

First homework assignment: due Friday January 23

Your first assignment is to write a probability haiku. Recall that a haiku is a (typically non-rhyming) verse whose first line has five syllables, whose second line has seven syllables, and whose third line has five.

Your task is to write a haiku that reflects any notions from probability that we have discussed so far in class. Here's an example:

Independence means
P of A and B equals
P A times P B.

Haikus will be graded on the basis of (a) mathematical content; (b) artistry. The latter means not only the quality of the poetry, but also how nicely it’s presented visually. So take some time to write up your haiku on nice paper with any decorations, embellishments, or adornments you think appropriate; it should be suitable for taping up on your instructor’s office door!

Note: unlike most homework assignments, we will NOT be setting aside time in class on the due date to complete this one. Please have your haiku ready to turn in at the beginning of the class period.