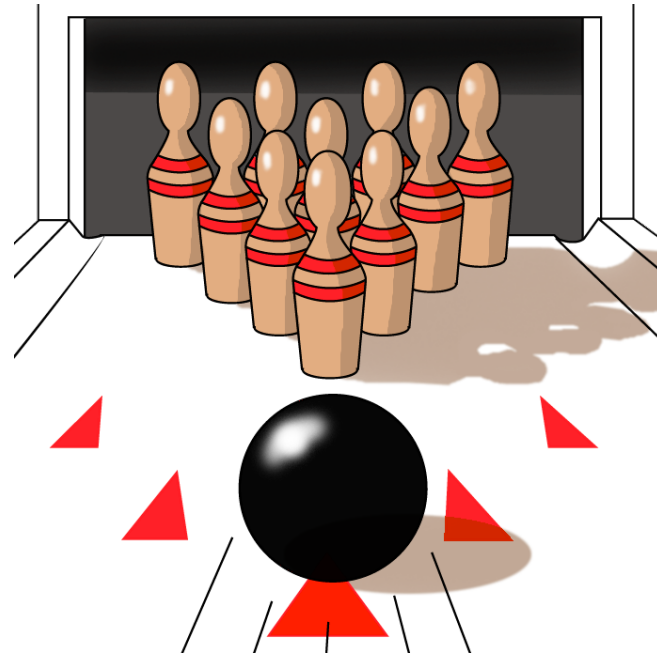


Graphing with "Spin"

Interpreting and Creating Misleading Graphs

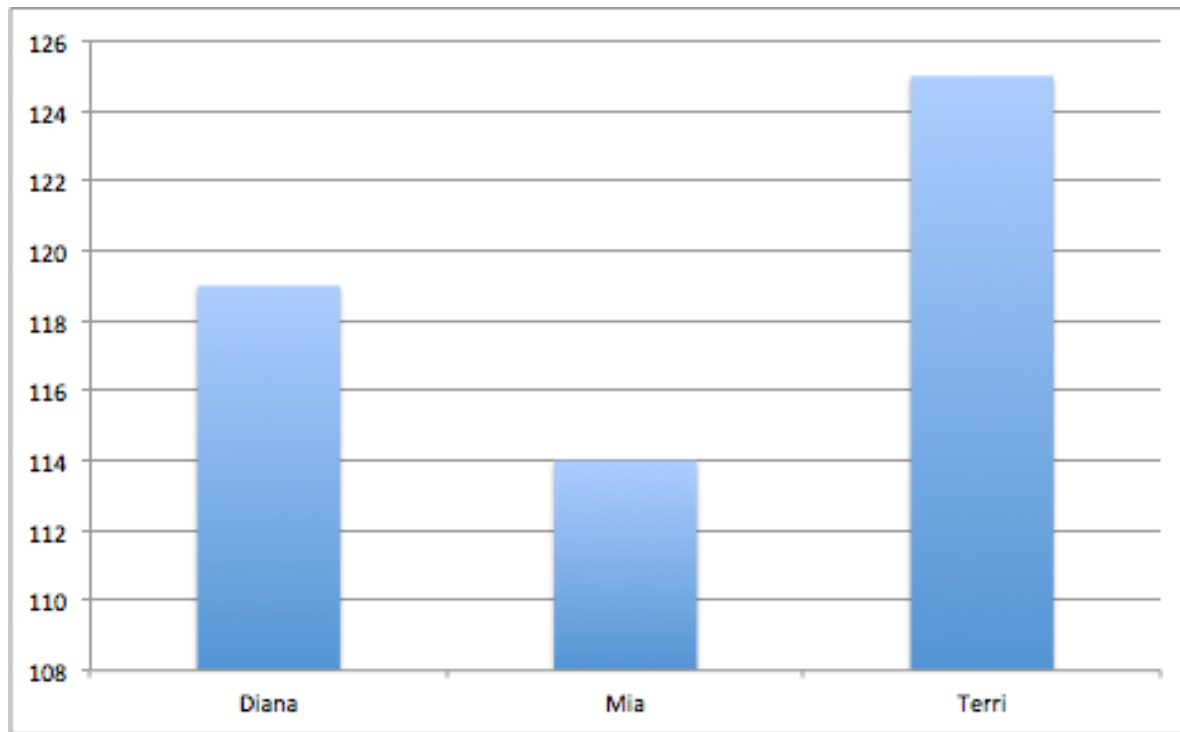


Three friends go bowling, and then they graph their scores ...

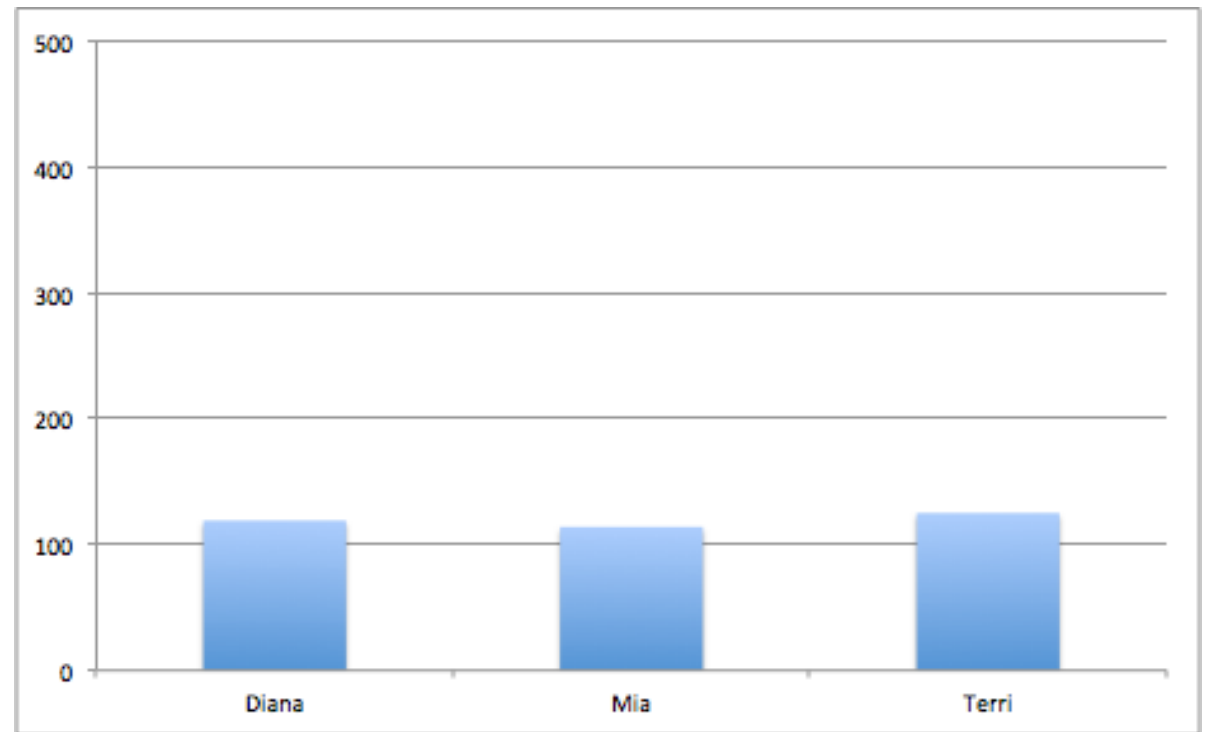


Mia makes a graph, and Terri makes a graph.

Bowling Scores

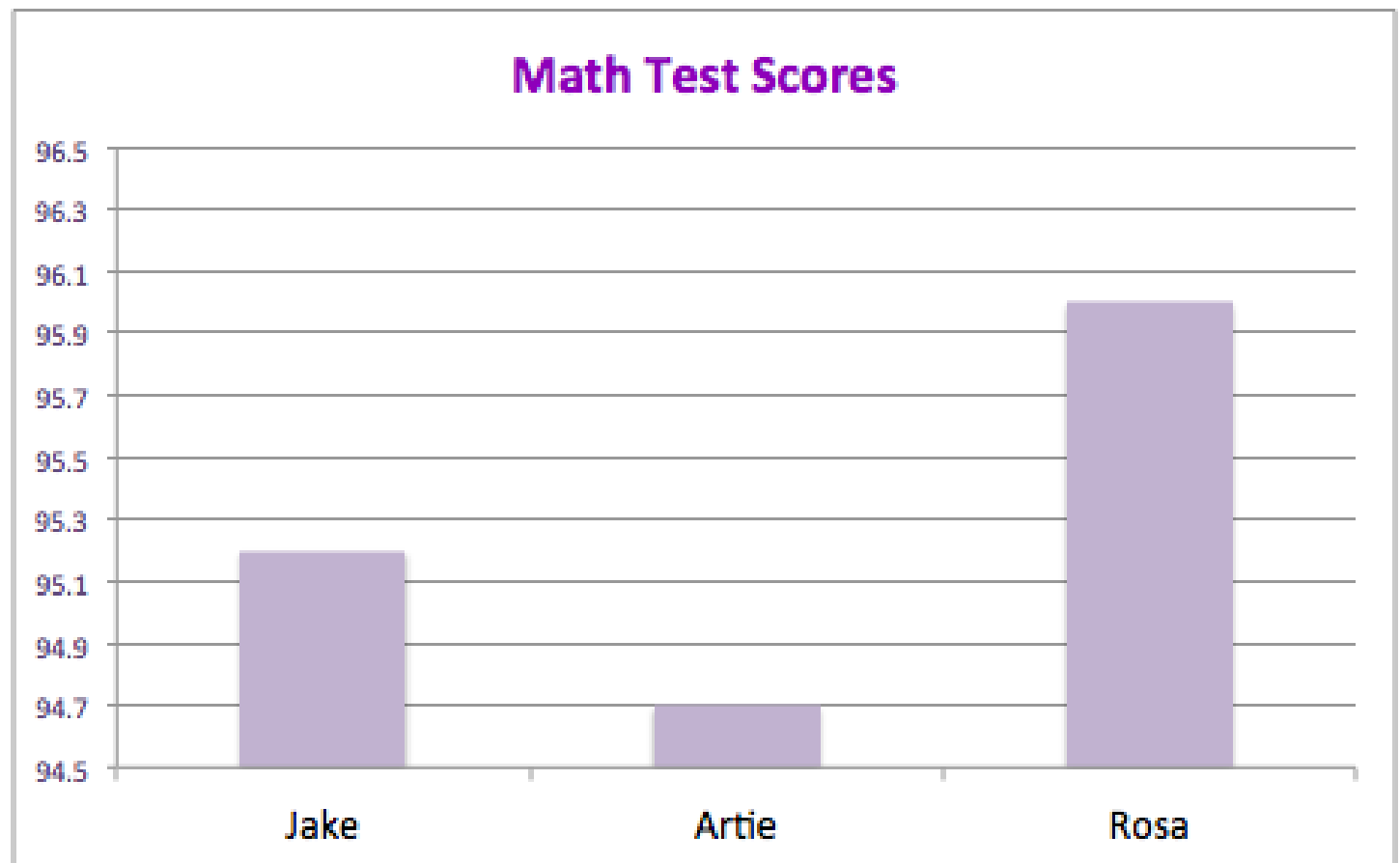


Bowling Scores

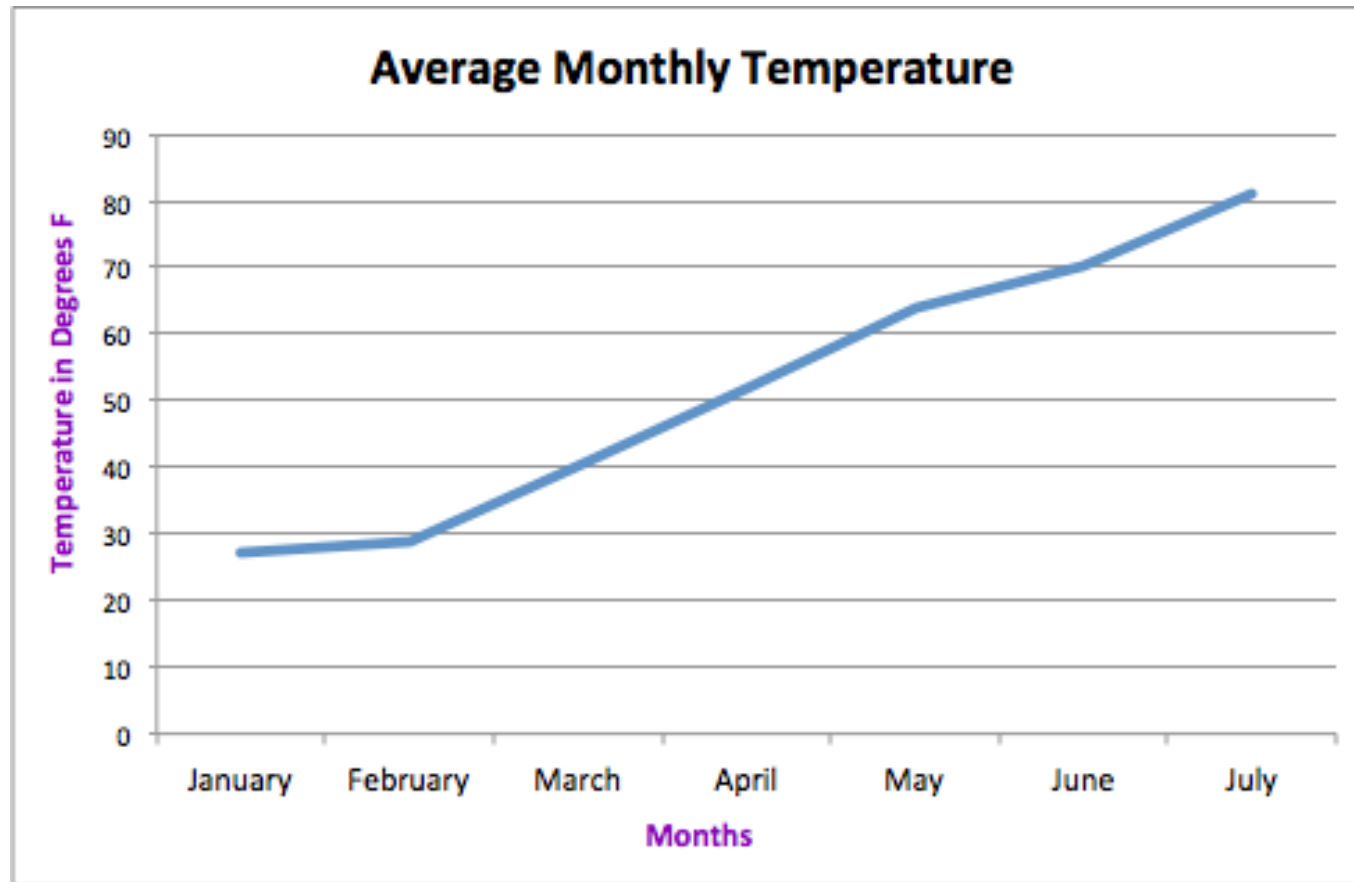


Can you guess who made each graph?

Misleading graphs technically "tell the truth," but they present data in tricky ways to purposely mislead the reader. Can you sleuth out misleading graphs? What makes this graph misleading?

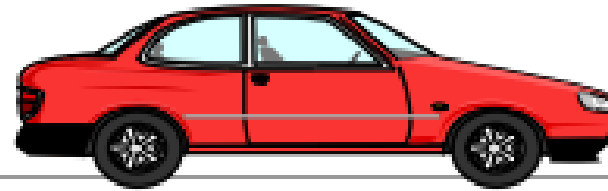


Beware! Global Warming

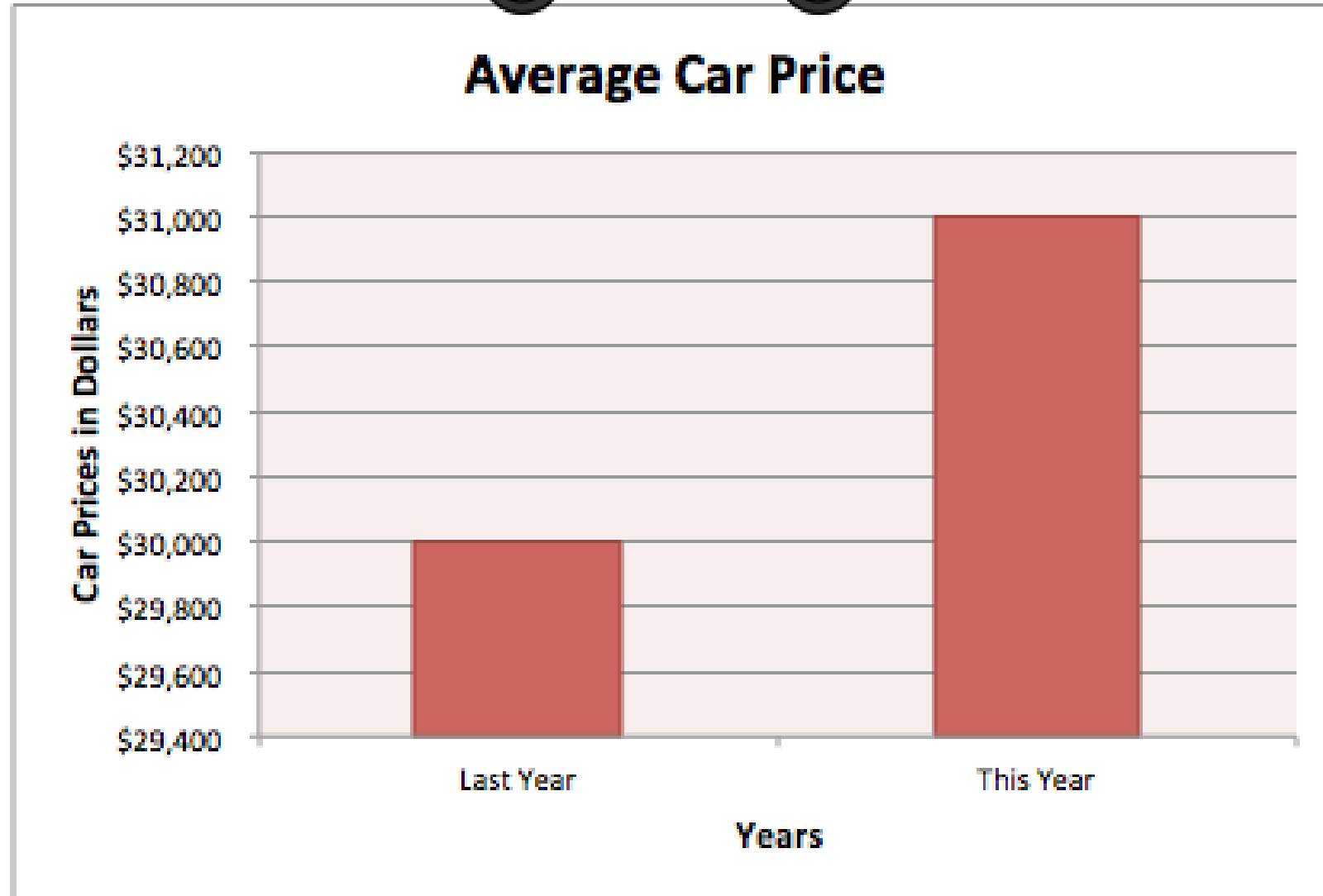


A newspaper printed this graph as part of an article with the headline above. The data in the graph is correct, but the graph is quite misleading with this article. Can you figure out why?

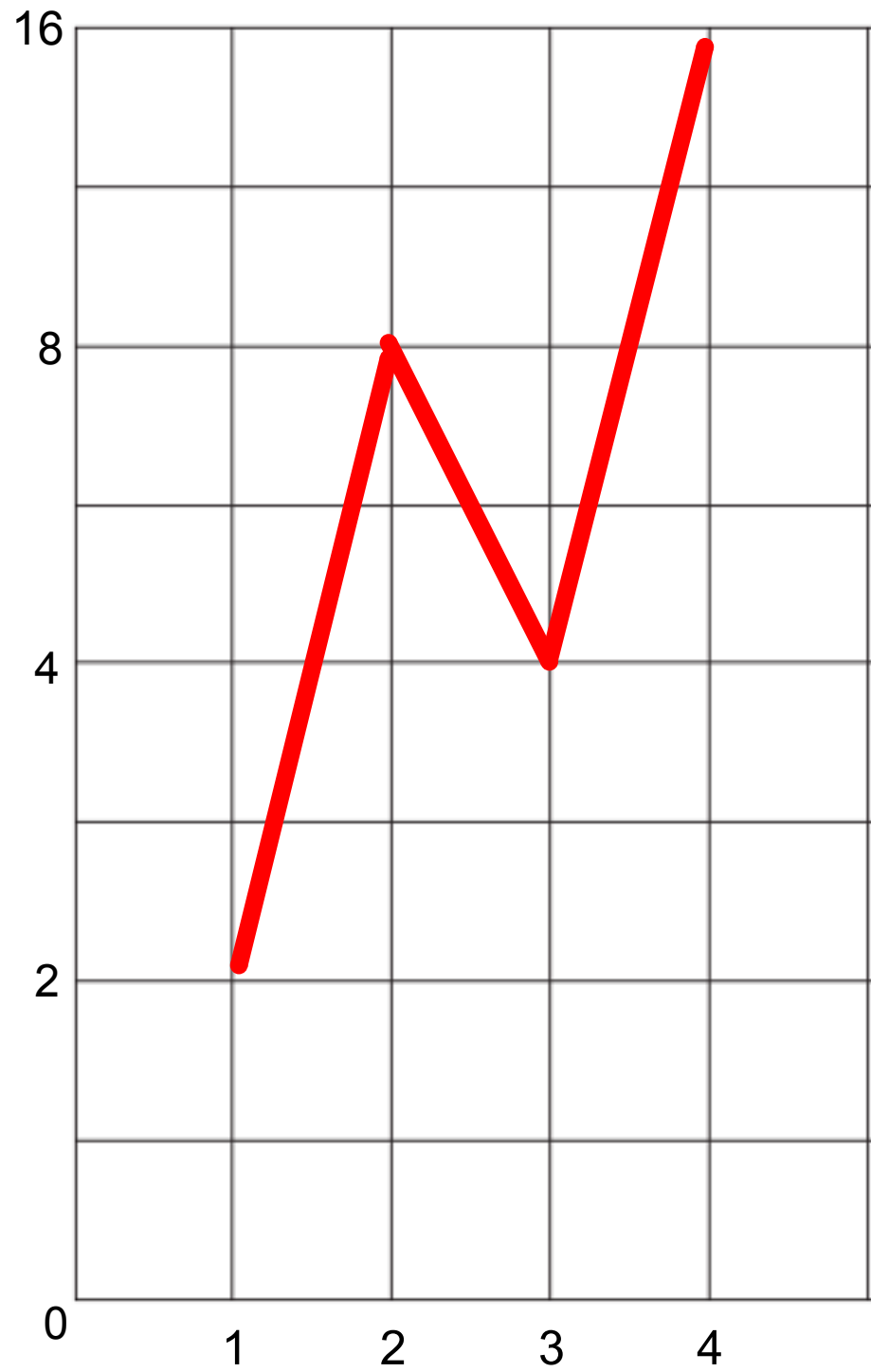




Average Car Price



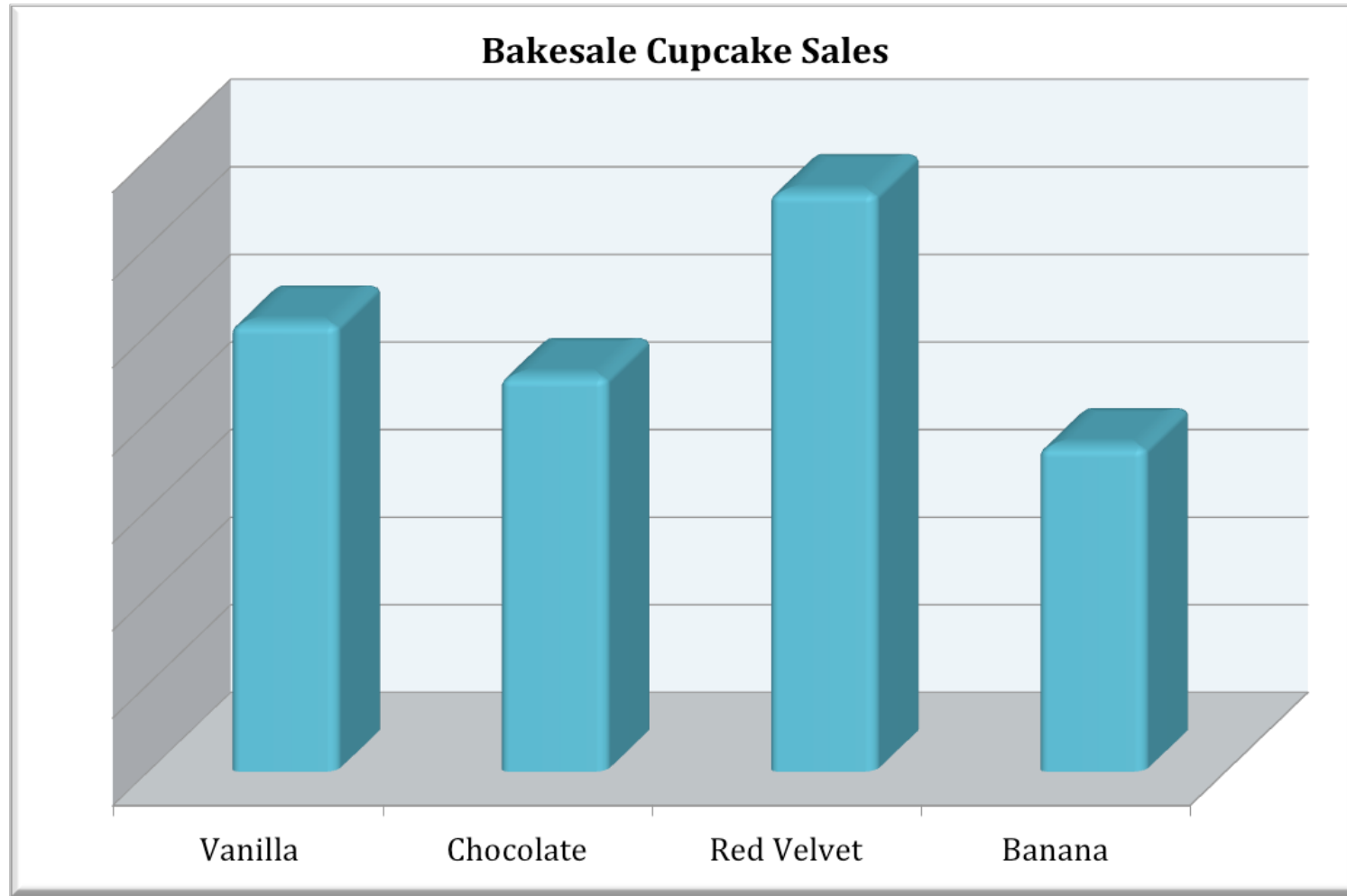
Why is this graph misleading?



What's wrong with this line graph?

Drag this box to reveal the answer.

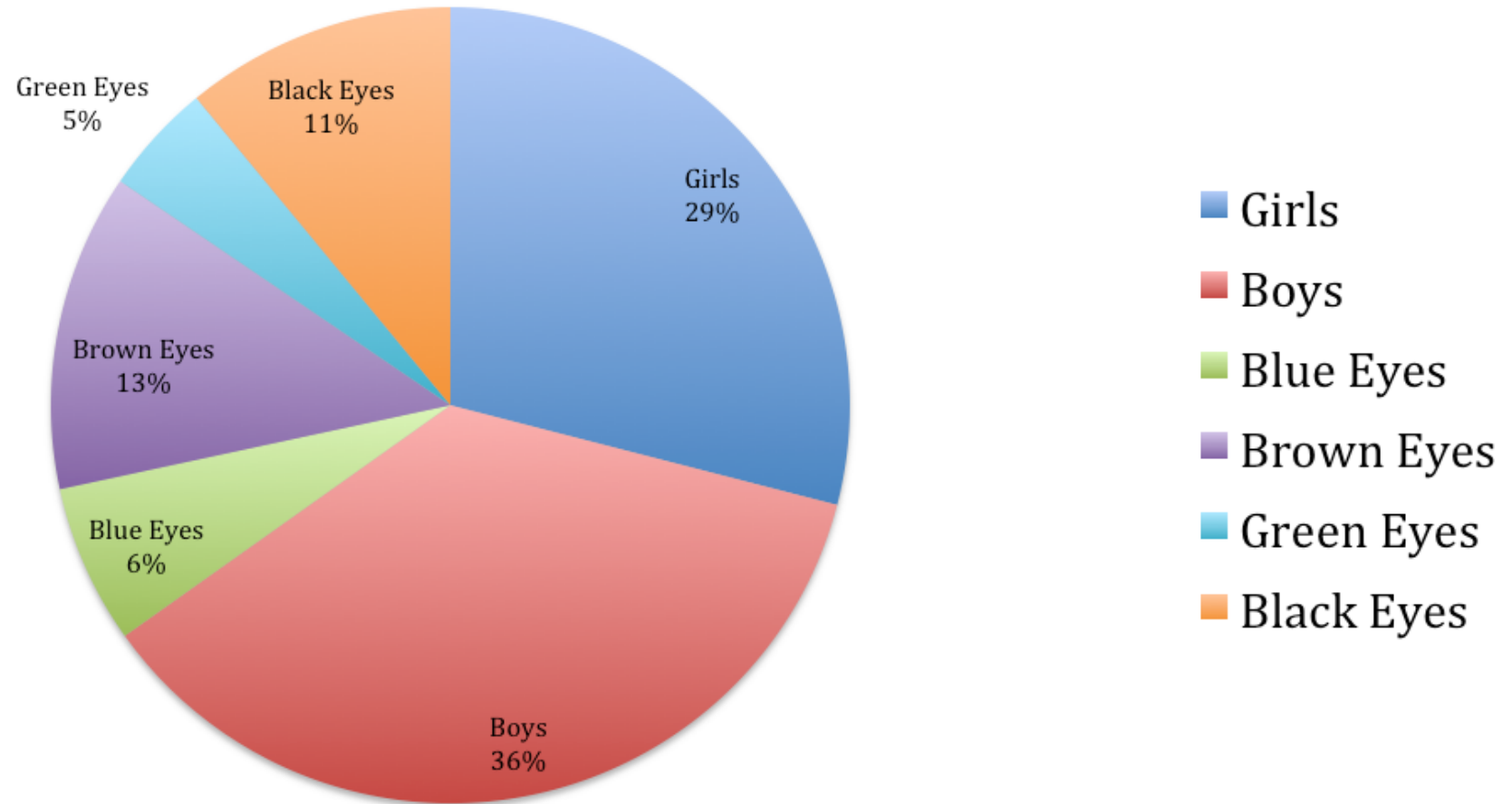




What is wrong with this bar graph?

Drag this box to reveal the answer.

Third Graders



What is wrong with this pie chart?

Drag this box to reveal the answer.

Now, try to make your own misleading graphs!
You are hired by a cereal company to make their cereal more popular. How can you graph the nutrition data to make it seem healthier than other brands of cereal?



Your task:

Choose whether you want to work independently or with a partner.

Pick the brand of cereal you want to "word for."

Decide which nutrition fact you want to feature in your graph.
Sugars? Calories? Fat? Vitamins?

Gather your data from the cereal boxes in our classroom. You may want to choose data that makes your brand look the best.

Create your misleading graph using the data you collected. How can you alter your graph to make your brand look healthier?

After you complete one graph, try making a second graph. Your second graph can either be a "realistic graph" that displays the data in a less biased way, or try to make a graph that is misleading in a different way.