

Approach: One to one

Level: Year 8

Focus: Interpreting a table and making a complex judgement.

Resources: Table showing battery life.

Questions/instructions:

Johnny's family have a walkman, a radio, two torches and a portable computer.

They are trying to find out which brand of battery would be best for them to buy. All of the batteries are the same size and the same price.

Give student the table.

Best Value Table				
Battery Life in Hours				
Battery Brands	Walkman	Radio	Torch	Portable Computer
Stay-brite	5 hours	19 hours	10 hours	3 hours
Super-life	7 hours	24 hours	13 hours	5 hours
High Power	4 hours	21 hours	12 hours	2 hours
Hot Shot	8 hours	28 hours	16 hours	6 hours
Super Cell	10 hours	26 hours	15 hours	4 hours

1. Look at this table.

Which brand do you think Johnny's family should buy?

Hot shot

79(79)

Super Cell (second best)

16(17)

2. Why did you choose that brand of battery?

considered ranking for all appliances

46(58)

used data, but less thoroughly

46(35)

% responses

1999 ('95)

year 8

Commentary:

There was no difference between the 1995 and 1999 year 8 students in the decision made (Q1), but the 1999 students appear to have been a little less thorough in their justification (Q2).