

Let each set have elements $\{a, b, c, d, e\}$, where $a \leq b \leq c \leq d \leq e$.

• Since the mean = 4, $\frac{a+b+c+d+e}{5} = 4$

$\therefore a+b+c+d+e = 20$.

The sum of the 5 elements must be 20.

• Since the median = 3, $c = 3$

We now have $a \leq b \leq 3 \leq d \leq e$.

• Since the mode = 3, the number 3 must appear at least ~~twice~~ twice in the set.

Let us consider each of the cases separately.

Case I

• 3 appears exactly twice in each set.

$\therefore b = 3$

or

$d = 3$.

$\{a, 3, 3, d, e\}$.

$\therefore a = 1$ or $a = 2$.

$\{1, 3, 3, d, e\}$

$1+3+3+d+e=20$

$\therefore d+e=13$

$d > 3$, since 3 appears only twice in this case

\therefore Possible values for d, e :

$\{4, 9\}$

$\{5, 8\}$

$\{6, 7\}$

we can't have

$\{7, 6\}, \{8, 5\}, \{9, 4\}$

~~$\{4, 9\}$~~ since we defined $d \leq e$.

3 possible sets here

$\{2, 3, 3, d, e\}$.

$2+3+3+d+e=20$

$\therefore d+e=12$.

the same applies here.

\therefore Possible values for d, e :

$\{4, 8\}$

$\{5, 7\}$

we can't have $\{6, 6\}$ since that would make the set bimodal, whereas we are given the mode = 3.

we can't have $\{8, 4\}$ or $\{7, 5\}$ since $d \leq e$.

$\{a, b, 3, 3, e\}$.

$a, b < 3$.

In fact, $a=1$ and $b=2$ because any other combination of numbers would make the set bimodal (e.g. $a=2, b=2$). ~~or was~~

$\{1, 2, 3, 3, e\}$.

$1+2+3+3+e=20$.

$\therefore e=11$

$\{1, 2, 3, 3, 11\}$.

1 possible set for this sub-case

2 possible sets for this subcase

Case II

• 3 appears exactly 3 times in each set.

-Subcase I

$a = b = c = 3$; $\boxed{d, e > 3}$ → to ensure 3 appears exactly 3 times in a set
 $\{3, 3, 3, d, e\}$.

$$3 + 3 + 3 + d + e = 20$$

$$\therefore d + e = 11$$

Possible pairs for d, e are:

$$\{4, 7\}$$

$$\{5, 6\}$$

$\boxed{2 \text{ possible sets for this subcase}}$

We can't have $\{3, 8\}$ since that would make 3 appear 4 times in the set which is not what we are considering in this case. We also can't have $\{7, 4\}$ or $\{6, 5\}$ since $d \leq e$.

-Subcase II

$b = c = d = 3$; $\boxed{a < 3, e > 3}$ → to ensure 3 appears exactly 3 times in a set.
 $\{a, 3, 3, 3, e\}$.

$$a + 3 + 3 + 3 + e = 20$$

$$\therefore a + e = 11.$$

The only possible values for a, e are:

$$\cancel{\{2, 9\}} \quad \{1, 10\}$$

$$\cancel{\{3, 8\}} \quad \{2, 9\}.$$

since $a < 3$ and $e > 3$.

$\boxed{2 \text{ possible sets for this sub-case}}$

-Subcase III

$c = d = e = 3$; $\boxed{a, b < 3}$ → to ensure 3 appears exactly 3 times in a set.
 $\{a, b, 3, 3, 3\}$.

$$a + b + 3 + 3 + 3 = 20$$

$$\therefore a + b = 11$$

However, $a, b < 3$ and therefore the maximum sum of a and b occurs when $\underline{a = b = 2}$.

$$2 + 2 = 4.$$

The maximum sum is 4 and therefore it is impossible to obtain 11 from $a + b$. ∴ This subcase does not yield any possible sets.

Case III.

• 3 appears exactly 4 times in a set.

- Subcase I.

$$a=b=c=d=3 ; e > 3.$$

$$\{3, 3, 3, 3, e\}$$

$$3+3+3+3+e=20$$

$$\therefore e=8$$

$$\{3, 3, 3, 3, 8\}.$$

1 possible set for this subcase

- Subcase II

$$b=c=d=e=3 ; a < 3$$

$$\{a, 3, 3, 3, 3\}.$$

$$a+3+3+3+3=20$$

$$\therefore a=8$$

However, $a < 3$, and therefore this sub-case does not yield any possible sets.

Case III

• 3 appears 5 times in the set

$$\therefore a=b=c=d=e=3$$

$$\therefore a=b=c=d=e=3.$$

$$\{3, 3, 3, 3, 3\}.$$

However, the sum of these 5 elements is only 15, whereas the required sum is 20 so that the mean = 4.

\therefore This case does not yield any possible sets.

In total, there are $3+2+1+2+2+1 = 11$ sets which satisfy the conditions of the questions :

$$\{1, 3, 3, 4, 9\}$$

$$\{2, 3, 3, 4, 8\}$$

$$\{3, 3, 3, 4, 7\}$$

$$\{1, 3, 3, 3, 10\}$$

$$\{3, 3, 3, 3, 8\}$$

$$\{1, 3, 3, 5, 8\}$$

$$\{2, 3, 3, 5, 7\}$$

$$\{3, 3, 3, 5, 6\}$$

$$\{2, 3, 3, 3, 9\}$$

$$\{1, 3, 3, 6, 7\}$$

$$\{1, 2, 3, 3, 11\}$$