Name: _____
Date: _____

What's the Difference Between Numerical and Categorical data?

Data

Data can be classified into two different types.

Categorical
Values or observations that can be sorted into groups or categories.
Examples: Sex, Eye colour and Favourite colour.
Bar charts and pie graphs are used to graph categorical data.

Numerical
Values or observations that can be measured. And these numbers can be placed in ascending or descending order.
Examples: Height, Arm Span and Weight.
Scatter plots and line graphs are used to graph numerical data.

Task:

1. Sort the following CensusAtSchool question topics according to whether they will yield categorical or numerical data.

Amount of money earned last week	*Language mostly spoken at home*
Arm span	*Foot length*
Birthdate	*Opinions on environmental conservation*
Concentration exercise (seconds)	*School post code*
Dominant hand reaction time	*State/Territory live in*
Favourite sport	*Travel method to school*
Height	*Travel time to school*
Hours slept per night	*Year level*
Categorical	**Numerical**
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.
5.	5.
6.	6.
7.	7.
8.	8.

2. Why is data, that contains numbers, such as post codes and birthdates, considered categorical?