Glossary

1. **Air current**
   Air moving from an area of high pressure to an area of low pressure.

2. **Astronomy**
   The scientific study of matter in outer space, especially the positions, dimensions, distribution, motion, composition, energy, and evolution of celestial bodies and phenomena.

3. **Convergence**
   The property or manner of approaching a limit, such as a point, line, function, or value.

4. **Cumulative Distribution Function**
   A function defined on the sample space of a distribution and taking as its value at each point the probability that the random variable has that value or less.

5. **Curve**
   A continuously bending line that has no straight parts.

6. **Elasticity**
   The property of returning to an initial form or state following deformation.

7. **Empirical Frequency**
   The number of times an outcome has been observed to occur during repeated trials of an experiment.

8. **Estimator**
   A derived random variable that generates estimates of a parameter of a given distribution, such as $\bar{X}$, the mean of a number of identically distributed random variables Xi. If $\bar{X}$ is unbiased, $\bar{x}$, the observed value should be close to E(Xi).

9. **Fluctuation**
   To vary irregularly.

10. **Histogram**
    A diagram consisting of rectangles whose area is proportional to the frequency of a variable and whose width is equal to the class interval.

11. **Normal Distribution**
    A function that represents the distribution of many random variables as a symmetrical bell-shaped graph

12. **Population**
    The set of individuals, items, or data from which a statistical sample is taken.

13. **Random Variable**
    A variable whose values are random but whose statistical distribution is known.

14. **Stochastic**
    Involving or containing a random variable or variables.

15. **Vibration**
    A rapid linear motion of a particle or of an elastic solid about an equilibrium position.