

First Activity

Sept. 20, 2011

1. Go to the assignment webpage, open up Class4Starter.xlsx, and save it.
2. Look at the sheet with the numerical votes, and observe Senator Corzine in row 32. Do you notice anything peculiar? Spend a moment doing a web search to try to find out what's up with this.
3. Sometimes using your *eyes* to detect anomalies like this can be a big win. Select the entire pivot table, and use **Conditional Formatting** to make the background of any blank cell be red. Use the formula `=ISBLANK(B5)`¹ to color the cell; pick a nice reddish color.

¹The cell B5 is the upper left cell in the region to be colored on our spreadsheet; if your upper-left cell is C2, say, then you should use `ISBLANK(C2)`, etc.