## STUDENT RESOURCES

| Word or Phrase | Definition |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| coefficient | A coefficient is a number or constant factor in a term of an algebraic expression. <br> In the expression $3 x+5,3$ is the coefficient of the term $3 x$, and 5 is the constant term. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| dependent variable | A dependent variable is a variable whose value is determined by the values of the independent variables. See independent variable. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| function | A function is a rule that assigns to each input value exactly one output value. <br> For $y=3 x+6$, any input value, say $x=10$, has a unique output value, in this case $y=36$. <br> For $y=x^{2}+1, x=2$ has the unique output value $y=2^{2}+1=5$. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| graph of a function | The graph of a function is the set of all ordered pairs $(x, y)$ where $y$ is the output for the input value $x$. If $x$ and $y$ are real numbers, then we can represent the graph of a function as points in the coordinate plane. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| independent variable | An independent variable is a variable whose value may be specified. Once specified, the values of the independent variables determine the values of the dependent variables. <br> For the equation $y=3 x, y$ is the dependent variable and $x$ is the independent variable. We may assign a value to $x$. The value assigned to $x$ determines the value of $y$. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| input-output rule | An input-output rule for a sequence of values is a rule that establishes explicitly an output value for each given input value. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | input value ( $x$ ) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 1.5 |
|  | output value (y) | 1.5 | 3 | 4.5 | 6 | 7.5 | 1.5x |
|  | In the table above, the input-output rule could be $y=1.5 x$. To get the output value, multiply the input value by 1.5 . If $x=100$, then $y=1.5(100)=150$. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| proportional | Two variables are proportional if the values of one are the same constant multiple of the corresponding values of the other. The variables are said to be in a proportional relationship, and the constant is referred to as the constant of proportionality. <br> If Wrigley eats 3 cups of kibble each day, then the number of cups of kibble is proportional to the number of days. If $x$ is the number of days, and $y$ is the number of cups of kibble, then $y=3 x$. The constant of proportionality is 3 . |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| unit rate | The unit rate associated with a ratio $a: b$ of two quantities $a$ and $b, b \neq 0$, is the number $\frac{a}{b}$, to which units may be attached. This is sometimes referred to as the value of the ratio. <br> The ratio of 40 miles for every 5 hours has a unit rate of 8 miles per hour. |  |  |  |  |  |  |


| Word or Phrase | Definition |
| :--- | :--- |
| $y$-intercept | The $y$-intercept of a line is the $y$-coordinate of the point at <br> which the line crosses the $y$-axis. It is the value of $y$ that <br> corresponds to $x=0$. |
| The $y$-intercept of the line $y=3 x+6$ is 6. <br> If $x=0$, then $y=6$. |  |

## The Coordinate Plane

A coordinate plane is determined by a horizontal number line (the $x$-axis) and a vertical number line (the $y$-axis) intersecting at the zero on each line. The point of intersection $(0,0)$ of the two lines is called the origin. Points are located using ordered pairs ( $x, y$ ).

- The first number ( $x$-coordinate) indicates how far the point is to the right or left of the $y$-axis.
- The second number ( $y$-coordinate) indicates how far the point is above or below the $x$-axis.


## Point, coordinates, and interpretation

$O(0,0) \rightarrow$ This is the intersection of the axes (origin).
$P(2,1) \rightarrow$ start at the origin, move 2 units right, then 1 unit up
$R(-3,-1) \rightarrow$ start at the origin, move 3 units left, then 1 unit down
$S(1,-3) \rightarrow$ start at the origin, 1 unit right, then 3 units down

$Q(-2,0) \rightarrow$ start at the origin, move 2 units left, then 0 units up or down
$T(0,-2) \rightarrow$ start at the origin, 0 units right or left, then 2 units down

## Functions

Some ways to represent rules in mathematics are input-output tables, mapping diagrams, ordered pairs, equations, and graphs.

Examples that are Functions
Input-Output Table

| $\boldsymbol{x}$ <br> input | $\boldsymbol{y}$ <br> output |
| :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 1 |
| 3 | 3 |
| 5 | 5 |
| 7 | 7 |
| 9 | 9 |

This table lists input values with unique output values.

|  | pe <br> to <br> ald |
| :--- | :--- |

Ordered Pairs
$(0,2),(1,-2),(2,2),(3,-2)$
In this set of ordered pairs, each input value is assigned to a unique output value. Note that different input values may be assigned the same output value. In this example, both 1 and 3 are assigned the output value -2 .

Examples that are NOT Functions
Mapping Diagram


This mapping diagram is not a function. It is not permissible for the same input value (in this case 2) to be assigned two different output values. However, all other input-output mappings above are fine.

## Equation (with Ordered Pairs)

Consider the set of pairs $(x, y)$ that satisfy $x=y^{2}$, such as $(0,0),(25,5)$, and (25, -5$)$. Since the input value, $x=25$, corresponds to two different output values ( $y=5$ and $y=-5$ ), the $y$-values are not a function of the $x$ values.
This graph represents a
function because every
vertical line through it
intersects at most one
point of the graph. In
other words, each
possible $x$
corresalue
unique $y$-value.

## Using Multiple Representations to Describe Linear Functions

Here are four representations commonly used to approach a math problem:

- Numbers (numerical approach, as by making a table)
- Pictures (visual approach, as with a picture or graph)
- Symbols (approaching the problem using algebraic symbols)
- Words (verbalizing a solution, orally or in writing)

Each approach may lead to a valid solution. Collectively they should lead to a complete and comprehensive solution, one that is readily accessible to more people and that provides more insight.

Example 1: Describe this pattern of hexagons using numbers, pictures, words, and symbols.


## Symbols

A rule for finding the number of segments at step $n$ is $6+(n-1) 5$, which can be simplified to $5 n+1$.

## Using Multiple Representations to Describe Linear Functions (Continued)

Example 2: At Papa's Pitas, 2 pitas cost $\$ 1.00$. At Eat-A-Pita, 5 pitas cost $\$ 3.00$. Assuming a proportional relationship between the number of pitas and their cost, use multiple representations to explore which store offers the better buy for pitas.


