

LINEAR RELATIONSHIPS

ALGEBRA 2 WITH TRIGONOMETRY

Linear relationships, which are all functions, are extremely important in practical applications. The definition of a linear relationship between two variables, x and y , is given below.

LINEAR RELATIONSHIPS

Two variables, x and y , have a **linear relationship** if any two arbitrary points, say (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2) , satisfy the relationship:

$$\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{\text{change in } y}{\text{change in } x} = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \text{a constant (called the slope)}$$

Thought of another way, **the change in y is always a constant multiple of the change in x .**

Exercise #1: If the three points $A(-2, 4)$, $B(2, 10)$, and $C(8, 25)$ were all plotted, would they form a linear relationship? (In other words, would they fall in a straight line or be collinear?) Justify your answer.

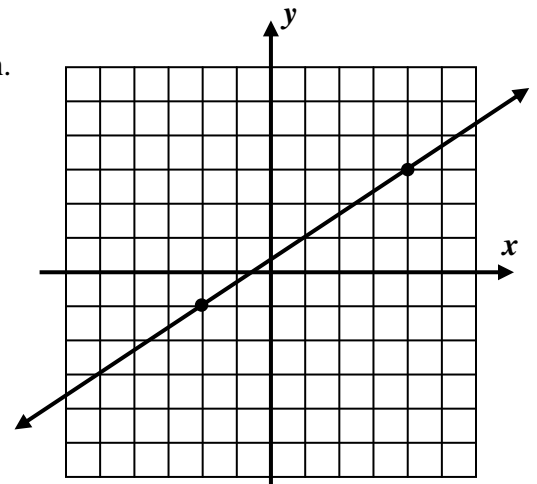
In this last exercise, we used the slope to justify whether the rate at which y is changing compared to the rate at which x is changing remained constant. If we know this constant ratio, then we can use how much one variable has changed to determine how much another has changed.

Exercise #2: Two variables, x and y , are linearly related. Two points on this linear relationship, $(-2, -1)$ and $(4, 3)$, are shown below on the graph connected with a line.

(a) What is the slope of this linear relationship? Illustrate it on the graph.

(b) If the x variable increases by 15 units, what would the y variable increase by?

(c) Use your answer from part (b) to determine the value of k such that the point $(19, k)$ lies on this line?



Linear relationships exist in real-life whenever the ratio of the change in one variable to the change in another remains constant. This constant will always represent the slope of the relationship when plotted on a graph.

Exercise #3: The amount of gasoline in a person's tank is a linear relationship to how many miles they have driven. Abigail was trying to determine this relationship. She noticed that after driving for a total of 50 miles on a full tank of gas she had 12 gallons left. After driving for a total of 100 miles she had 10 gallons left.

- (a) Calculated the $\frac{\Delta g}{\Delta m}$, i.e. the change in gallons over the change in miles. Express your answer as a decimal and include appropriate units.
- (b) How many gallons would be left after Abigail drives a total of 200 miles?
- (c) How many gallons of gas did Abigail start with (full tank)?
- (d) How many total miles can Abigail drive if she starts with a full tank of gas?

It is important to understand that the slope calculation is always the calculation of a rate, or how fast one variable is changing compared to another.

Exercise #4: Bien was driving north on an interstate highway and noted his distance away from New York City. After driving for 2 hours he was 209 miles away and after driving for 3.5 hours he was 302 miles away.

- (a) Calculate $\frac{\Delta D}{\Delta t}$, the change in Bien's distance to the change in time. Include appropriate units.
- (b) What does your answer in part (a) represents about Bien's motion?
- (c) How far will Bien be from New York City after 6 hours of driving if he retains a constant speed?
- (d) If Bien has been traveling at this constant speed his entire trip, how far from New York City did he start?



Name: _____

Date: _____

LINEAR RELATIONSHIPS
ALGEBRA 2 WITH TRIGONOMETRY - HOMEWORK

SKILLS

1. Calculate $\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}$ for each of the following coordinate pairs. Express your answer in simplified fractional form.

(a) $(-2, 5)$ and $(4, 19)$

(b) $(4, 5)$ and $(12, 1)$

(c) $(-6, -4)$ and $(1, 17)$

2. Calculate $\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}$ for each of the following coordinate pairs. Express your answer in decimal form.

(a) $(4.5, 12.8)$ and $(7.0, 19.2)$

(b) $(20, 23)$ and $(60, 25)$

(c) $(2.2, -2.1)$ and $(3, -4.9)$

3. In each of the following a value for $\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}$ is given along with a change in x , Δx . Calculate the change in y , Δy , for each.

(a) $\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{2}{3}$ and $\Delta x = 15$

(b) $\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = -\frac{1}{2}$ and $\Delta x = 20$

(c) $\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = 0.35$ and $\Delta x = 6$

4. For a linear relationship $\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{5}{2}$. If the point $(5, 3)$ satisfies this relationship, then for which of the following values of y will the point $(13, y)$ also satisfy the relationship?

(1) $y = 8$

(3) $y = 20$

(2) $y = 16$

(4) $y = 23$



APPLICATIONS

5. A rocket upon takeoff uses fuel at a constant rate with respect to time. The table below shows the amount of gallons of fuel, g , the rocket *still contains* as a function of the number of minutes, m , after it took off.

Time, m (minutes)	4	6	8	10
Fuel Remaining, g (gallons)	30	25	20	15

- (a) Calculate $\frac{\Delta g}{\Delta m}$. Include appropriate units.
- (b) Why is the slope you calculated in part (b) negative?
- (c) What does the value of your answer in part (a) physically represent?
- (d) After how many minutes, m , will the rocket run out of fuel?
6. Camille is driving west away from Albany, NY, on an interstate highway going an average speed of 64 miles per hour. After 2 hours of driving she sees a sign stating that she is 176 miles from Albany. How far from Albany is she after 5 hours of driving assuming she maintains this constant speed?

REASONING

7. A linear relationship between the variables x and y exists such that $\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = -\frac{4}{5}$. If the point $(4, 32)$ satisfies this linear relationship, then does the point $(19, 22)$ also satisfy it? Justify your response.

