4.2

Study Guide

For use with the lesson "Use Linear Equations in Slope-Intercept Form"

GOAL

Write an equation of a line using points on the line.

EXAMPLE 1

Write an equation given the slope and a point

Write an equation of the line that passes through the point (2, 5) and has a slope of 3.

Solution

STEP 1 Identify the slope. The slope is 3.

STEP 2 Find the *y*-intercept. Substitute the slope and the coordinates of the given point into y = mx + b. Solve for b.

$$y = mx + b$$

Write slope-intercept form.

$$5 = 3(2) + b$$

Substitute 3 for m, 2 for x, and 5 for y.

$$-1 = b$$

Solve for *b*.

STEP 3 Write an equation of the line.

$$y = mx + b$$

Write slope-intercept form.

$$y = 3x - 1$$

Substitute 3 for m, and -1 for b.

EXAMPLE 2

Write an equation given two points

Write an equation of the line that passes through (3, 9) and (-2, -1). Solution

STEP 1 Calculate the slope.

$$m = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{-1 - 9}{-2 - 3} = \frac{-10}{-5} = 2$$

STEP 2 Find the *y*-intercept. Use the slope and the point (3, 9).

$$y = mx + b$$

Write slope-intercept form.

$$9 = 2(3) + b$$

Substitute 2 for m, 3 for x, and 9 for y.

$$3 = b$$

Solve for *b*.

STEP 3 Write an equation of the line.

$$v = mx + b$$

Write slope-intercept form.

$$y = 2x + 3$$

Substitute 2 for *m* and 3 for *b*.

LESSON 4.2

Study Guide continued

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Exercises for Examples 1 and 2

Write an equation of the line that passes through the given point and has the given slope.

1.
$$(7, 2); m = 4$$

2.
$$(9, 15); m = -\frac{1}{3}$$

Write an equation of the line that passes through the two given points.

4.
$$(-6, -7), (-3, 5)$$

EXAMPLE 3

Write a linear function

Write an equation of the linear function with the values f(2) = 3 and f(-3) = 8.

Solution

STEP 1 Calculate the slope. Write f(2) = 3 as (2, 3) and f(-3) = 8 as (-3, 8).

$$m = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{8 - 3}{-3 - 2} = \frac{5}{-5} = -1$$

STEP 2 Find the *y*-intercept. Use the slope and the point (2, 3).

$$v = mx + b$$

Write slope-intercept form.

$$3 = -1(2) + b$$

Substitute -1 for m, 2 for x, and 3 for y.

$$5 = b$$

Solve for *b*.

STEP 3 Write an equation for the function. Use f(x) = mx + b.

$$f(x) = -x + 5$$

Substitute -1 for m and 5 for b.

Exercises for Example 3

Write an equation for a linear function f that has the given values.

5.
$$f(2) = -4$$
 and $f(-4) = -7$

6.
$$f(-5) = 17$$
 and $f(3) = 9$