SKILL

Skills Readiness

Slopes of Parallel and Perpendicular Lines

| Parallel Lines | Perpendicular Lines |
|---|---|
| If two lines are parallel, they have equal slopes. So, if two lines have equal slopes, they are parallel. | If two lines are perpendicular, they have slopes that are negative reciprocals. So, if two lines have slopes that are negative reciprocals, they are perpendicular. |
| Example 1: $y = 7x - 5$ y = 7x + 9 | Example 2: $\frac{y = 3x - 5}{x + 3y = 8}$ |
| Remember, when an equation is written in the form $y = mx + b$, the coefficient of x is the slope. | First, rewrite the second equation in slope-intercept form: $y = -\frac{1}{3}x + \frac{8}{3}$. The slope of the first line is 3 and the slope of the second line is $-\frac{1}{3}$. Since 3 and $-\frac{1}{3}$ are negative reciprocals, the lines are perpendicular. |
| Since the slope of both lines is 7, the lines are parallel. | |

Practice on Your Own

State whether the linear equations in each pair are parallel, perpendicular, or neither.

1.
$$y = 6x - 3$$
$$y = -\frac{1}{6}x + 7$$

2.
$$y = 3x + 2$$

 $2y = 6x - 6$

$$8x - 2y = 3$$
$$x + 4y = -1$$

4.
$$3x + 2y = 5$$

 $3y + 2x = -3$

5.
$$y-5=6x$$

 $y-6x=-1$

6.
$$y = 3x + 9$$
$$y = \frac{1}{3}x - 4$$

7.
$$y = x + 3$$

 $y = -x - 5$

8.
$$y = 6$$

9.
$$3y = -x$$

Check

State whether the linear equations in each pair are parallel, perpendicular, or neither.

10.
$$y = 5 + 7x \\ y = -\frac{1}{7}x - 2$$

11.
$$2x + y = 5 \\ 2y = -4x + 3$$

12.
$$x = \frac{1}{3}y - 1$$

$$2y = 6x$$

13.
$$y = 2$$
 $y - 7 = 0$

14.
$$y = \frac{1}{4}x + 3$$
$$2y - 8x = 1$$

15.
$$x - 2y = 0$$

 $y + 1 = -2x$