

HW: Function Notation

Function notation is a useful way in mathematics to identify different equations. We use it as a formal way to show whether to EVALUATE (find the value) of a function, or SOLVE (for a variable).

Part 1: Use the following functions to answer the problems below:

$$f(x) = 2x - 3$$

$$g(x) = \frac{-12}{x}$$

$$m(x) = x^2$$

$$d(x) = 2(x - 3)$$

Here we will practice EVALUATING.

Example 1: Find $f(-3)$.

$$f(-3) = 2(-3) - 3$$

$$f(-3) = -6 - 3$$

$$f(-3) = -9$$

Example 2: Find $d(6)$.

$$d(6) = 2(6 - 3)$$

$$d(6) = 2(3)$$

$$d(6) = 6$$

You Try:

1. Find $f(5)$.

2. Find $g(-2)$.

3. Find $d(-5)$.

4. Find $m(5)$.

5. Find $m(-5)$.

6. Find $g(6)$.

7. Find $f(-4)$.

8. Find $d(11)$.

9. Find $m(-11)$.

Part 2: Now, we will practice SOLVING using the following functions to answer the problems below:

$$f(x) = 2x - 3$$

$$g(x) = \frac{-12}{x}$$

$$d(x) = 2(x - 3)$$

Example 1: Solve $f(x) = -11$

$$2x - 3 = -11$$

$$2x = -8$$

$$x = -4$$

Example 2: Solve $g(x) = 6$.

$$\frac{-12}{x} = 6$$

$$-12 = 6x$$

$$-2 = x$$

You Try:

1. Solve $d(x) = -18$

2. Solve $f(x) = 15$.

3. Solve $g(x) = 3$.

4. Solve $d(x) = -22$.

Part 3: More Challenging Mixed Practice:

5. If $m(x) = x^2$, solve $m(x) = 144$

6. If $h(x) = x^2 - 5x + 3$, find $h(-7)$.

7. If $p(x) = \frac{2x-5}{3}$, find $p(18)$.

8. If $p(x) = \frac{2x-5}{3}$, solve $p(x) = -5$.

Part 4: Finding & Checking Inverses:

$f(x) = 2x - 3$	$g(x) = \frac{-3x+2}{5}$	$h(x) = -3 + 2(x+1)^3$	$k(x) = 3\sqrt{x+4} - 2$
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To find an inverse, you set the function equal to “y” and solve for “x” using SADMEP. Swap the “x” and “y” of the final result to write the inverse as a function. To check if two functions are inverses, look at a table of values to see that the domain and range are switched¹.

Example: Find the inverse of $f(x)$, i.e. find $f^{-1}(x)$

$y = 2x - 3$ $y + 3 = 2x$ $\frac{y+3}{2} = x$ $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x+3}{2}$	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"><tr><td>x</td><td>0</td><td>-3</td><td>1.5</td><td>-9</td></tr><tr><td>f(x)</td><td>-3</td><td>-9</td><td>0</td><td>-21</td></tr><tr><td>f⁻¹(x)</td><td>1.5</td><td>0</td><td>2.25</td><td>-3</td></tr></table>	x	0	-3	1.5	-9	f(x)	-3	-9	0	-21	f ⁻¹ (x)	1.5	0	2.25	-3
x	0	-3	1.5	-9												
f(x)	-3	-9	0	-21												
f ⁻¹ (x)	1.5	0	2.25	-3												

Explain how the table supports the fact that the two functions are inverses

Practice:

1. Find $g^{-1}(x)$ and check with a table

2. Find $h^{-1}(x)$ and check with a table

3. Find $k^{-1}(x)$ and check with a table

¹ Later this unit we will use **composition of functions** to check more formally if two functions are inverses. If this worksheet is going easily for you, please ask Maurer about **function composition**.