

Finding Slope & Equations of Lines

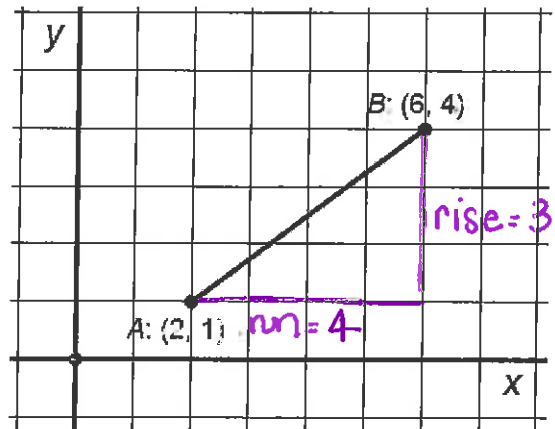
The Slope Formula - If Segment AB has endpoints A(x₁, y₁) and B(x₂, y₂) then the slope of segment AB is

$$m = \text{slope} \quad \text{The slope of } \overline{AB} \rightarrow m_{\overline{AB}} = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{\text{rise}}{\text{run}} = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}$$

1. Use the **Slope Formula** to find the slope of \overline{AB} .

$$m_{\overline{AB}} = \frac{\text{rise}}{\text{run}} = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$m_{\overline{AB}} = \frac{4-1}{6-2} = \frac{3}{4}$$



Equations of Lines

There are a variety of ways to represent the equation of a line – we will look at 2 common forms:

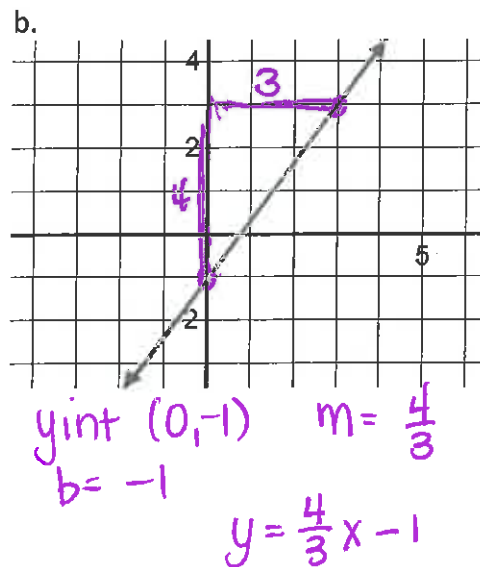
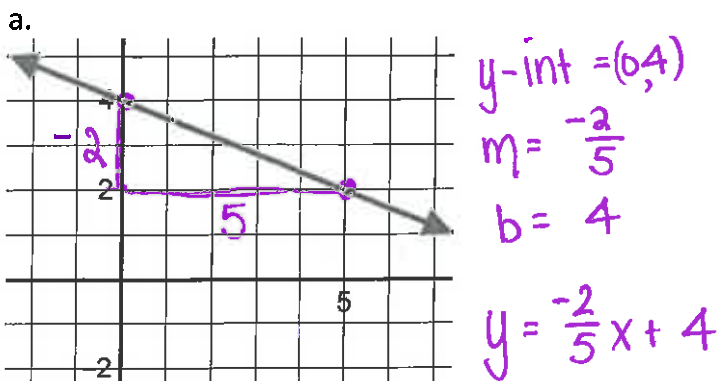
- “Slope – Intercept”
- “Point – Slope”

Slope – Intercept Form of a Line: $y = mx + b$

2. Explain what the letters m and b represent in the slope-intercept equation?

$m = \text{slope}$
 $b = \text{y-intercept}$ – where the line crosses the y-axis.

3. Identify the slope and the y-intercept for each line and use them to write the equation of the line in **Slope-Intercept** form.



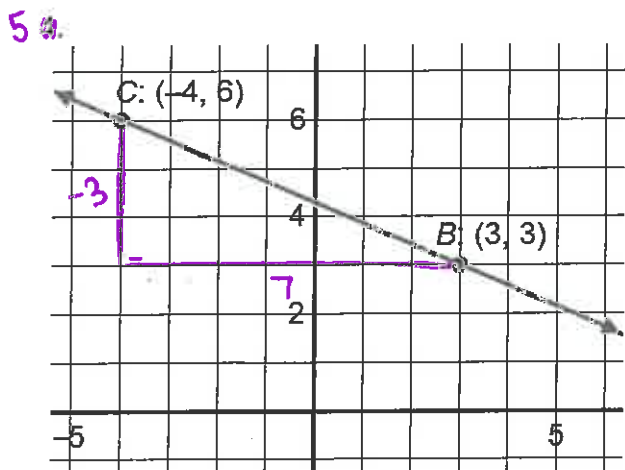
4. Does the line in part 2b pass through the point (10, 11)? Justify your conclusion.

$$y = \frac{4}{3}x - 1$$

$$11 = \frac{4}{3}(10) - 1$$

$$11 \neq 12.3$$

(10, 11) does NOT pass through
 $y = \frac{4}{3}x - 1$. When you put
 (10, 11) into $y = \frac{4}{3}x - 1$ both
 sides of the eqn are not
 equal.



a. Determine an equation for line CB (if possible).

$$m = -\frac{3}{7}$$

$b =$ not easily found by graph.

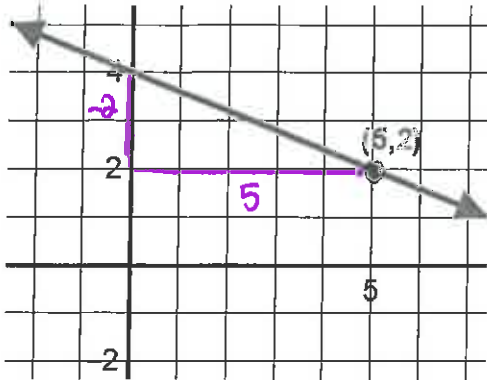
b. Describe the difficulties you experienced in trying to find the equation of this line using **Slope-Intercept** form.

In example 4, "Slope - Intercept" was difficult to use because the y-intercept was not easily found. "Point - Slope" form of a line easily overcomes this difficulty.

Point - Slope Form of a Line: $y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$ *

where (x_1, y_1) is any point on the line.

5.



a. Use **point-slope** form and the indicated point to write the equation of the line:

point $(5, 2)$
 x_1, y_1
 $m = -\frac{2}{5}$

$$y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$$

$$y - 2 = -\frac{2}{5}(x - 5) \quad \text{+ answer.}$$

b. Is this equation **equivalent** to the equation that you wrote in part 2a? Justify your conclusion.

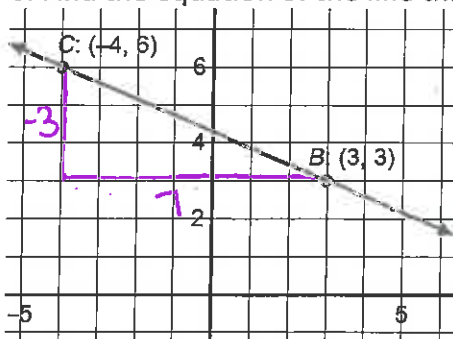
$$y - 2 = -\frac{2}{5}(x - 5)$$

$$y - 2 = -\frac{2}{5}x + 2$$

$$y = -\frac{2}{5}x + 4$$

When I solved the eqn for y I got the same equation as 2a (2a)

6. Find the equation of the line through the points C(-4, 6) and B(3, 3).



point $(-4, 6)$

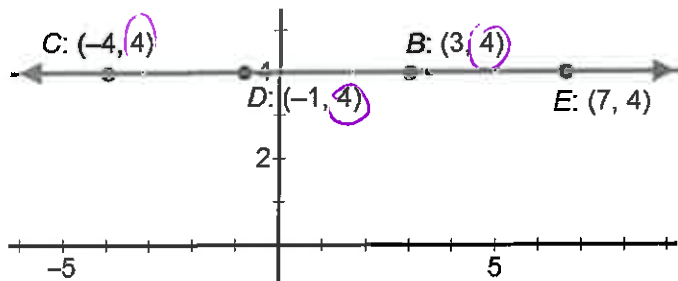
$$m = -\frac{3}{7}$$

$$y - 6 = -\frac{3}{7}(x - -4)$$

$$y - 6 = -\frac{3}{7}(x + 4) \quad \text{ans.}$$

Horizontal & Vertical Lines:

8.



a. What is the slope of this **Horizontal** line?

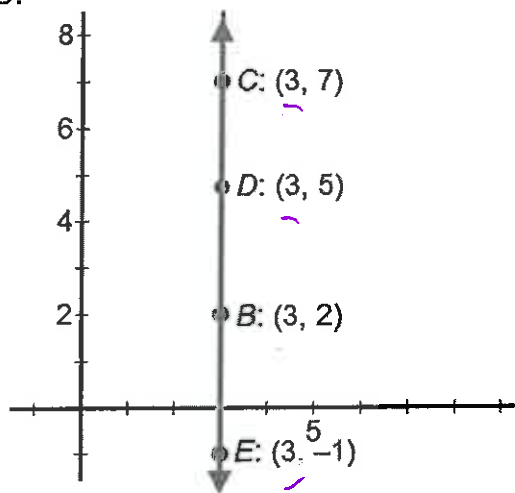
zero.



b. Since every point on this horizontal line has a y-coordinate of 4, the equation is given as $y = 4$.
Suppose you want the equation of a horizontal line through the point $(-5, 8)$. What would it be?

$$y = 8$$

9.



a. What is the slope of this **Vertical** line?

no slope or undefined



b. Why can neither Slope-Intercept nor Point-Slope be used to write the equation of a vertical line?

does not pass through y-axis
and there is no slope

c. Since all the points on this vertical line have an x-coordinate of 3, the equation of the line is given as $x = 3$.
Suppose you want the equation of a vertical line through the point $(-5, 8)$. What would it be?

$$x = -5$$