

Study Guide and Intervention

Transforming and Analyzing Linear Functions

Example Describe the transformation.

What transformations of the linear parent function, $f(x) = x$, will result in the graph of the linear function $g(x) = -3(0.5x + 4) + \frac{2}{5}$?

Solution

Step 1 Rewrite the equation of $g(x)$ in general form to determine the values of the parameters a , b , c , and d .

$$g(x) = -3(0.5x + 4) + \frac{2}{5}$$

$$g(x) = -3(0.5x - (-4)) + \frac{2}{5}$$

Therefore, $a = -3$, $b = 0.5$, $c = -4$, and $d = \frac{2}{5}$.

Step 2 Use the values of the parameters to describe the transformations of the linear parent function $f(x)$ that are necessary to produce $g(x)$.

$a = -3$, so $|a| > 1$. The range values (y-coordinates) of the linear parent function are multiplied by a factor of 3 in order to vertically stretch the graph. Since a is negative, the graph is also reflected over the x-axis.

$b = 0.5$, so $0 < b < 1$. The domain values (x-coordinates) of the linear parent function are multiplied by a factor of $\frac{1}{0.5} = 2$ in order to horizontally stretch the graph of the line.

$c = -4$, so $c < 0$. The graph of the linear parent function will translate $|\frac{-4}{0.5}| = 8$ units to the left.

$d = \frac{2}{5}$, so $d > 0$. The graph of the linear parent function will translate $|\frac{2}{5}| = \frac{2}{5}$ of a unit up.

Exercises

For questions 1-4, describe the transformation of the linear parent function, $f(x) = x$ that will result in the graph of the linear function given.

1. $h(x) = (4x - 1)$

2. $h(x) = 3(x + 2)$

3. $h(x) = -\frac{3}{4}(x - 8) + 2$

4. $h(x) = -4(\frac{1}{2}x - 3) + 4$

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Transforming and Analyzing Linear Functions (cont.)

Example Identify the domain, range, x-intercept and y-intercept of the linear function described by the equation shown below. Write the domain and range as inequalities, as intervals, and in set builder notation.

$$f(x) = 4(x - 8) + 7$$

Solution

Step 1 Determine the domain and range of $f(x)$.

Since this is a linear function, the domain and range are both *all real numbers*. As an inequality, this is written as

$$\text{Domain: } -\infty < x < \infty, \quad \text{Range: } -\infty < y < \infty$$

As an interval

$$\text{Domain: } (-\infty, \infty) \quad \text{Range: } (-\infty, \infty)$$

Set builder notation

$$\text{Domain: } \{x|x \in \mathbb{R}\} \quad \text{Range: } \{y|y \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

Step 2 Determine the x-intercept of $f(x)$.

x-intercepts occur where $f(x) = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= 4(x - 8) + 7 \\ 0 &= 4x - 32 + 7 \\ 0 &= 4x - 25 \\ 0 + 25 &= 4x - 25 + 25 \\ 25 &= 4x \\ \frac{25}{4} &= \frac{4x}{4} \\ 6.25 &= x \end{aligned}$$

The x-intercept of $f(x)$ is $(6.25, 0)$

Step 3 Determine the y-intercept of $f(x)$.

y-intercepts occur where $x = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} f(0) &= 4(0 - 8) + 7 \\ f(0) &= 4(-8) + 7 \\ f(0) &= -32 + 7 \\ f(0) &= -25 \end{aligned}$$

The y-intercept of $f(x)$ is $(0, -25)$

Exercises

For questions 5-10, identify the domain, range, x-intercept and y-intercept of the linear function described by the equation shown below. Write the domain and range as inequalities, as intervals, and in set builder notation.

5. $f(x) = (2x + 3)$

6. $f(x) = 4\left(\frac{1}{8}x + 2\right) - 5$

7. $f(x) = \frac{1}{4}(x + 8)$

8. $f(x) = -2\left(\frac{1}{2}x + 3\right) + 5$

9. $f(x) = \frac{-2}{5}(x + 8)$

10. $f(x) = -3(2x + 5) + 9$