# Slope as a Rate of Change

Rate of Change - a change in one quantity relative to the change in another quantity

Rate of change =  $\underbrace{\text{Vertical change}}_{\text{Horizontal change}} = \underbrace{\text{Rise}}_{\text{Run}} = \text{Slope}$ 

## **Example**

When you earn a wage, the money you receive is related to the number of hours you worked. How could you represent this rate of change?

Rate of Change = money earned time worked

# Rate of Change from a Graph

## Example

One year ago, Becky started working at a grocery store. She put \$100 per month into her bank account. Becky already had \$200 in the account. The table shows the growth in Becky's account

The horizontal values or 'the run'

The vertical values or 'the rise'

Time (months)	Amount
0	200
1	300
2	400
3	500
4	600
5	700

- a) Plot the data in the table on a graph
- b) Determine the slope of the line that would connect the points

$$\frac{700-200}{5} = \frac{500}{5} = \frac{100}{1}$$

c) What is the rate of change in the account from month 1 to 3? 2 to 5?

Months 1 to 3: 
$$\frac{500-300}{3-1}$$
 Months 2-5:  $\frac{700-400}{5-2}$ 

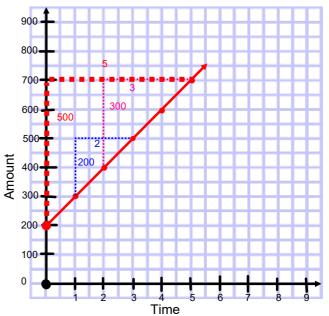
$$\frac{200}{2}$$

$$= \frac{100}{100}$$

$$= \frac{100}{100}$$

d) What do you notice about the rate of change for each period?

They are the same.



## Rate of Change from a Table

Toothpicks are arranged to make the pattern shown



The table below represents the relationship between the number of squares and the number of toothpicks needed to make the squares. Once we recognize the rate of change, the table can be extended to represent additional squares not shown above.

(Run)	Number of Squares	Total Number of Toothpicks	(Rise)
	1	4	
,	2	7	7 2 7 3
وا	3	10	کر لع
	4	13	
	5	16	
	6	19	
	7	22	
	8	25	

Determine the rate of change between the number of squares

2-1=1

3-2=1

Determine the rate of change in the total number of toothpicks. What do you notice

7-4=3

10-7=3

What is the rate of change?

 $\frac{3}{4}$  An increase of 3 toothpicks for every additional square.

## Things to consider before attempting the following questions:

Constant slope: the slope of a straight line is the same using any two points on that line, therefore in a table, the vertical values would have to have the same change between each row and the horizontal values would have to have the same change between each of its rows.

Interval: a piece of time that has a beginning time and an end time, often represented with a dash in between the start and finish (example: 12pm-1pm, 1pm-2pm etc.).

# **Questions for practice**

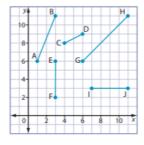
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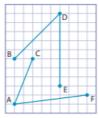
## **Check Your Understanding**

### Try It

- a) Determine the rise and run of each line segment.
  - **b)** Determine the slope of each line segment.



- 2. Determine the slope of each line segment.
  - a) AC
- **b)** ED
- c) BD
- d) AF



- 3. Examine the table of values.
  - **a)** What is the change in the *x*-values from one row to the next?
  - **b)** What is the change in the *y*-values?
  - c) What is the slope of the line that would connect these points on a graph?

X	у
0	4
1	6
2	8
3	10
4	12

#### Apply It

- 4. Josh drives non-stop from Deer Lake to Holyrood. His average speed is 90 km/h. The table shows the distance he drove during each hour of the trip.
  - a) Graph the data. Connect the points with a straight line.
  - b) What is the slope of the line?
- Time (h)
   Distance (km)

   1
   90

   2
   180

   3
   270

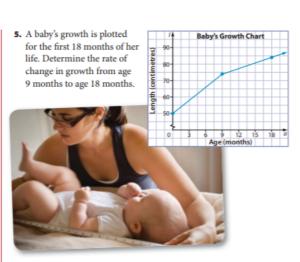
   4
   360

   5
   450

   6
   540

c) How is the slope related to the rate of change in distance?

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- 6. Julie earns \$20 for babysitting for 2 h.
  - a) Copy and complete the table.

Time Worked (h)	Amount Earned (\$)	Rate of Change
0	0	
1	10	10 - 0 = 10
2	20	
3		
4		
5		

- b) What is the rate of change in Julie's earnings? Explain what this means.
- c) Suppose Julie gets an increase of \$5 for 2 h. What is her new rate of change in earnings?
- d) Graph both of Julie's earnings on one grid. What is similar about the graphs? Explain.
- e) Describe any differences between the two graphs.

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#### Check Your Understanding

#### Try It

 Determine the slope of the line in a graph of the data.

Х	у
0	1
2	4
4	7
6	10
8	13

2. Does a graph of the data in each table show a constant slope? Explain.

Table A Table B

X	у
0	4
1	6
2	8
3	10
4	12

X	у
0	3
1	4
2	6
3	9
4	13

#### **Apply It**

- 3. Suppose Toshi drives at a constant rate for 4 h. After 1 h, he has travelled 100 km. After 3 h, he has travelled 300 km. Determine the rate of change in distance, and explain what it means.
- 4. Olivia babysits for the Youngs and always receives the same rate of pay. She babysat for 2 hours and received \$16. She was paid \$40 for 5 hours. Determine the rate of change in pay, and explain what it means.

The table shows the time to cook stuffed turkeys of varying sizes.

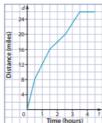
- a) Graph the data.
- **b)** Determine the slope of the line. Explain what it means.

Mass (kg)	Time (h)
3	3.5
5	4
7	4.5
9	5

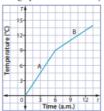
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There have been over 60 runnings of the Huffin Puffin Marathon, which used to be called the Newfoundland Provincial Marathon. It is the oldest marathon in Canada and the third oldest in North America.

Chelsea plans to run in the Huffin' Puffin Marathon. The results of her last marathon are shown in the graph.



- a) Identify the intervals on the graph that have constant slope.
- **b)** Determine the slope of each of these intervals.
- Explain the slope as a rate of change.
- d) During which interval did the distance Chelsea ran not change? Explain what this means.
- e) What is the rate of change for this interval?
- 7. The graph shows the hourly temperature for the morning.



- a) Determine the slopes of intervals A and B.
- **b)** How are the slopes the same? How are they different?
- c) Describe the slope of interval A as a rate of change.
- **d)** Describe the slope of interval B as a rate of change.

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