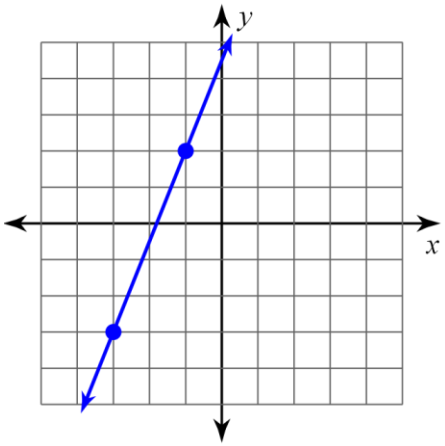
Math 9 – Coordinate Geometry Name: _____

Lesson #3: Slope of a Line - Notes Date: _____

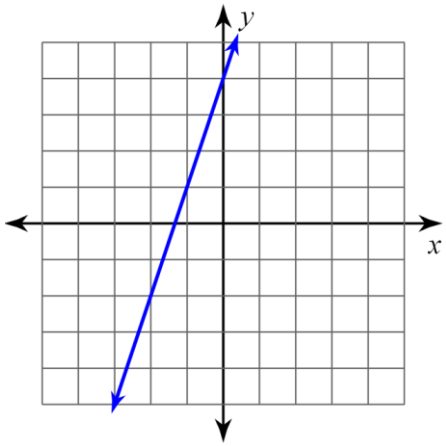
In this lesson, we will explore the most significant property of a linear relationship: the slope! The slope of a line tells us how the relationship is changing and can be thought of as how slanted/steep the line is. It has many important applications such as engineering the initial climb of a roller coaster to making safe ramps, but today we will focus on the algebra and understanding how to calculate the slope of a line.

First, let's look at the slope from a geometric perspective. The slope, defined by the letter *m* for no apparent reason, is: $m = \frac{Rise}{Run}$

Example 1: Given the line with two points, calculate the slope.

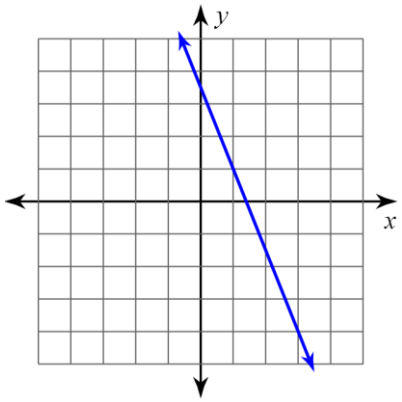


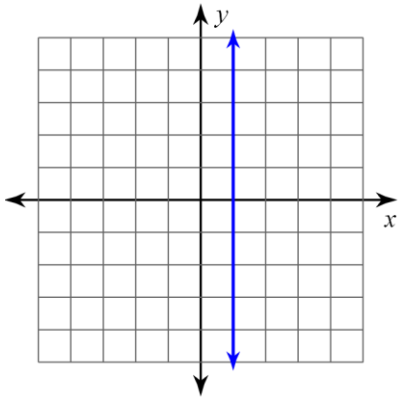
Example 2: Given the line, locate two points, then calculate the slope.



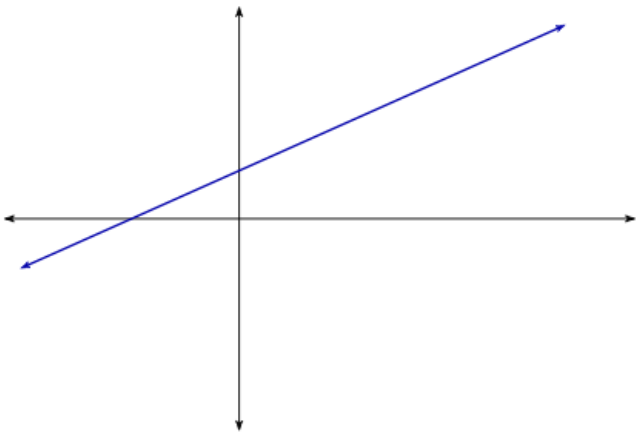
Are slopes always positive? There are 4 possible slopes:

Example 3 and 4: Calculate the slopes of each line.





Now that we know about slope, we can derive a formula so that we do not need a graph.



Examples 5-8: Given the points, calculate the slope.

5. $(7,-10),(9,-7)$

6. $(-6,-17),(-20,11)$

7. $(6,-12),(6,1)$

8. $(-3,9),(3,9)$

Example 9: A ramp needs to be constructed to go from the ground to a doorway. The doorway is 90 cm from the ground and the ramp needs a slope of $\frac{2}{5}$.

a) Calculate how far the ramp will start from the edge of the house.

b) Calculate the length of the ramp.

Example 10 and 11: Calculate the missing coordinate.

10. $(2, y)$ and $(-3, -2)$; slope: $\frac{3}{5}$

11. $(x, 4)$ and $(-5, 10)$; slope: $\frac{3}{2}$