

Algebra II

3-5

Function Word Problems

$$f(x) = mx + b$$

x - input, cause

f - output, effect (think y)

m - rate of change

b - starting point
or
Flat rate

1) A photocopying machine purchased new for \$4500 loses \$900 in value each year. Pg 150

a. Find the book value of the machine after 1.5 years. $\rightarrow 1.5$ years

b. When will the book value be \$1200?

input (x): age of copier (cause) $f(x) = mx + b$

output (y or f): lost value (effect)

rate of change (m): -900 \$/year

start value (b): 4500

$$f(x) = -900x + 4500$$

$$a) f(1.5) = -900(1.5) + 4500 = 3150$$

$$b) 1200 = -900x + 4500$$

$$\frac{-3300}{-900} = \frac{-900x}{-900} \quad x = \frac{11}{3} = 3\frac{2}{3} = 3 \text{ years } 8 \text{ months}$$

5) Allied Airlines charges \$90 for a ticket to fly between two cities 260 mi apart and \$150 for a ticket to fly between two cities 500 mi apart. At this rate, what would it cost for a trip between two cities 1000 mi apart?

$$f(x) = mx + b$$

input (x): distance (260, 90)

output (y or f): cost (500, 150)

rate of change (m): $\frac{150-90}{500-260} = \frac{60}{240} = \frac{1}{4}$

start value (b): $b = 25$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{4}x + 25$$

$$f(1000) = \frac{1}{4}(1000) + 25$$

$$= 250 + 25$$

$$= 275$$

\$ 275

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{4}x + b$$

$$90 = \frac{1}{4}(260) + b$$

$$90 = 65 + b$$

$$25 = b$$

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