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## Interpreting Slope and y-intercept

1) The Hurricane Hunters took the following measurements from a hurricane over several days as it developed:

| Air Pressure (kPa) | Wind Speed (knots) |
| :--- | ---: |
| 924 | 120 |
| 933 | 112 |
| 957 | 75.7 |
| 980 | 61.1 |
| 989 | 50.4 |
| 1,002 | 31.8 |

They found that the air pressure and wind speed are related in the following way: $y=-1.1 x+1140$ where $x$ is the air pressure in millibars ( kPa ) and $y$ is the maximum sustained wind speed in knots (nautical miles per hour).

a) What does the slope of the line represent?
b) What does the $y$-intercept of this function represent?
2) The cost of a flight is related to the distance traveled:

| Miles | Cost (\$) |
| :--- | ---: |
| 225 | 50.8 |
| 525 | 70.6 |
| 800 | 99.3 |
| 1,375 | 173 |
| 1,950 | 202 |
| 2,250 | 250 |

This can be modeled by the equation $y=0.0975 x+25.2$ where $x$ is distance in miles and $y$ is cost in dollars.


Distance (miles)
a) What does the slope of the line represent?
b) What does the $y$-intercept of this function represent?
3) By examining past tournaments, it's possible to calculate the probability that a school wins their first game in the national college basketball tournament.

| Rank | Probability (\%) |
| :--- | ---: |
| 2 | 92 |
| 3 | 87 |
| 4 | 82 |
| 5 | 74 |
| 9 | 46 |
| 10 | 38 |

Each school's rank going into the tournament is a strong indicator of their likelihood of winning their first game. This can be expressed as $y=-6.87 x+108$ where $x$ is their rank (out of 16) and $y$ is the percent chance they have of winning their first game.

a) What does the slope of the line represent?
b) What does the $y$-intercept of this function represent?
4) Households consume much more electricity when the weather is warmer:

| Temperature $\left({ }^{\circ} \mathrm{F}\right)$ | Electricity $(\mathrm{kWh})$ |
| :--- | ---: |
| 56 | 32 |
| 66 | 36.7 |
| 69 | 36.9 |
| 71 | 38.5 |
| 78 | 41.5 |
| 82 | 44.4 |

This can be modeled by the equation $y=0.463 x+5.79$ where $x$ is the average daily temperature in ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ and $y$ is the average amount of electricity consumed in kilowatt-hours (kWh).

a) What does the slope of the line represent?
b) What does the $y$-intercept of this function represent?
5) The number of marriage licenses issued by Clark County Nevada, the county where Las Vegas is located, has been decreasing since the year 2000:

| Year | Marriage Licenses |
| ---: | ---: |
| 2001 | 137,000 |
| 2004 | 133,000 |
| 2005 | 126,000 |
| 2009 | 112,000 |
| 2012 | 101,000 |
| 2013 | 94,600 |

This can be modeled by the equation $y=-3625.9 x+7395600$ where $x$ is the year and $y$ is the number of marriage licenses issued.

a) What does the slope of the line represent?
b) What does the $y$-intercept of this function represent?
6) Darryl collects coins. Over a three-year period he collected 1,000 nickels. After organizing them by year, he found that the number of nickels from a given year was related to the number minted that year:

| Minted (100 mill.) | In Sample |
| :--- | ---: |
| 4.6 | 8 |
| 7 | 9 |
| 10.8 | 26 |
| 12.9 | 35 |
| 14.9 | 43 |
| 17.6 | 49 |

Darryl discovered that this can be modeled by the equation $y=3.49 x-11.1$ where $x$ is the number of nickels minted in a particular year in hundreds of millions and $y$ is the number of nickels from that year in his sample.

a) What does the slope of the line represent?
b) What does the $y$-intercept of this function represent?
7) Economists have found that the amount of corruption in a country is correlated to the productivity of that country. Productivity is measured by gross domestic product (GDP) per capita. Corruption is measured on a scale from 0 to 100 with 0 being highly corrupt and 100 being least corrupt:

| Corruption Score | GDP Per Capita (\$) |
| :--- | ---: |
| 19 | 3,820 |
| 26 | 4,770 |
| 39 | 7,840 |
| 52 | 12,200 |
| 58 | 24,000 |
| 66 | 30,600 |

This can be modeled by the equation $y=549 x-9920$ where $x$ is the corruption score and $y$ is GDP per capita in dollars.

a) What does the slope of the line represent?
b) What does the y-intercept of this function represent?
8) By examining past tournaments, it's possible to calculate the probability that a school wins their first game in the national college basketball tournament.

| Rank | Probability (\%) |
| :--- | ---: |
| 2 | 95 |
| 5 | 70 |
| 7 | 60 |
| 8 | 54 |
| 9 | 46 |
| 10 | 38 |

Each school's rank going into the tournament is a strong indicator of their likelihood of winning their first game. This can be expressed as $y=-6.88 x+107$ where $x$ is their rank (out of 16) and $y$ is the percent chance they have of winning their first game.

a) What does the slope of the line represent?
b) What does the y-intercept of this function represent?

