

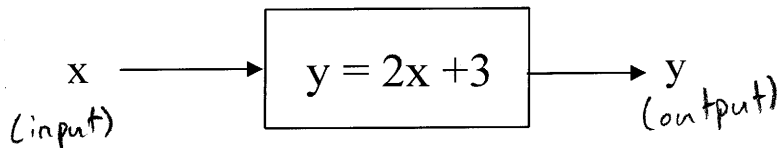
What is a Function?

Function – is a relationship such that for each input value there is at most only one output value; typically, we designate the input value as ‘x’ and output value as ‘y’.

A relationship can be classified as a function by examining the equation, the table of values, a mapping of inputs and outputs, or the graph.

Equation

Consider the equation $y = 2x + 3$:

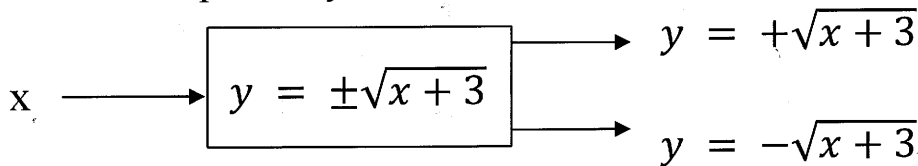


For this example, if we randomly assign the value $x = 6$, we get...

$$\begin{aligned} y &= 2x + 3 \\ y &= 2(6) + 3 \\ y &= 15 \end{aligned}$$

The relationship $y = 2x + 3$ (is/is not) a function since it has at most one output for any input.

Consider the equation $y = \pm\sqrt{x + 3}$:



For this example, if we randomly assign the value $x = 6$, we get...

$$\begin{aligned} y &= \pm\sqrt{x + 3} \\ y &= \pm\sqrt{6 + 3} \\ y &= \pm 3 \end{aligned}$$

The relationship $y = \pm\sqrt{x + 3}$ (is/is not) a function since it has more than one output for some inputs.

Table of Values

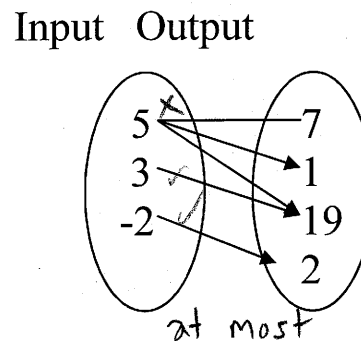
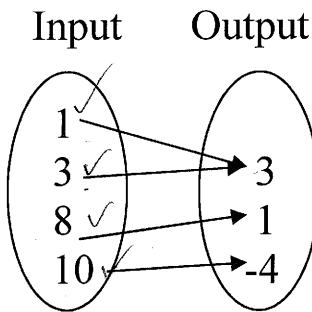
x	y
1	4
2	6
2	8
5	13

x	y
-5	4
-2	4
1	7
3	9

The first table (is/is not) a function since when $x = 2$, y can be multiple values.
 The second table (is/is not) a function since each value of x has only one output.

at most

Mapping



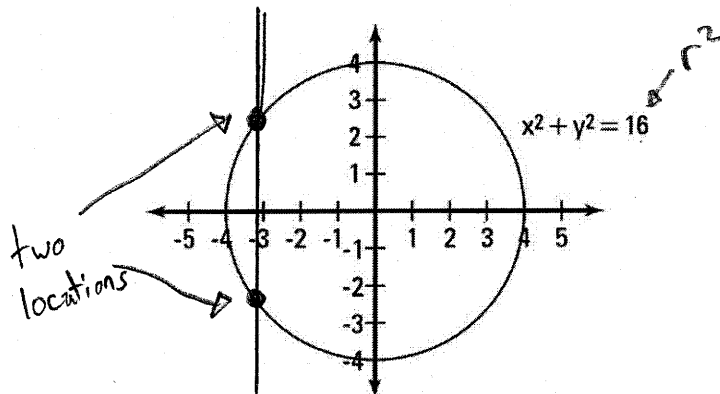
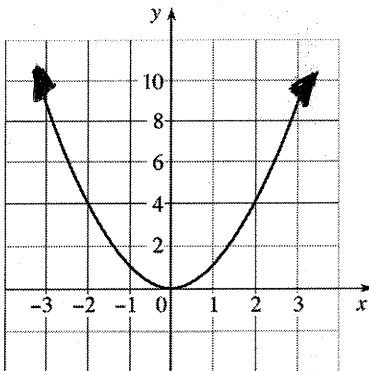
at most

The first relation (is/is not) a function since each input maps to one output.

The second relation (is/is not) a function since some inputs map to multiple outputs.

Vertical Line Test with Graph (VLT)

The vertical line test is conducted by visualizing a vertical line moving across the Cartesian grid from left to right. A relationship is considered to be a function if the vertical line never intersects the graphed relationship at more than one point at any instant.



The relation $y = x^2$ (is/is not) a function since the vertical line never crosses the graphed relationship at more than one point.

The relation $x^2 + y^2 = 16$ (is/is not) a function since the vertical line often crosses more than one point on the graph.