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# PRECALCULUS

## Chapter 1 - Functions and Graphs

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### 1.1: Definitions and representations

A relation between two sets  $X$  and  $Y$  is a correspondence between elements of set  $X$  and the elements of set  $Y$ . This can also be defined as a set of points in a  $xy$ - plane, whose coordinates are  $(x, y)$  such that  $x \in X$  and  $y \in Y$ .

A function is a relationship or mapping of the elements of a set  $X$  to the elements of a set  $Y$  such that each element in the set  $X$  is mapped to a unique element in the set  $Y$ , by a rule.

The elements of the set  $X$  are called input values and the elements of the set  $Y$  which correspond to any element of the set  $X$  are called the output values.

The set  $X$  is called the **Domain** and the the set  $Y$  is called the **Codomain**. The set of all elements of  $Y$  that correspond to any element of  $X$  is called the **Range**. Obviously, Range is a subset of Codomain.

All relations are not functions. Only the relations which map each input value to a unique output value are functions.

A function can also be viewed as a **Rule** that produces a unique element in the set of  $Y$  for every element in the set of  $X$ , the elements of the set  $Y$  is dependent on the elements of  $X$ . So, if we represent the elements of  $Y$  as  $y$ , and the elements of  $X$  as  $x$ ,  $x$  is called the **independent**

**variable** and  $y$  is called the **dependent variable**.

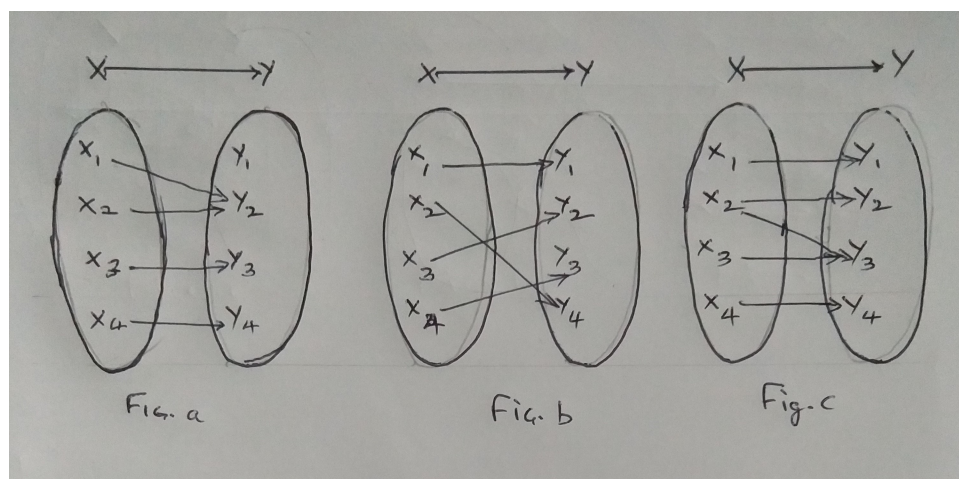
A relationship between two sets  $X$  and  $Y$  can be represented by any of the following ways:

1. Diagrammatic representation.
2. Algebraic representation.
3. Graphical representation.
4. Set representation, as a set of ordered pairs.

**Diagrammatic representation:** In the following diagram, Figure(a) has more than one element of  $X$  mapped to an element of  $Y$ . But this mapping conforms to the rule of a function. This type of function is called **Many-to-one function**.

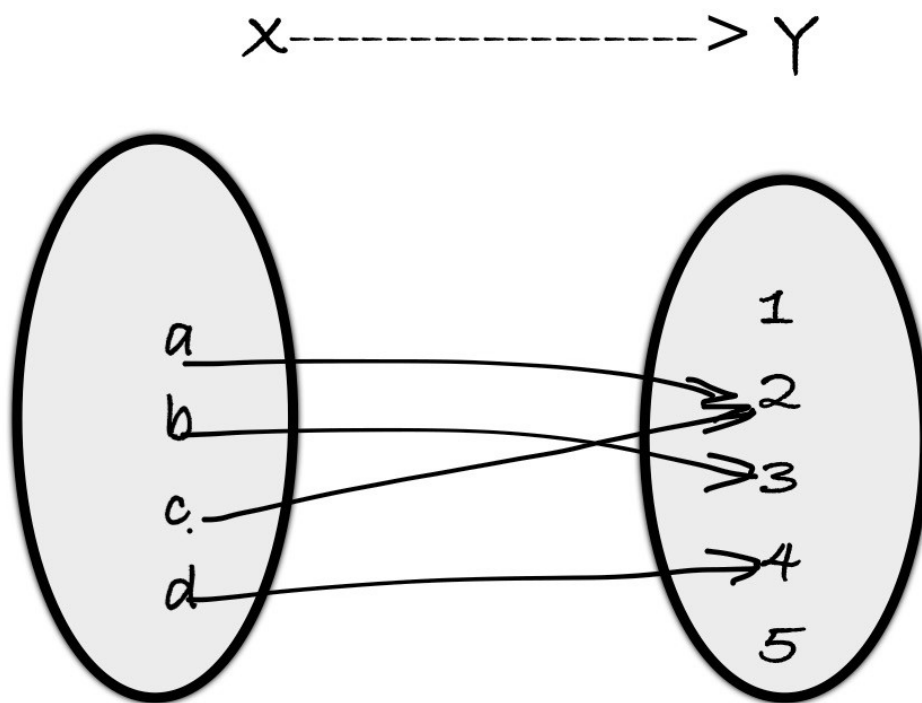
Figure(b) has each element mapped to exactly one element in  $Y$ . This relationship also conforms the rule of a function. This type of function is called **One-to-one function**.

Figure(c) has at least one element of  $X$  mapped to more than one element of  $Y$ . This does not conform to the rule of a function. So, these types of **one-to-many relationships are not functions** .



### EXAMPLE 1:

Determine the type of relationship represented in the following diagram and state whether it is function or not:



*Solution:* As more than one element of  $X$  is mapped to one element of  $Y$ , this is a many-to-one function.

Note that the domain of the function is the set  $\{a, b, c, d\}$  and the range is  $\{2, 3, 4\}$  while the codomain is  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ .

**Algebraic representation:** The rule that associates the variable  $x$  to the variable  $y$  is written as  $y = f(x)$ , and read as " $y$  is a function of  $x$ .", or " $y$  is the value of  $f$  at  $x$ ". We can determine if a rule defines a function or not by checking if any value of  $x$  gives more than one value for  $y$  according to that rule.

### EXAMPLE 2:

Determine whether the formula  $y = x^2 - 2x + 5$  defines a function.

*Solution:* Yes. Because, when we plug in any value for  $x$  in the formula, we get a unique value of  $y$ .

As any value of  $x$  plugged into the equation gives a unique real value of  $y$ , the domain of this function is the set of all real numbers  $(-\infty, \infty)$  and the range is also the set of all real numbers  $(-\infty, \infty)$ .

**EXAMPLE 3:**

Determine if the formula  $x^2 + y^2 - 2x = 6$  defines a function.

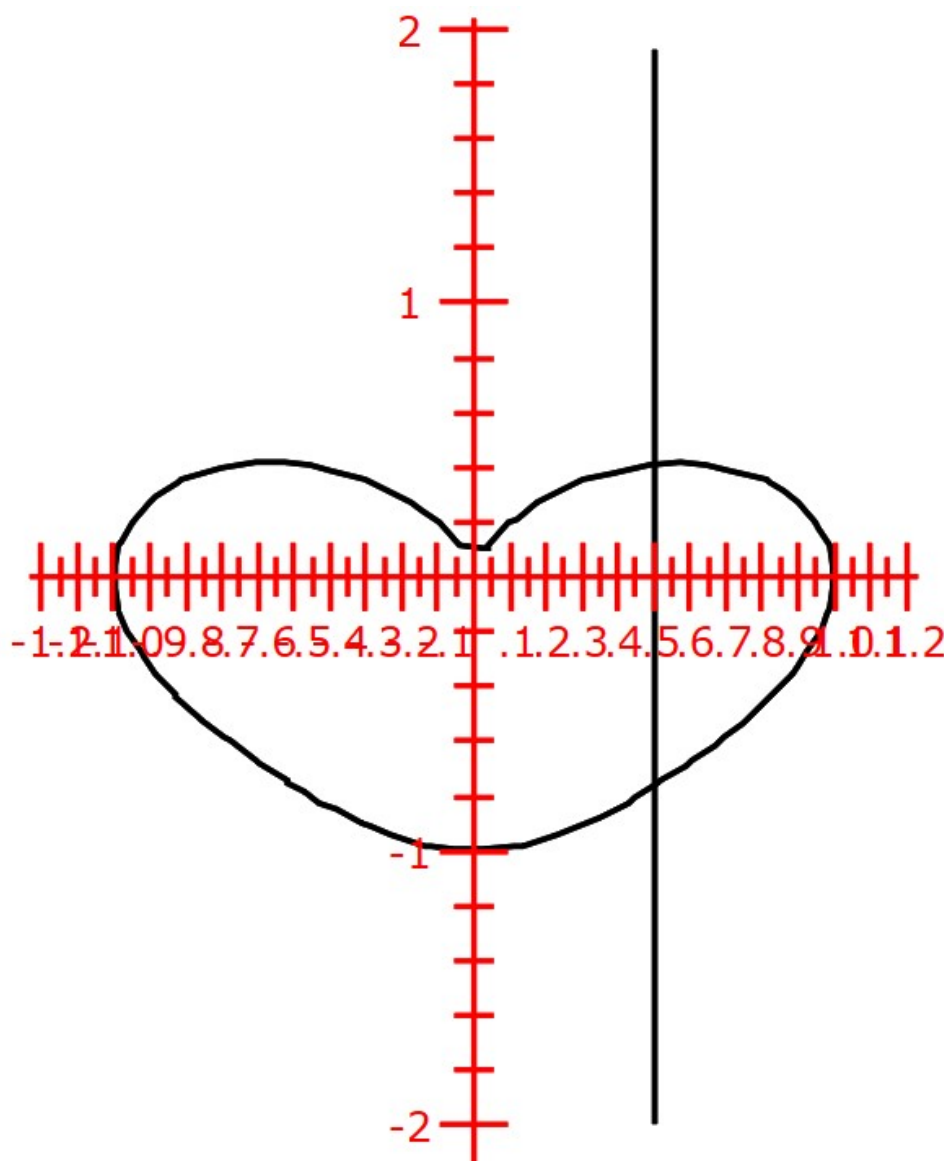
*Solution:* No. Solving this formula for  $y$ , we get

$$y^2 = 6 - x^2 + 2x$$
$$y = \pm \sqrt{6 - x^2 + 2x}$$

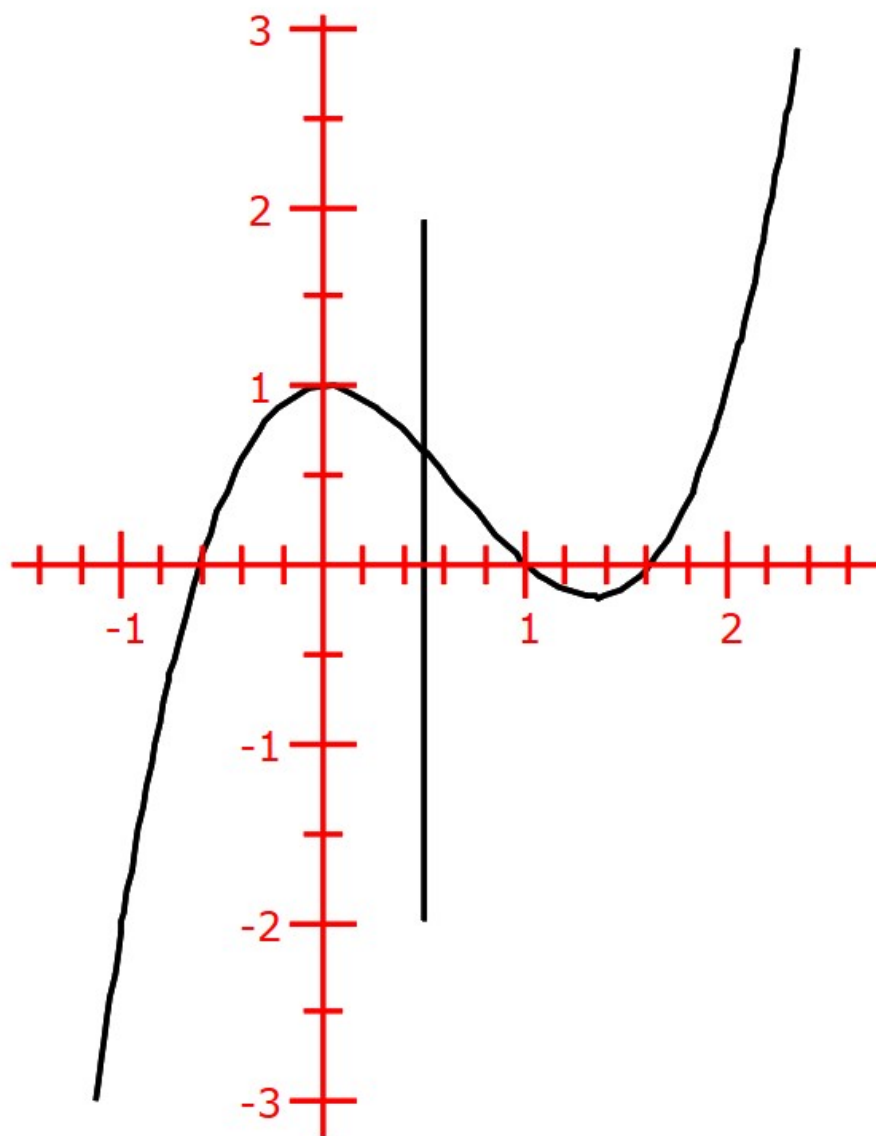
This means, for each value of  $x$  we substitute in the formula, we get two values of  $y$ . So, this is not a function.

**Graphical representation:** Any relationship between  $x$  and  $y$  can be graphed by plotting ordered pairs  $(x, y)$  that satisfy the relationship. A graph defines a function if and only if no vertical line intersects the graph in more than one point. If a vertical line intersects the graph in more than one point, this would mean that the graph gives more than one value for  $y$  for that particular value of  $x$  where that vertical line is placed. This test of determining a function using graph is called **vertical line test**.

Below are two graphs that confirm this rule.



In the above graph, the vertical line intersects the graph in two points. So, this is not the graph of a function.



The above graph is a function a vertical line crosses the graph in exactly one point. Note that this is true for any vertical line.

**Set representation:** A relation can be represented by a set of ordered pairs  $(x, y)$  where the values of  $x$  are in the domain and the values of  $y$  are in the range. In this representation, we just need to check if any value of  $x$  is paired with more than one value of  $y$ .

EXAMPLE 4:

Check whether or not the set of ordered pairs  $\{(1, 2), (2, 4), (5, 1), (1, 8)\}$  defines a function.

*Solution:* No. Note that  $x = 1$  is paired with  $y = 2$  and  $y = 8$ .

#### EXAMPLE 5:

Determine if the set  $\{(4, 1), (3, 8), (1, 2), (5, 2)\}$  defines a function.

*Solution:* Yes. Note that each value of  $x$  is paired with a different value of  $y$ . Also note that the values  $x = 1$  and  $x = 5$  are paired with the value of  $y = 2$ . This is a many-to-one function.

Domain of this function is 1, 3, 4, 5 and range is 1, 2, 8.

The **domain** of a function is the set of all values of  $x$  that makes the value of the function meaningful.

Unless otherwise stated or implied, domain of all polynomial functions is the set of real numbers  $(-\infty, \infty)$ .

The domain of a rational function is the set of all real numbers that do not make the denominator expression zero.

The domain of a radical function is the set of all real numbers that make a non-negative radicand.

**Range** of a function is the set of all values of  $y$  that correspond to the values of  $x$ .

#### EXAMPLE 6:

Find the domain and range of the function  $y = \sqrt{x - 2}$

*Solution:* To find the domain, set the radicand greater than or equal to zero, and solve.

$$\begin{aligned}x - 2 &\geq 0 \\x &\geq 2\end{aligned}$$

So, the domain of this function is  $\{x|x \in \mathcal{R} : x \geq 2\}$

In interval notation, domain is  $[2, \infty)$ .

The least value of  $x$  is 2, which result in  $y = 0$ . All values of  $y$  are positive. So, the range of this function is  $\{y|y \in \mathcal{R} : y \geq 0\}$ . In interval notation, range is  $[0, \infty)$ .

#### EXAMPLE 7:

Find the domain and range of the function  $y = \frac{x+2}{x-3}$ .

*Solution:* To find the domain, set the denominator to zero, and solve. Then, exclude this value from the set of real numbers.

$$x - 3 = 0$$

$$x = 3$$

So the domain is  $\{x|x \in \mathcal{R} : x \neq 3\}$  and in interval notation,  $(-\infty, 3) \cup (3, \infty)$

Range is the set all real numbers  $(-\infty, \infty)$

#### EXAMPLE 8:

Find the domain and range of the function  $f(x) = \frac{2x-3}{\sqrt{x+1}}$

*Solution:* Domain: While numerator can take all values, denominator cannot be zero, and cannot be negative because of the square-root. So, the domain would be all real numbers that satisfies the inequality  $x + 1 > 0$ . Solving this would result in all values of  $x > -1$ . So, domain of this function is  $\{x|x \in \mathcal{R} : x > -1\}$  in set notation and  $(-1, \infty)$  in interval notation.

Range: As the denominator is always positive and can be either less than or more than 1, the range is all real numbers  $\{x|x \in \mathcal{R}\}$  in set notation and  $(-\infty, \infty)$  in interval notation.



As the algebraic notation of a function  $y = f(x)$  suggests, the variable  $x$  is the input value of the function. The value of the function is the output value  $y$ , which is the result of substituting the value of  $x$  in the expression  $f(x)$ .

**EXAMPLE 9:**

Find the value of the function  $y = x^2 - 3$  for  $x = -2$ .

*Solution:* Substituting the  $x = -2$  in the function, we get

$$\begin{aligned}y &= (-2)^2 - 3 \\ &= 4 - 3 \\ &= 1\end{aligned}$$

**EXAMPLE 10:**

A function is defined by  $f = \sqrt{1 - 2x}$ . Find the point where the graph of this function intersects  $x$ -axis..

*Solution:* Any point on the  $x$ -axis has its  $y$  coordinate 0. So, the  $x$ -intercepts are obtained by solving  $f(x) = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{1 - 2x} &= 0 \\ 1 - 2x &= 0 \\ 1 &= 2x \\ \frac{1}{2} &= x\end{aligned}$$

**EXAMPLE 11:**

A function is defined by the set of ordered pairs  $f = \{(-2, 3), (-1, 0), (0, 1), (1, 0), (2, 1)\}$ . Find  $f(-1)$ .

*Solution:* Note that the ordered pair that has  $x$ - coordinate  $-1$  has  $y$ -coordinate 0. So,  $f(-1) = 0$ .

## Practice Problems

(1) Determine whether the following set diagram defines a function and if so, if it is one-to-one or many-to-one function: 1

(2) Determine whether the following set diagram defines a function and if so, if it is one-to-one or many-to-one function:

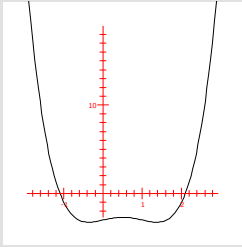
(3) Determine whether the relationship  $y + 2x - 3 = 0$  is a function or not. If it is a function, is it one-to-one or many-to-one?

(4) Determine whether the relationship  $x^2 + 2x - y + 3 = 0$  is a function or not. If it is a function, is it one-to-one or many-to-one?

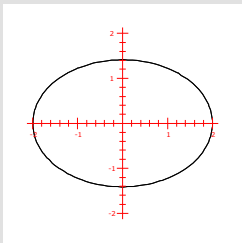
(5) Determine whether the relationship  $x - 2y^2 + 3 = 0$  is a function or not. If it is a function, is it one-to-one or many-to-one?

(6) Use the vertical line test to determine whether the given graph is

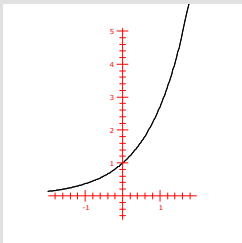
(a)



(b)



(c)



(7) Determine whether each of the following collection of ordered pairs represent a function or not. If it is a function, state if it is one-to-one or many-to-one function.

$$f = \{(1, 2), (2, 3), (6, 3), (10, 4), (14, 20)\}$$

$$g = \{(3, 1), (1, 3), (2, 5), (3, 6)\}$$

$$h = \{(10, 2), (8, 8), (7, 10), (6, 12), (2, 4)\}$$

(8) Find the domain and range of the function

$$f = (1, 2), (2, 4), (4, 8), (5, 9), (8, 13)$$

(9) Find the domain of the function  $f(x) = \frac{4}{2x+3}$

(10) Find the domain of the function  $f(x) = \sqrt{x^2 - 4}$

(11) Find the domain of the function  $g(x) = \frac{x-3}{(x+2)(x-1)}$

(12) Find the domain and range of the function  $x^2 - 5$ .

(13) Find the domain and range of the function  $g(x) = \frac{2-x}{x^2-9}$

(14) Find the domain and range of the function  $g(x) = \frac{x^2}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$

(15) Find the value of the function  $f(x) = 2x^3 - 3x + 2$  when  $x = 2$ .

(16) Given that  $h(x) = \frac{1-x}{x^3}$ , find  $h(-1)$

(17) A function  $f$  is defined the set of ordered pairs  $\{(1, 3), (2, 4), (3, 3), (4, 0), (5, -5)\}$ . Find  $f(2)$

(18) Given that  $f(x) = x^2 - 1$  and  $g(x) = 1 - 2x$ , find  $f[g(-2)]$

(19) Does the collection of ordered pairs  $\{(-2, 1), (1, 3), (2, 4), (3, 1)\}$  define a function? If yes, state its domain and range.

(20) Determine which of the following equations represent  $y$  as a function of  $x$ :

- (a)  $x^3 + y^2 = 1$ ;
- (b)  $x^2 + y^3 = 2$ ;
- (c)  $x^y + 3y = 1$

(21) A function is defined by  $y = -x^2 + 3x + 4$ . Simplify the following:

- (a)  $f(2x)$ ;
- (b)  $2f(x)$ ;
- (c)  $f(x + 2)$ ;
- (d)  $f(x) + f(2)$ .

(22) Find the domain of the function  $f(x) = \sqrt{5 - 3x}$

(23) Find the domain of the function  $\frac{\sqrt{2x+1}}{x^2-1}$

(24) Given a function  $f(x) = \sqrt{2 + 1}$ , evaluate  $f(a + h)$

(25) For a function  $g(x) = x^2 - x - 12$ , find the values of  $x$  for which the graph of the function intersects the  $x$ -axis.

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