Lesson 10: Interpreting Graphs of Proportional Relationships

Student Outcomes

- Students consolidate their understanding of equations representing proportional relationships as they interpret what points on the graph of a proportional relationship mean in terms of the situation or context of the problem, including the point \((0, 0)\).
- Students are able to identify and interpret in context, the point \((1, r)\) on the graph of a proportional relationship, where \(r\) is the unit rate.

Classwork

Example 1 & 2 (15 minutes)

Example 1 is a review of previously taught concepts but lesson will be built upon this example. Pose the challenge to the students to complete the table.

Have students work individually and then compare and critique each other’s work with a partner.

Example 1

Grandma’s Special Chocolate Chip Cookie recipe calls for 2 cups of flour which yields 9 dozen cookies. Using this information, complete the chart:

Table – Create a chart comparing the amount of flour used to the amount of cookies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flour (cups)</th>
<th>Cookies (Dozen)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table – Is the number of cookies proportional to the amount of flour used? Explain

Yes, because there exists a constant = \(4/3\) or \(1 \frac{1}{3}\) such that each measure of the cups of flour multiplied by the constant gives the corresponding measure of cookies

Unit Rate – What is the unit rate and what is the meaning in the context of the problem?

\(1 \frac{1}{3}\) dozen cookies or 16 cookies for 1 cup of flour
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Graph – Model the relationship on a graph.

Does the graph show the two quantities being proportional to each other? Explain

The points lie on a line that passes through the origin (0,0).

Equation – Write an equation that can be used to represent the relationship.

\[ D = \frac{1}{3} F \]

Or

\[ D = 1 \cdot \frac{3}{f} \]

\( D = \text{Number of Dozen Cookies} \)

\( F = \text{Number of cups of Flour} \)

Example 2

Below is a graph modeling the amount of sugar required to make Grandma’s Chocolate Chip Cookies.

1. Record the coordinates of flour of the points from the graph in a table. What do these ordered pair (values) represent?

- (0, 0); 0 cups of sugar will give 0 dozen cookies
- (2, 3); 2 cups of sugar yields 3 dozen cookies
- (4, 6); 4 cups of sugar yields 6 dozen cookies
- (8, 12); 8 cups of sugar yields 12 dozen cookies
- (12, 18); 12 cups of sugar yields 18 dozen cookies
- (16, 24); 16 cups of sugar yields 24 dozen cookies

2. Grandma has 1 remaining cup of sugar, how many dozen cookies will she be able to make? Plot the point on the graph above.

1.5 dozen cookies

3. How many dozen cookies can grandma make if she has no sugar? Can you graph this on the grid provided above? What do we call this point?

(0, 0); 0 cup of sugar = 0 dozen cookies, point is called the origin
Pending final editorial review

Generate class discussion using the following questions to lead to the conclusion the point \((1, r)\) must be on the graph and what it means.

- How is the unit rate related to the graph?
  - The unit rate must be the value of the y-coordinate of the point on the graph, which has an x-coordinate of one.

- What quantity is measured along the horizontal axis?
  - Sugar

- When you plot the ordered pair \((A, B)\), what does \(A\) represent?
  - The amount of sugar in cups

- What quantity is measured along the vertical axis?
  - The amount of cookies (dozens)

- When you plot the point \((A, B)\), what does \(B\) represent?
  - The total amount of cookies

- What is the unit rate for this proportional relationship?
  - 1.5

- Starting at the origin, if you move one unit along the horizontal axis, how far would you have to move vertically to reach the line you graphed?
  - 1.5 units

- Why are we always moving 1.5 units vertically?
  - The unit rate is 1.5 dozen cookies for every 1 cup of sugar. The vertical axis or y value represents the number of cookies. Since the unit rate is \(\frac{1.5 \text{ dozen cookies}}{1 \text{ cup of sugar}}\), every vertical move would equal the unit rate of 1.5 units.

- Continue moving one unit at a time along the horizontal axis. What distance vertically do you move?
  - 1.5 units

- Does this number look familiar? Is it the unit rate? Do you think this will always be the case, whenever two quantities that are proportional are graphed?
  - The vertical distance is the same as the unit rate. Yes, the vertical distance will always be equal to the unit rate when moving one unit horizontally on the axis.

- Graphs of different proportional relationships have different points but what point must be on every graph of a proportional relationship and why?
  - The point \((1, r)\) or unit rate must be on every graph because the unit rate describes the change in the vertical distance for every 1 unit change in the horizontal axis.
Exercises (15 minutes)

Sample responses to the questions:

1. The graph below shows the amount of time a person can shower with a certain amount of water.

   ![Graph Image]

   a. Can you determine by looking at the graph whether the length of the shower is proportional to the number of gallons of water? Explain how you know.
   
   Yes, the quantities are proportional to each other since it is a line containing all points that passes through the origin (0, 0).

   b. How long can a person shower with 15 gallons of water? With 60 gallons of water?
   
   5 minutes, 20 minutes

   c. What are the coordinates of point A? Describe point A in the context of the problem.
   
   (30, 10) If there is 30 gallons of water then a person can shower for 10 minutes.

   d. Can you use the graph to identify the unit rate?
   
   Since the graph is a line that passes through (0, 0) and (1, r), you can take a point on the graph, such as (15, 5) and get $\frac{1}{3}$.

   e. Plot the unit rate on the graph. Is the point on the line of this relationship?
   
   Yes the unit rate is a point on the graph of the relationship.

   f. Write the equation to represent the relationship between the number of gallons used and the length of a shower.
   
   $m = \frac{1}{3}g$ where $m$ is minutes and $g$ is gallons

2. Your friend uses the equation $C = 50P$ to find the total cost of $P$ people entering the local Amusement Park.

   a. Create a table and record the cost of entering the amusement park for several different-sized groups of people.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>P</th>
<th>C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   b. Is the cost of admission proportional to the amount of people entering the Amusement Park? Why or why not?
   
   Yes, because there exists a constant = 50 such that each measure of the amount of people multiplied by the constant gives the corresponding measures of cost.
c. What is the unit rate and what does it represent in the context of the situation?
   
   $50, 1$ person costs $50$

  d. Sketch a graph to represent this relationship.

  ![Graph](image)

  e. What point(s) MUST be on the graph of the line if the two quantities represented are proportional to each other? Explain why and describe this point in the context of the problem.

   $(0, 0), (1, 50)$.

   If $0$ people enter the park then the cost would be $0$.
   If $1$ person enters the park the cost would be $50$

   *For every $1$-unit increase along the horizontal axis, the change in the vertical distance is $50$ units.*

  f. Would the point $(5, 250)$ be on the graph? What does this point represent in the context of the situation?

   It would cost a total of $250$ for $5$ people to enter an Amusement Park.

Closing (5 minutes)

- What points are always on the graph of two quantities that are proportional to each other?
  - The points $(0,0)$ and $(1, r)$ where $r$ is the unit rate, are always on the graph.

- How can you use the unit rate to create a table, equation, or graph of a relationship of two quantities that are proportional to each other?
  - In a table you can multiply each $x$ value by the unit rate to obtain the corresponding $y$-value or you can divide every $y$ value by the unit rate to obtain the corresponding $x$-value. In an equation you can use the equation $y = kx$ and replace the $k$ with the value of the unit rate. In a graph the point $(1, r)$ and $(0,0)$ must be on the straight line of the proportional relationship.

- How can you identify the unit rate from a table, equation, or graph?
  - From a table, you can divide each $y$ value by the corresponding $x$ value. If the ratio $y/x$ is equivalent for the entire table then the ratio $y/x$ is the unit rate and the relationship is proportional. In an equation in the form $y = kx$, the unit rate is the number represented by the $k$. If a graph of a straight line that passes through the origin and contains the point $(1, r)$, $r$ representing the unit rate, then the relationship is proportional.

- How do you determine the meaning of any point on a graph that represents two quantities that are proportional to each other?
  - Any point $(A, B)$ on a graph that represents a proportional relationship represents a number $A$ corresponding to the $x$-axis or horizontal unit and $B$ corresponds to the $y$-axis or vertical unit.
Lesson Summary:

The points \((0, 0)\) and \((1, r)\), where \(r\) is the unit rate, will always fall on the line representing two quantities that are proportional to each other.

The unit rate \(r\) in the point \((1, r)\) represents the amount of vertical increase for every horizontal increase of 1 unit on the graph.

The point \((0, 0)\) indicates that when there is zero amount of one quantity, there will also be zero amount of the second quantity.

These two points may not always be given as part of the set of data for a given real-world or mathematical situation, but they will always fall on the line that passes through the given data points.

Exit Ticket (5 minutes)
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Exit Ticket

Great Rapids White Watering Company rents rafts for $125 per hour. Explain why the point (0,0) and (1,125) are on the graph of the relationship and what these points mean in the context of the problem.
Exit Ticket Sample Solutions

The following responses indicate an understanding of the objectives of this lesson:

Great Rapids White Watering Company rents rafts for $125 per hour. Explain why the point (0,0) and (1,125) are on the graph of the relationship and what these points mean in the context of the problem.

Every graph of a proportional relationship must include the points (0,0) and (1, r). The point (0,0) is on the graph because 0 can be multiplied y constant to get the corresponding value of 0. The point (1, 125) is on the graph because it is the unit rate. On the graph for every 1 unit change on the horizontal axis the vertical axis will change by 125 units. The point (0, 0) means 0 hours of renting a raft would cost $0 and (1, 125) means 1 hour of renting the raft would cost $125.

Problem Set Sample Solutions

The problem set requires students to have a full understanding of proportional relationships, their tables, equations and graphs. Within each problem students are given the information in a different format, sometimes table, equation or graph and students have to connect unit rate and other points to the equation and graph.

1. The graph to the right shows the distance (ft) run by a Jaguar.
   a. What does the point (5, 280) represent in the context of the situation?
      In 5 seconds, a jaguar can run 280 feet.
   b. What does the point (3,174) represent in the context of the situation?
      A jaguar can run 174 feet in 3 hours.
   c. Is the distance run by the Jaguar proportional to the time? Why or why not?
      Yes, because it is a straight line that passes through the origin (0,0)
   d. Write an equation to represent the distance ran by the Jaguar. Explain or model your reasoning.
      \[y = 58x\]

2. Championship T-shirts sell for $22 each.
   a. What point(s) MUST be on the graph for the quantities to be proportional to each other?
      (0, 0), (1, 22)
   b. What does the ordered pair (5, 110) represent in the context of this problem?
      5 T-shirts would cost $110
   c. How many T-shirts were sold if you spent a total of $88?
      \[4; \frac{88}{22} = 4\]
3. The following graph represents the total cost of renting a car. The cost of renting a car is a fixed amount each day, regardless of how many miles the car is driven. It doesn't matter how many miles you drive, you just pay an amount per day.

   a. What does the ordered pair (4, 250) represent?
      *It would cost $250 to rent a car for 4 days.*
   b. What would be the cost to rent the car for a week? Explain or model your reasoning.
      *Since the unit rate is 62.5, the cost for a week would be 62.5(7) = 437.50*

4. Jackie is making a snack mix for a party. She is using M&M’s and peanuts. The table below shows how many packages of M&M’s she needs to how many cans of peanuts she needs to make the mix.

   a. What points MUST be on the graph for the number of cans of peanuts to be proportional to the packages of M&M’s? Explain why.
      *(0,0) (1,2), All graphs of proportional relationships are straight lines that pass through the origin (0,0) and the unit rate (1,r)*
   b. Write an equation to represent this relationship.
      \[ y = 2x \]
   c. Describe the ordered pair (12, 24) in the context of the problem.
      *In the mixture you will need 12 packages of M&M’s to 24 cans of peanuts*

5. The following table shows the amount of candy and price paid.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount of Candy (pounds)</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cost (Dollars)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>12.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   a. Is the cost of candy proportional to the amount of candy?
      *Yes, because there exists a constant = 2.5 such that each measure of the amount of candy multiplied by the constant gives the corresponding measure of cost.*
   b. Write an equation to illustrate the relationship between the amount of candy and the cost.
      \[ y = 2.5x \]
   c. Using the equation, predict how much it will cost for 12 pounds of candy?
      \[ 2.5(12) = 30 \]
   d. What is the maximum amount of candy you can buy with $60?
      \[ 60 / 2.5 = 24 \text{ pounds} \]
   e. Graph the relationship