

Functions

Functions are mathematical models that connect one piece of information with another.

For example,

Which of the following relationships could be described with a function?

Graph Goggles

graphical

Sometimes functions are depicted as solid objects, but there is an important subtlety to that metaphor:

These goggles are good for seeing:

These goggles are bad for seeing:

Formula Goggles

analytical

These goggles are good for seeing:

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 9}{x + 3}$$

These goggles are bad for seeing:

Bubble Goggles

(or Point Goggles)

numerical

These goggles are good for seeing:

These goggles are bad for seeing: