## Positive and Negative Slope:

When given the graph of a line, you can tell whether or not it's slope is positive or negative without knowing what the slope actually is. You can tell by simply looking at the line! Here's how:


Examples: Decide whether or not each line has a positive or negative slope.




### 4.7 Linear Functions

## Function Notation

When an equation is used to represent a function, it is convenient to name the function so that it can be referred to easily. $\quad f(x)$ and $y$ are the same thing! $f(x)$ is another name for y and is read " f of x "

It DOES NOT mean f times $\mathrm{x}!!\quad$ These 2 things are EXACTLY the same:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& y=3 x-1 \\
& f(x)=3 x-1 \quad \leftarrow \text { Function notation }
\end{aligned}
$$

Evaluate $2 x^{2}-1$ when $x=-1$
Evaluate $f(-1)$ if $f(x)=2 x^{2}-1$

## Finding the $x$ value of a function:

| Steps: | Example: Find the value of x for the function <br> $f(x)=2 x-10$ so that $f(x)=6$ |
| :---: | :--- |
| 1. | 1. |
| 2. | 2. |
| 3. | 3. |

## Examples:

a. For the function $f(x)=2 x-10$, find the value of x so that $f(x)=6$.
b. For the function $g(x)=3 x^{2}+1$, find the value of x so that $g(x)=-2$

## Evaluating a Function given an x value:

| Steps: | Example: Evaluate $f(3)$ for the function $f(x)=5 x+17$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| 1. | 1. |
| 2. | 2. |
| 3. | 3. |

Examples: Let $g(x)=-x^{2}+4 x+1$. Find each function value.
d. $g(2)$
e. $g(-1)$

