

MORE LINEAR MODELS

THE CANDY PROBLEM



1. At your favorite candy store, you can buy 30-ounce bags of a certain kind of candy for \$1.83 and 20-ounce bags for \$1.57. Assume that the cost of the candy varies linearly with the number of ounces.

Define the variables:

$$x = \# \text{ of oz of candy}$$

$$y = \text{cost}$$

Set-up the ordered pairs

$$(30, 1.83)$$

$$(20, 1.57)$$

- a. Write the particular equation, expressing cost in terms of ounces.

$$m = \frac{1.83 - 1.57}{30 - 20} = \frac{.26}{10} = .026$$

$$y - 1.57 = .026(x - 20)$$

$$y - 1.57 = .026x - .52$$

$$y = .026x + 1.05$$

- b. You saw a 45-ounce bag that cost \$2.49. Is the bag over-priced or under-priced? EXPLAIN.

$$x = 45$$

$$y = .026(45) + 1.05$$

$$y = 2.22$$

A 45 oz bag should cost only \$2.22, so it is over-priced!

- c. Suppose a "snack-sized" bag was priced at \$1.25. How many ounces of candy would you expect to get?

$$1.25 = .026x + 1.05$$

$$.20 = .026x$$

$$x = 7.69$$

About 7.7 oz of candy.

- d. What are the units of slope? What does the number mean in the real world?

$$\frac{\text{price}}{\# \text{ of oz}}$$

→ This is the amount you pay (\$.026 or 2.6¢) for every additional ounce of candy.

e. Find the intercepts and tell what they mean in the real world.

x int: let $y=0$

$$y = .026x + 1.05$$

$$0 = .026x + 1.05$$

$$x = -40.38 \quad (-40.38, 0)$$

At -40.38 oz of candy, I pay \$0. This makes no sense in the real world. It is irrelevant.

y int: let $x=0$

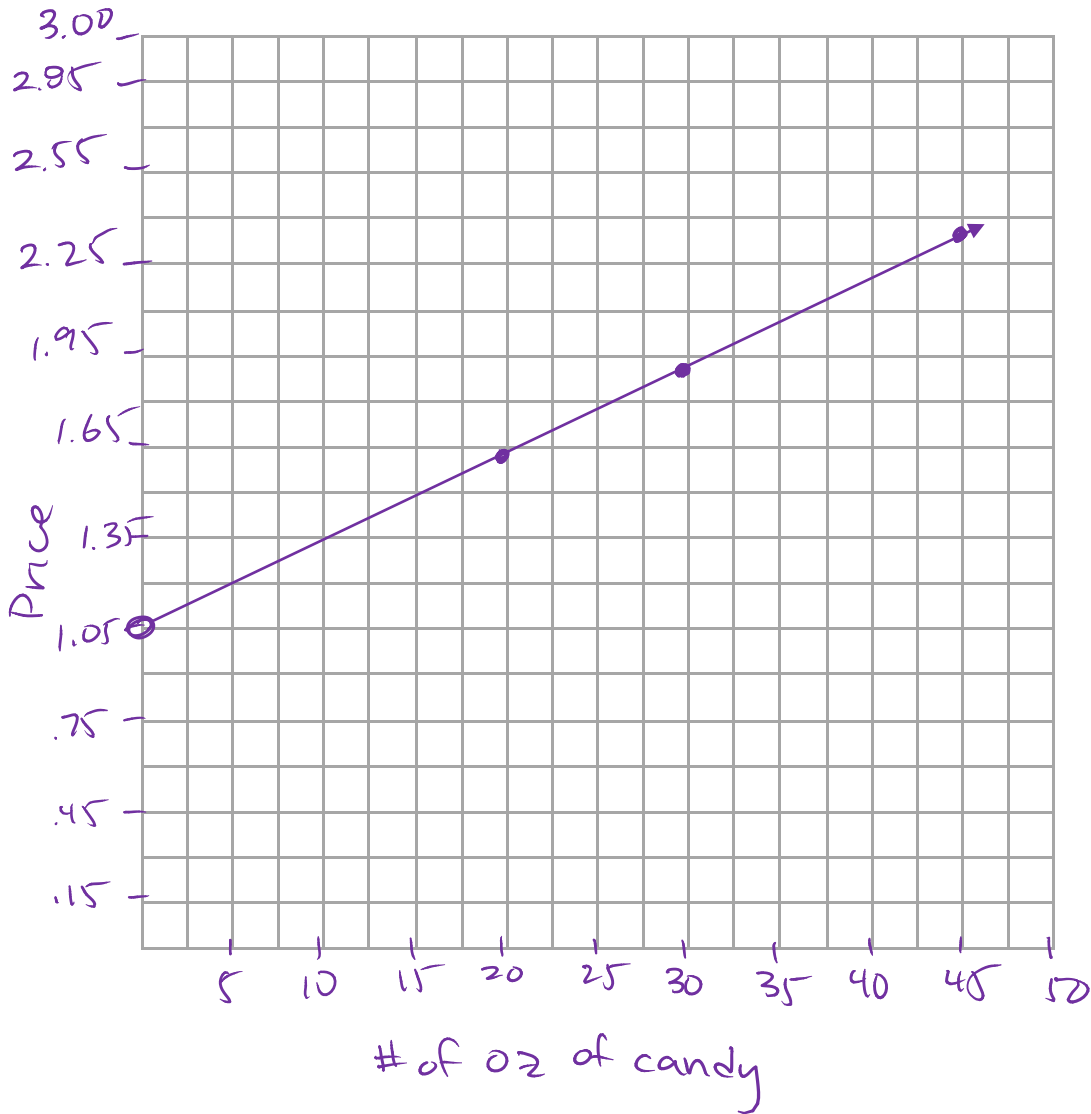
$$y = .026(0) + 1.05$$

$$y = 1.05$$

$$(0, 1.05)$$

At 0 oz, you pay \$1.05. So it's probably the cost of packaging.

f. Sketch a graph of this linear function.



$$(0, 1.05)$$

$$(45, 2.22)$$

$$(20, 1.53)$$

$$(30, 1.87)$$