

Problem 2.3 – Solving Linear Equations

Sandy's Boat House rents canoes. The equation $c = 0.15t + 2.50$ gives the charge (c) in dollars for renting a canoe for (t) minutes.

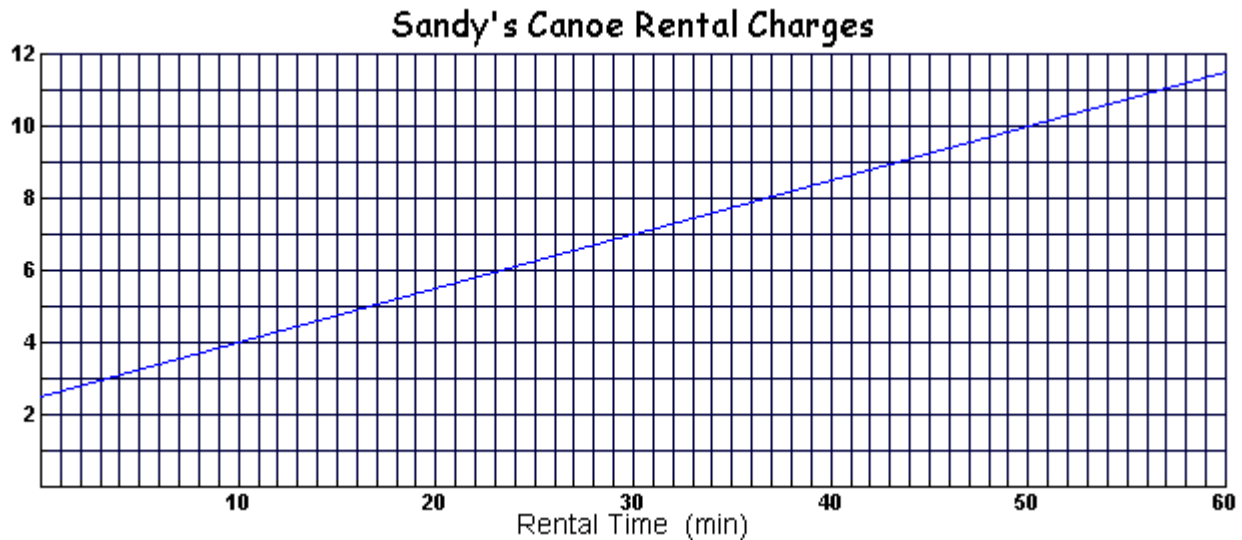
- Explain what the numbers in the equation tell you about the situation.
- Rashida and Serena apply for jobs at Sandy's. The manager tests them with three questions.



- 1.) What is the charge for renting a canoe for **30 minutes**?
- 2.) A customer is charged **\$8.50**. How long did he use the canoe?
- 3.) A customer has **\$10** to spend. How long can she use the canoe?

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- A. Rashida uses a graph of $c = 0.15t + 2.50$. Explain how to use the **graph** to estimate the answers to the manager's questions.



- B. Rashida could use a table instead of a graph. Explain how to use a **table** to estimate answers to the questions.
- C. Serena wants to find the exact answers, not estimates. For the second question, she solves the linear equation $0.15t + 2.50 = 8.50$. She reasons as follows:

- If $0.15t + 2.50 = 8.50$, then $0.15t = 6.00$
- If $0.15t = 6.00$, then $t = 40$
- I check my answer by substituting 40 for t :

$$0.15(40) + 2.50 = 8.50$$

$$6.00 + 2.50 = 8.50$$

$$8.50 = 8.50$$

Is Serena's work correct? How do you know?

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D. For the third question, Rashida says, “She can use the canoe for 50 minutes if she has \$10.” Serena says there are other possibilities. For example, 45 minutes or 30 minutes. She says you can answer the question by solving the **inequality**: $0.15t + 2.50 \leq 10$. This represents the times for which the rental charge is *at most* \$10.

1. Use a **table** to find all of the times for which the inequality is true.
2. Use a **graph** to find all of the times for which the inequality is true.
3. Use an **equation** to find all of the times for which the inequality is true.
4. Express the solution as an **inequality**.

E. River Fun Paddle Boats competes with Sandy’s. The equation $c = 4 + 0.10t$ gives the charge (c) in dollars for renting a paddle boat for (t) minutes.

1. A customer at River Fun is charged **\$9**. How long did the customer use a paddle boat? What was your strategy?
2. Suppose you want to spend **\$12 at most**. How long could you use a paddle boat? Explain your strategy.
3. What is the charge to rent a paddle boat for **20 minutes**? What was your strategy?