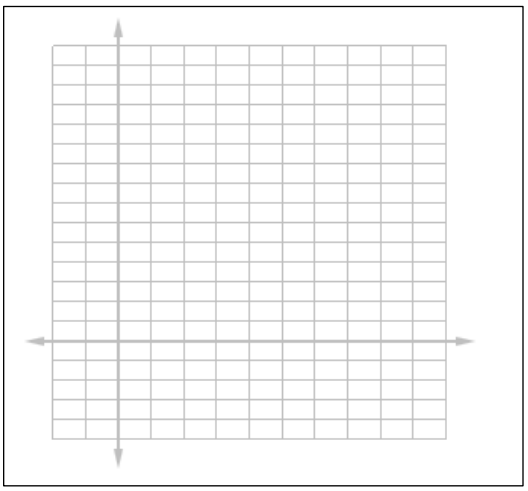
Connecting Sequences to Linear Functions

The following is the explicit formula of a sequence: $f(n) = 3n - 1$

What does n represent?

What does f(n) represent?

What does the 3 present?



Find the 1st 5 terms and graph the sequence $f(n) = 3n - 1$

n	f(n)
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

What part of the equation represents the vertical movement from point to point on the graph?

A linear function can have the following form: $y = mx + b$. Here is an example: $y = 3x - 1$

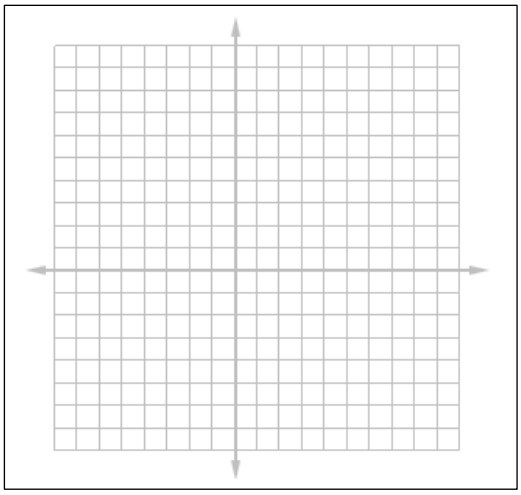
How are the explicit formula and linear equations similar? Here they are one more time:

$$f(n) = 3n - 1$$
$$y = 3x - 1$$

How are they different?

Now graph $y = 3x - 1$ by completing the table below first.

x	y
0	
1	
2	
3	
4	



How are the two graphs the same?

How are they different?

What does the constant (- 1 or minus 1) represent on the 2nd graph?