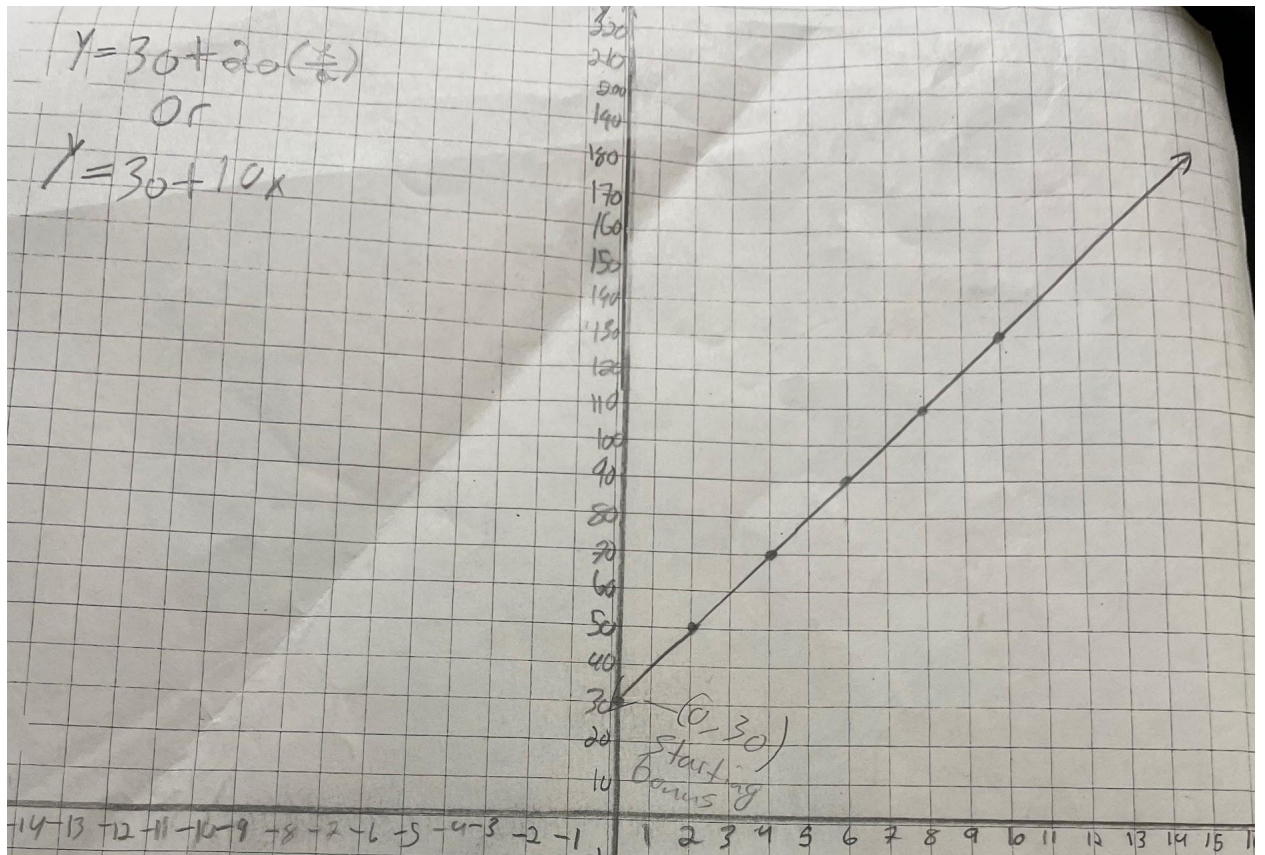Jamie Needs a Job

By Oscar Bennett

Band D

Jamie is an average 15 year old desperate for money. His parents are always on his case about getting a job and he gets very annoyed. Jamie would always ask for money and his parents had enough. They got into a huge argument. This caused him to decide to look for jobs. He spends the next two weeks searching for jobs. He applied for a couple, but they turned him down due to "his lack of experience." Jamie was pissed off about this. His parents were even more concerned. They were really disappointed and fed up with him.

One day Jamie went onto his computer and went to search for jobs one more time. This time however he set his mind to actually finding one. He was determined to find one perfect for him. However, every place he took an interview declined him. That's when he realized he needs to start small and work his way up. He finally got a job mowing the lawn for an elderly person named Evelin who lives in his neighborhood. Jamie thinks this is the perfect start to making money. His goal is to make 200 dollars for this job. Jamie and Evelin agreed he would mow the lawn every 2 weeks getting $20 each time. They also agreed to a 30 dollar starting bonus.

$Y = 30 + 20\left(\frac{x}{6}\right)$

or

$Y = 30 + 10x$

(0,30)
starting
bonus

Jamie mows
lawns!

Y = amount of weeks
X = amount of money

320
260
200
190
180
170
160
150
140
130
120
110
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
-10
-20
-30
-40
-50
-60
-70
-80
-90
-100
-110
-120
-130
-140
-150
-160
-170
-180

-14 -13 -12 -11 -10 -9 -8 -7 -6 -5 -4 -3 -2 -1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

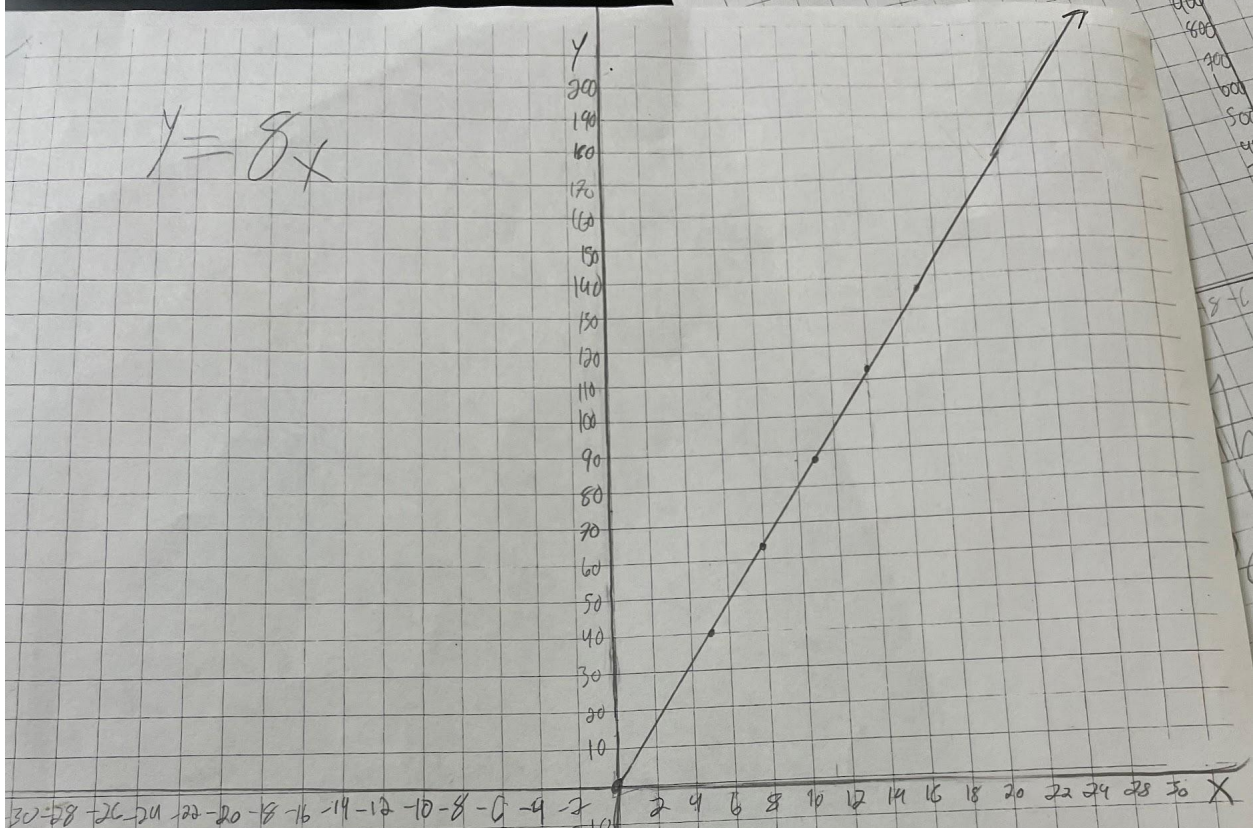| Independent Variable (x) - # weeks he works	Calculations	Dependent Variable (y) - amount of money ($)
2	$30 + 20\left(\frac{2}{2}\right)$	50
4	$30 + 20\left(\frac{4}{2}\right)$	70
6	$30 + 20\left(\frac{6}{2}\right)$	90
8	$30 + 20\left(\frac{8}{2}\right)$	110
10	$30 + 20\left(\frac{10}{2}\right)$	130

The slope is $20 every two weeks, or $10 per week. This represents the amount of money he gets every two weeks (or each week). The y-intercept is 30 dollars because this represents the starting amount of money he gets. The equation to represent this situation is: $y = 30 + 20\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)$, or $y = 30 + 10x$

Jamie did not make as much money as he wanted to before Evelin let him go. She claimed she didn't need lawn mowing anymore. This angered Jamie so he decided to try and go for a little more extreme job. Jamie again applied for a couple of jobs at restaurants. This time he was rejected again. Jamie, now frustrated, applied to the job he really wanted again. Again they didn't want him. Now Jamie was mad. He didn't know what to do. He thought to himself maybe I should keep trying for the job I want. Jamie applied again and practiced his interview. He looked nice. He was ready. The day of the interview he took a cab down to the restaurant and went for the interview. To his surprise, he got the job as a cook. Jamie is starting in two weeks and he's thrilled. He rushed home to tell his parents about the job. They congratulated him and told him to stick with the job.

Two weeks later, Jamie goes to his new job excited and ready to cook. When he gets there, he remembers that he doesn't know how to cook. Now he realizes he might ruin his one shot. Jamie panics as he arrives at the job. He is greeted with an apron and cooking tools. The head chef tells him to start by cooking some eggs. Jamie thought, "this would be easy." He's made eggs before. As he's making the eggs, people are shouting at him about things that he doesn't know. This causes Jamie to panic and burn the eggs. The one easy thing he had to do and he failed. The next day Jamie finds out

he is making 8 dollars an hour. This shocks him. He made more from mowing lawns.

$y = 8x$

Jamie

Starts

to

cook!

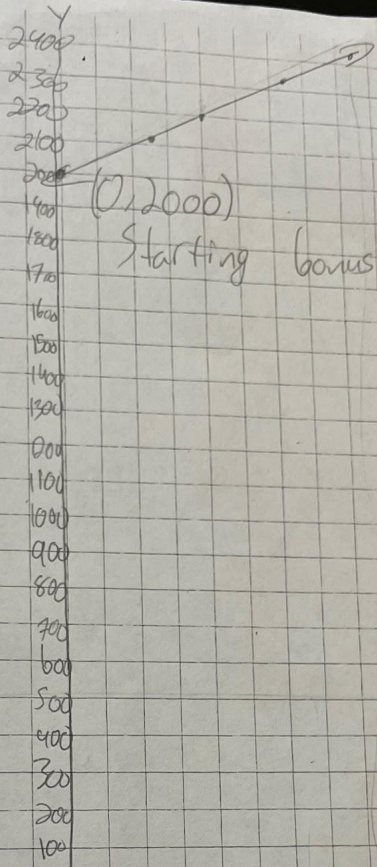$y =$ money made

$X =$ amount of hours

Independent variable (x): the amount of hours	Calculations	Dependent variable (y): the amount of money made ($)
5	8(5)	40
8	8(8)	64
11	8(11)	88
14	8(14)	112
17	8(17)	136

The slope is $8 every hour. This represents the amount of money he gets per hour. The y-intercept is 0 dollars because this represents the starting amount of money he gets. The equation to represent this situation is: $y = 8x$.

When Jamie finds out he makes less from working at the restaurant he is really demotivated. Jamie realized that it doesn't matter how much money he made from that job. He still got the experience from it. This made Jamie ecstatic. He finally could get the job he wanted. He really wanted to teach other kids to cook. He applied for a job as a counselor at a fancy cooking camp. As he went to go to the job interview, he felt butterflies in his stomach. He thought that now that he had some experience, he should be confident about getting the job. A couple of hours later, he got a letter from the cooking camp and to his surprise he got the job. They offered him 24 dollars an hour plus a $2000 starting bonus. Jamie was shocked. This was way more money than the other two jobs.

$Y = 2000$
$+ 24x$

Now That's
good

money

Y
2400
2300
2200
2100
2000
1900
1800
1700
1600
1500
1400
1300
1200
1100
1000
900
800
700
600
500
400
300
200
100

(0,2000)
Starting bonus

-24-22-20-18-16-14-12-10-8-6-4-2 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 26 28 30 32 34 X

-100
-200
-300
-400
-500
-600
-700
-800
-900
-1000

$Y =$ money made
$X =$ hours worked

Independent variable: amount of hours he works	Calculations	Dependent: total money made ($)
5	$2000 + 24(5)$	2120
10	$2000 + 24(10)$	2240
13	$2000 + 24(13)$	2312
15	$2000 + 24(15)$	2360
17	$2000 + 24(17)$	2408

The slope is $24. This represents the amount of money he gets every hour. The y-intercept is 2000 dollars because this represents the starting amount of money he gets. The equation to represent this situation is: $y = 2000 + 24x$.

Jamie sticks with his job for months. He loves it and it pays well. His dream was always to do something he loved while also being able to make good money. His parents are finally proud of his work. He is proud of who he became.