Grade 8 Smarter Balanced Assessment Item Specifications Fact Sheet

Claim 1 - Target C: Understand the connections between proportional relationships, lines, and linear equations.

Content Domain: Expressions and Equations

Claim 1 Priority Cluster

Standards Assessed in Target C:

8.EE.5: Graph proportional relationships, interpreting the unit rate as the slope of the graph. Compare two different proportional relationships represented in different ways.

8.EE.6: Use similar triangles to explain why the slope m is the same between any two distinct points on a non-vertical line in the coordinate plane; derive the equation y = mx for a line through the origin and the equation y = mx + b for a line intercepting the vertical axis at b.

Achievement Level Descriptors

Level 1	Students should be able to graph a proportional relationship on a coordinate plane.
Level 2	Students should be able to compare two different proportional relationships represented in different ways. They should also be able to calculate the slope of a line and identify the <i>y</i> -intercept of a line.
Level 3	Students should understand that slope is a unit rate of change in a proportional relationship, and convert proportional relationships to linear equations in slope-intercept form while also understanding when and why the y-intercept is zero. They should also be able to use repeated reasoning to observe that they can use any right triangle to find the slope of a line.
Level 4	Students should be able to use similar triangles to explain why the slope is the same between any two distinct points on a non-vertical line in a coordinate plane.

Construct-Relevant Vocabulary

coordinate plane, ordered pairs, origin, proportional relationship, similar triangles, slope, unit rate, y-intercept

Allowable Stimulus Materials

graphs, tables, equations, verbal descriptions

Allowable Tools

None.