

Name:

Date:

Thinking with models _ Linear Functions

Investigation Task: Ice Cream

Assessment Criterion: B and C

Criterion B: Investigating patterns

Level	Identify the Pattern	Find the Rule ($y = mx + c$)	Verify the Rule	Justify the Rule	Sample Student Response
1–2	Recognises that values change but does not clearly describe how.	Writes an incorrect or unclear rule. m and c are missing or incorrect.	Little or no verification shown.	Gives a vague statement with no clear reasoning.	“The cost goes up when more ice creams are made. I think the rule is $y = x + 50$.”
3–4	Identifies a simple pattern but explanation lacks detail.	Writes a partially correct rule with minor errors.	Checks one value with limited working.	Gives a basic explanation with weak context links.	“The cost increases by 30 for every 10 ice creams. The rule is $y = 3x + 50$. I checked it for 20 ice creams.”
5–6	Correctly identifies a constant rate of change and explains it clearly.	Writes a correct linear rule consistent with the data.	Verifies the rule using more than one value with clear calculations.	Explains what m and c mean in the ice cream context.	“The pattern shows the cost increases by \$3 per ice cream. The rule is $y = 3x + 50$. When $x = 20$ and 40, the equation gives the same values as the table.”
7–8	Clearly identifies and explains the pattern using precise mathematical language.	Constructs an accurate general rule fully consistent with all findings.	Thoroughly verifies the rule using multiple substitutions and logical working.	Fully justifies the rule using mathematical reasoning and real-life interpretation.	“There is a constant rate of change of 3, representing the cost per ice cream, and a fixed cost of 50. The model $y = 3x + 50$ fits all data values. Substituting multiple x -values confirms the rule, and a linear model is justified because both costs remain constant.”

Criterion C: Communicating

Achievement Level	Rubric Descriptor (According to Task)	Sample Student Response
1–2	Uses very limited mathematical language. Representations (table, equation, explanation) are missing or incorrect. Reasoning is unclear and work is poorly organized.	“The cost goes up when ice creams increase. I used a formula but I am not sure if it is correct.”
3–4	Uses some appropriate mathematical language and one form of representation. Attempts to explain thinking but reasoning is basic and not well connected. Organization is inconsistent.	“The cost increases by 30 for every 10 ice creams. I used the equation $y = 3x + 50$ and checked it for one value.”
5–6	Uses correct mathematical language and appropriate representations (table and equation). Moves between representations with clear links. Reasoning is mostly clear and logically organized.	“From the table, the cost increases by \$3 per ice cream. I wrote the rule $y = 3x + 50$ and verified it using two values from the table.”
7–8	Uses precise mathematical language and multiple appropriate representations. Clearly moves between representations and communicates a complete, coherent, and concise line of reasoning with logical structure.	“The relationship is linear with a constant rate of change of 3 and a fixed cost of 50. Using the table and the equation $y = 3x + 50$, I verified several values and clearly explained the pattern, rule, and justification.”