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## Reporting Category 2 Notes (A.2.B)

A function is a set of ordered pairs $(x, y)$, such that no $x$-values are repeated. The domain and range of a function are sets that describe those ordered pairs.

|  | Definition | Example <br> $\{(0,1),(2,6),(3,5)\}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Domain | All the $x$-coordinates in the <br> function's ordered pairs. | $\{0,2,3\}$ |
| Range | All the $y$-coordinates in the <br> function's ordered pairs. | $\{1,5,6\}$ |

- The domain is the set of all the values of the independent variable, the $x$-coordinate.
- The range is the set of all the values of the dependent variable, the $y$-coordinate.

The domain and range of algebraic functions are usually assumed to be the set of all real numbers. In some cases, however, the domain or range of a function may be a subset of the real numbers because certain numbers would not make sense in a real-life problem situation.

The number of shoes in $n$ pairs of shoes can be expresses by the function $s=2 n$. Are there any values that would not be reasonable to include in the domain or range of this function?

- The domain of this function is the set of values you may choose for $n$, the independent variable. Would it be reasonable to let $n=-2$ ? No. The variable $n$ represents a number of pairs of shoes, so it must be a nonnegative integer. The domain is the set of nonnegative integers, $\{0,1,2,3, \ldots\}$.
- The range of this function is the set of values you will obtain for the dependent variable, $s$, the number of shoes in $n$ pairs of shoes. Is it possible to get 5 as a value for $s$ ? No, 5 is not a reasonable value for the range of this function. Since 1 pair of shoes has 2 shoes, 2 pairs of shoes have 4 shoes, and so on, the range of this function is the set of multiples of 2 or $\{0,2,4,6, \ldots\}$.

