

Smarter Balanced Assessment Item Illustrating 7.RP.A.2c

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The school bus driver follows the same route to pick students up in the morning and to drop them off in the afternoon. Because of traffic, the afternoon drive takes 1.5 times as long as the morning drive.

Enter an equation that represents the relationship between the number of minutes x , of the morning drive, to the **total** number of minutes, y , that the bus driver spends picking up and dropping off students each day.

Answer Key

$$y=2.5x$$

Elaboration on Alignment

Standard 7.RP.A.2 requires students to recognize and represent proportional relationships, with 7.RP.A.2c specifically calling for students to write equations to represent proportional relationships. The item shown here requires students not only to recognize the relationship as proportional, but to carefully consider which quantities they are expressing the relationship between. Problems like this one are carefully crafted to ensure that students must make sense of the problem as required by MP.1 and cannot simply extract values from the given scenario to generate a familiar looking equation.

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