

# Using Expressions to Describe Patterns

You can write an expression to describe the pattern in an input/output table.

Look at the first input and output values in the table.

**Ask Yourself:** What do I need to do to the input 11 to get the output 5?

You might need to add, subtract, multiply, divide, or perform more than one operation.

In this table, you can subtract 6 from 11 to get 5.

Check the input and output values for 12 and 13.

$$11 - 6 = 5$$

$$12 - 6 = 6$$

The pattern is true for all of the values in the table. So, the pattern is subtract 6.

You can write the expression  $x - 6$  to describe the pattern.

Substitute input values for the variable  $x$  to get the output values.

Find the output values for 15 and 20. \_\_\_\_\_

INPUT	OUTPUT
11	5
12	6
13	7
15	★
20	★

The input/output table shows how much Jake pays for toys. Use the input/output table for **1–4**.

- If Jake buys 12 toys, what is the cost? \_\_\_\_\_
- If Jake pays \$45, how many toys did he buy? \_\_\_\_\_
- Write an expression to describe the output pattern if the input is the variable  $t$ . \_\_\_\_\_
- What inputs and outputs should be added to the table for 20 toys? \_\_\_\_\_

INPUT	OUTPUT
6	18
7	21
8	24
9	27

- Writing to Explain** Jessie says that the expression  $2x$  describes the input/output table. Explain why Jessie's expression is correct or incorrect.

INPUT	2	3	4	5
OUTPUT	4	5	6	7

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