Thomas the Tank Engine Takes a Trip

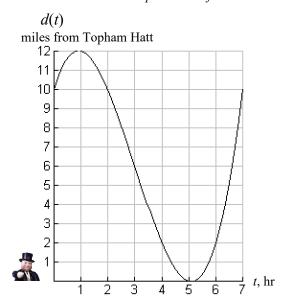


Thomas the Tank Engine is d = f(t) miles from his boss Sir Topham Hatt, where t is given in hours. The graph of d = f(t) is given below for $0 \le t \le 7$. Sketch a line segment to represent the average rate of change $\frac{\Delta d}{\Delta t}$ of f(t) on the graph of d = f(t) for each interval. Interpret what the average rate of change means to Thomas the Tank Engine.



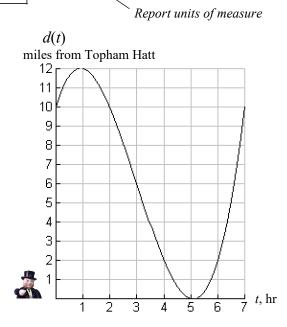
- 1. From t = 3 to t = 7: $\Delta d = ____, \Delta t = _____$
 - a. The average rate of change from t = 3 to t = 7 is $\frac{\Delta d}{\Delta t} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\Delta d}{\Delta t} \right)$

b. Interpret the meaning of $\frac{\Delta d}{\Delta t}$ in terms of his trip.



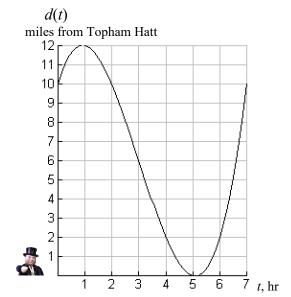
- 2. From t = 0 to t = 7: $\Delta d = ____, \Delta t = _____$
 - a. The average rate of change from t = 0 to t = 7 is $\frac{\Delta d}{\Delta t} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\Delta d}{\Delta t} \right)$

b. Interpret the meaning of $\frac{\Delta d}{\Delta t}$ in terms of his trip.



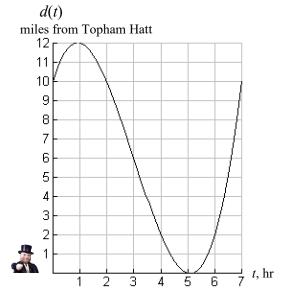
- 3. From t = 3 to t = 5: $\Delta d = ____, \Delta t = _____$
 - a. The average rate of change from t = 3 to t = 4 is $\frac{\Delta d}{\Delta t} =$
 - Report units of measure

b. Interpret the meaning of $\frac{\Delta d}{\Delta t}$ in terms of his trip.



- 4. From t = 3 to t = 4: $\Delta d = ____, \Delta t = _____$
 - a. The average rate of change from t = 3 to t = 4 is $\frac{\Delta d}{\Delta t} = \frac{1}{\Delta t}$

b. Interpret the meaning of $\frac{\Delta d}{\Delta t}$ in terms of his trip.



5. On the interval for $0 \le t \le 7$, use the graph to answer the following questions. Enter whole numbers in the blanks.



- a. When traveling **toward** Sir Topham Hatt, Thomas is speediest at time $t = __$ hr where Thomas is at the mile marker $__$ miles.
- b. When traveling **away** from Sir Topham Hatt, Thomas is speediest at time t =____ hr where Thomas is at the mile marker ____ miles.
- c. Thomas is traveling the slowest at t =____ hr where he is at mile marker(s) ____ miles.
- d. Suppose right before the 7 hour mark a car stalls on the tracks at mile marker 10 when t = 7. Approximate the speed at the instant Thomas hits the car. _____ mph We call this speed the **instantaneous rate of change** or **instantaneous velocity** at t = 7.