

## Writing Equations of Lines

$$Y = mx + b$$

- Given the slope and one point.
- Given two points.



**To write an equation given the slope and one point**

Use  $y = mx + b$  for the equation. Replace  $m$  with the given slope and the coordinates of the given point for  $x$  and  $y$ . Solve the equation for the  $y$ -intercept,  $b$ . Rewrite the equation with the slope for  $m$  and the  $y$ -intercept for  $b$ .



**The slope is 3 and the line passes through the point (5, 16).**

$y = mx + b$       *Use slope-intercept form.*

$y = 3x + b$       *Replace  $m$  with the slope.*

$16 = 3 \cdot 5 + b$       *Replace  $x$  and  $y$ .*

$1 = b$       *Solve for  $b$ .*

$y = 3x + 1$       *Rewrite the equation.*

You try! The slope is 5 and the line passes through (2,3).

**To write an equation  
given two points**

Use the slope formula to calculate  $m$ . Choose any of the two given points to use in place of  $x$  and  $y$  in  $y = mx + b$ . Replace  $m$  with the slope you just calculated. Solve for  $b$ . Rewrite the equation with the slope for  $m$  and the  $y$ -intercept for  $b$ .



You try! The line passes  
through  $(3,5)$  and  $(1,9)$ .

**The line passes through the points  $(10, -4)$  and  $(-7, 13)$ .**

$$m = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} \quad \text{Use the slope formula.}$$

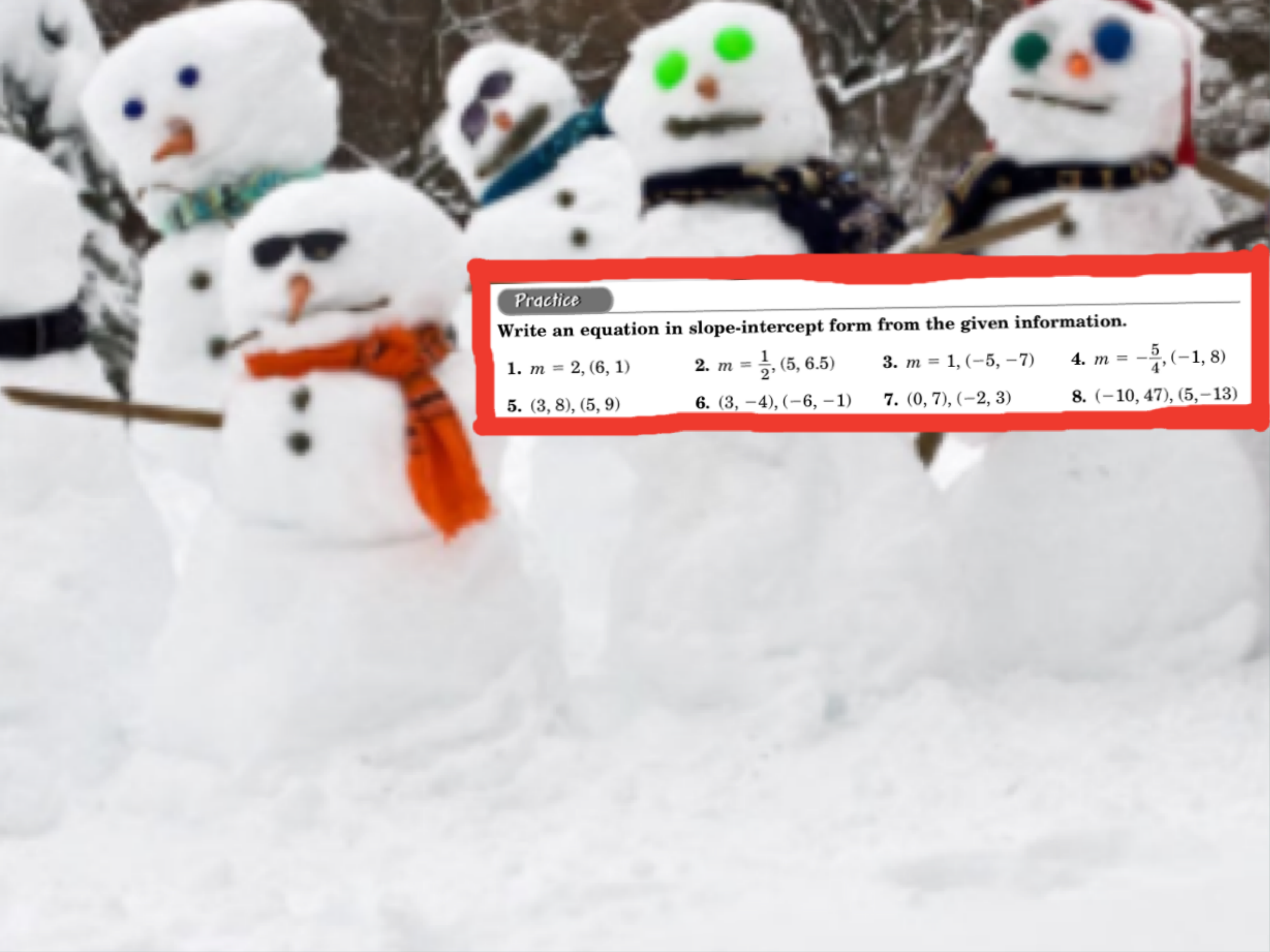
$$m = \frac{13 - (-4)}{-7 - 10} \quad \text{Substitute.}$$

$$m = -1 \quad \text{Solve for } m.$$

$$y = mx + b$$
$$-4 = (-1)10 + b \quad \text{Substitute } m, x, \text{ and } y.$$

$$6 = b \quad \text{Solve for } b.$$

$$y = -x + 6 \quad \text{Rewrite the equation.}$$



*Practice*

Write an equation in slope-intercept form from the given information.

1.  $m = 2, (6, 1)$

2.  $m = \frac{1}{2}, (5, 6.5)$

3.  $m = 1, (-5, -7)$

4.  $m = -\frac{5}{4}, (-1, 8)$

5.  $(3, 8), (5, 9)$

6.  $(3, -4), (-6, -1)$

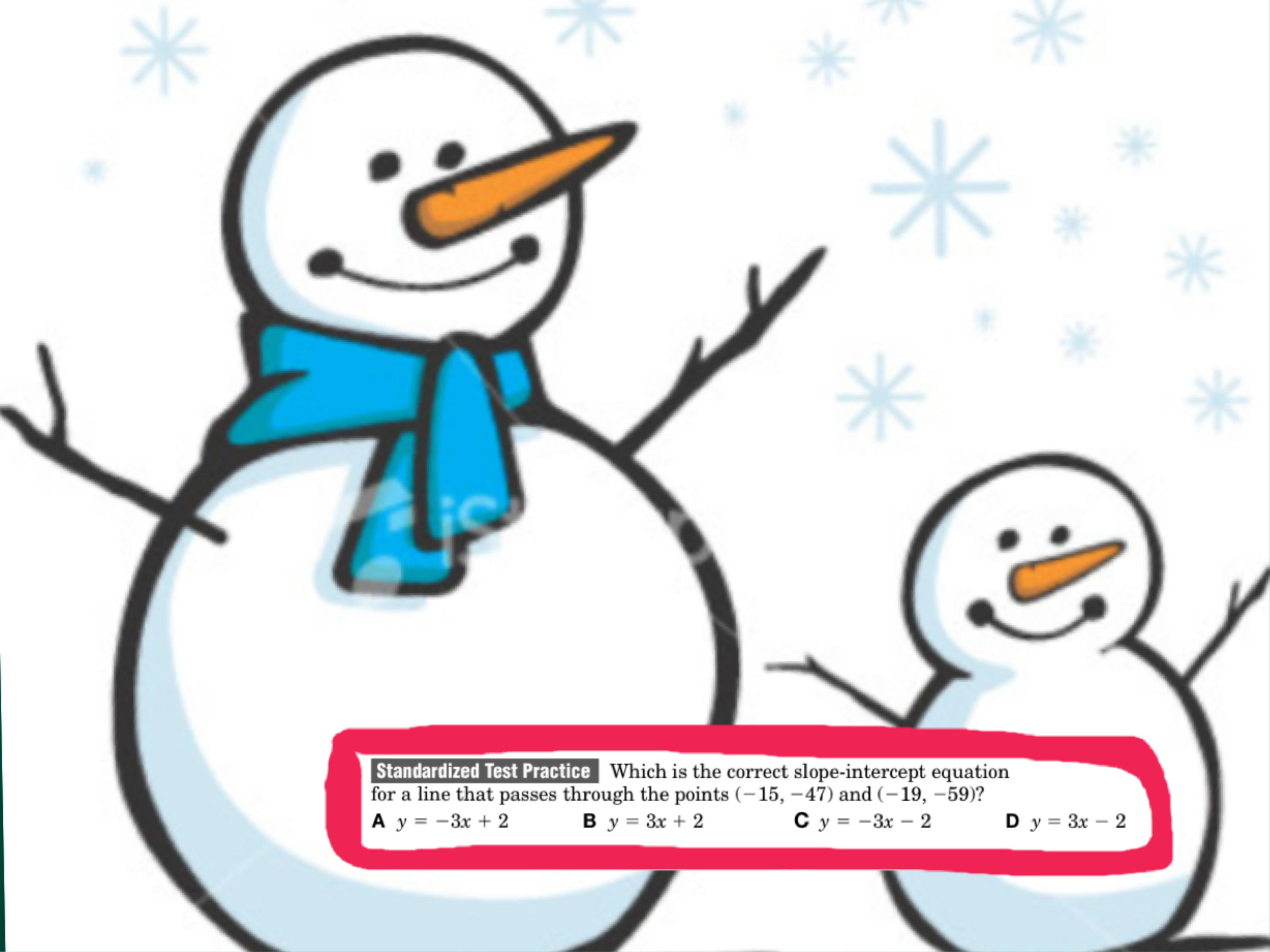
7.  $(0, 7), (-2, 3)$

8.  $(-10, 47), (5, -13)$

Answers: 1.  $y = 2x - 11$  2.  $y = \frac{1}{2}x + 4$  3.  $y = x - 2$  4.  $y = -\frac{5}{4}x + \frac{27}{4}$  5.  $y = \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{13}{2}$  6.  $y = -\frac{1}{3}x - 3$  7.  $y = 2x + 7$   
8.  $y = -4x + 7$  ●

How did you do?





**Standardized Test Practice** Which is the correct slope-intercept equation for a line that passes through the points  $(-15, -47)$  and  $(-19, -59)$ ?

**A**  $y = -3x + 2$

**B**  $y = 3x + 2$

**C**  $y = -3x - 2$

**D**  $y = 3x - 2$

If you chose d you are  
correct!

**Well done!**