3.8 What Does It Mean?

A Solidify Understanding Task



Each of the tables below represents an arithmetic sequence. Find the missing terms in the sequence, showing your method.

X	1	2	3
у	5		11

X	1	2	3	4	5
у	18				-10

	X	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Ì	y	12						-6

Describe your method for finding the missing terms. Will the method always work? How do you know?



Here are a few more arithmetic sequences with missing terms. Complete each table, either using the method you developed previously or by finding a new method.

x 1		2	3	4	
y	50			86	

X	1	2	3	4	5	6
y	40					10

X	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
у	-23							5

The missing terms in an arithmetic sequence are called "arithmetic means". For example, in the problem above, you might say, "Find the 6 arithmetic means between -23 and 5". Describe a method that will work to find arithmetic means and explain why this method works.