## CALCULATING THE SLOPE

Given two points on a line such as $A\left(x_{1}, y_{1}\right)$ and $B\left(x_{2}, y_{2}\right)$, the slope is found by taking the difference of the $y$-coordinates divided by the difference of the $x$ coordinates.
In symbols, the definition looks like this: slope $=\frac{y_{1}-y_{2}}{x_{1}-x_{2}}$.


## example



$$
\text { slope }=\frac{4-2}{8-3}
$$

$$
\text { slope }=\frac{2}{5}=0,4
$$

Lines that are "uphill" (from left to right) have a positive slope, and lines that are "downhill" have a negative slope.


exercise 1 In each case, use the definition to find the slope of the line connecting points $A$ and $B$ :

1) $A(0,1)$ and $B(2,5)$
2) $A(-3,5)$ and $B(7,-2)$
3) $\mathrm{A}(5,1)$ and $\mathrm{B}(-3,-4)$
4) $A(-4,5)$ and $B(-1,2)$
exercise 2 Find the slope of each of the lines shown in the diagrams:




