

## 1 | What is a function?

A function  $f : D \rightarrow C$  is a unary operation that takes every element in the domain  $D$  to exactly one element in the codomain  $C$ .

$f(x) = x^2$  is a function over the domain of reals.

## 2 | A 1:1 function or injective function

A bijective function is a function  $f$  for which there exists a function  $g$  such that  $g(f(x)) = x$  for all  $x \in D$ . For every input, there is exactly one output, and for every output, there is exactly one input.

$f(x) = x^2$  is not a 1:1 function, because both  $-1^2 = 1$  and  $1^2 = 1$ .

## 3 | What is an inverse function

An inverse function  $g : C \rightarrow D$  is a function such that  $g(f(x)) = x$  and  $f(g(x)) = x$

There is no true inverse for  $f(x) = x^2$ , because it is not bijective.

## 4 | How are the graphs related

The graph of an inverse function is reflected about  $y = x$ .