

# What Is Supply?

## Before You Learned

Demand is the willingness to buy a good or service and the ability to pay for it.

## Now You Will Learn

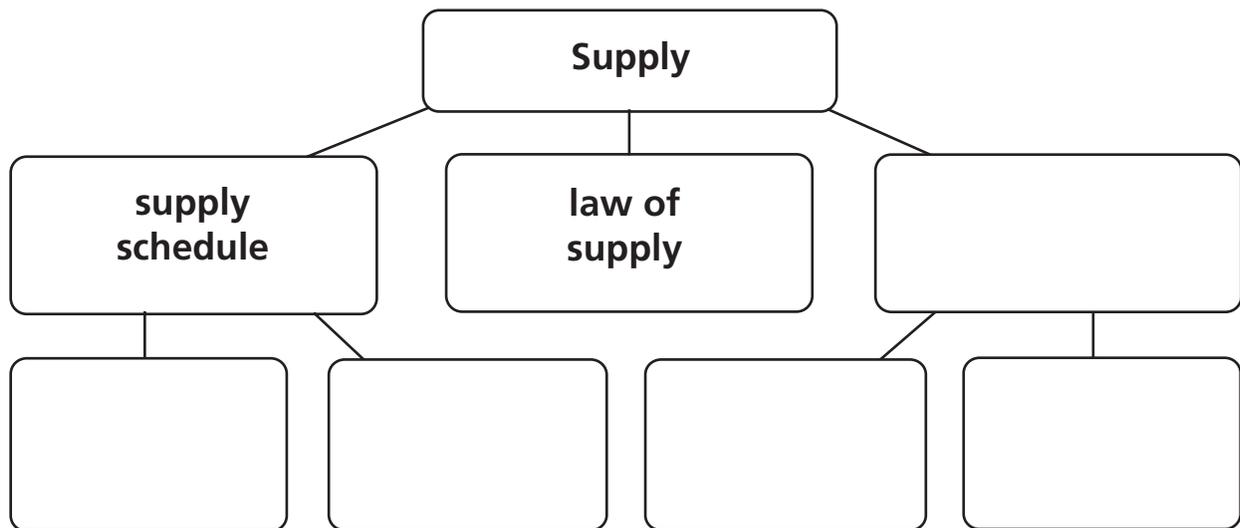
Supply is the willingness and ability of producers to offer goods and services for sale.

## Economic Terms

- **supply:** The willingness and ability of a producer to offer goods or services for sale
- **law of supply:** The law that states that when price goes down, quantity supplied decreases, and when price goes up, quantity supplied increases
- **supply schedule:** A table that shows how much of a good or service one producer is willing and able to offer for sale at a number of different prices
- **market supply curve:** A graph that shows the data from a market supply schedule, which lists data from all producers in a market

## As You Read

Take notes to help you understand supply, the law of supply, supply schedules, and supply curves.



## The Law of Supply

Supply is the willingness and ability of a producer to offer goods and services (or labor) for sale. Anyone who offers his or her time and skills in the labor market is a producer too. Supply depends on price. Producers are willing to sell more of a good or service at a high price and less of a good or service at a low price. This is known as the law of supply. Based on

this law, there is a direct relationship between price and supply.

1. Explain why it makes sense that producers will offer more of a good or service if the price of the good or service is high.

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### Supply Schedules

A two-column table showing how much of a good or service one producer will offer at particular prices is called an individual supply schedule. Such a table for a large group of producers is called a market supply schedule. Individual producers can create their own supply schedules. Both individual supply schedules and market supply schedules show the law of supply: suppliers will offer more of a product at higher prices than at lower prices.

- 2. In terms of quantities, how does an individual supply schedule differ from a market supply schedule?

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### Supply Curves

An individual supply curve is a graph that shows how much of a good or service one producer is willing and able to offer at certain prices. A market supply curve does the same but for all of the producers in a market. To make either type of supply curve, you simply plot data from a supply schedule. On any supply curve, the vertical axis shows the price per unit and the horizontal axis shows the quantity supplied.

A supply curve illustrates the law of supply: when the price of an item goes up, the quantity producers are willing to offer goes up; when the price of an item goes down, the quantity producers are willing to offer also goes down.

- 3. Describe how a supply curve slopes.

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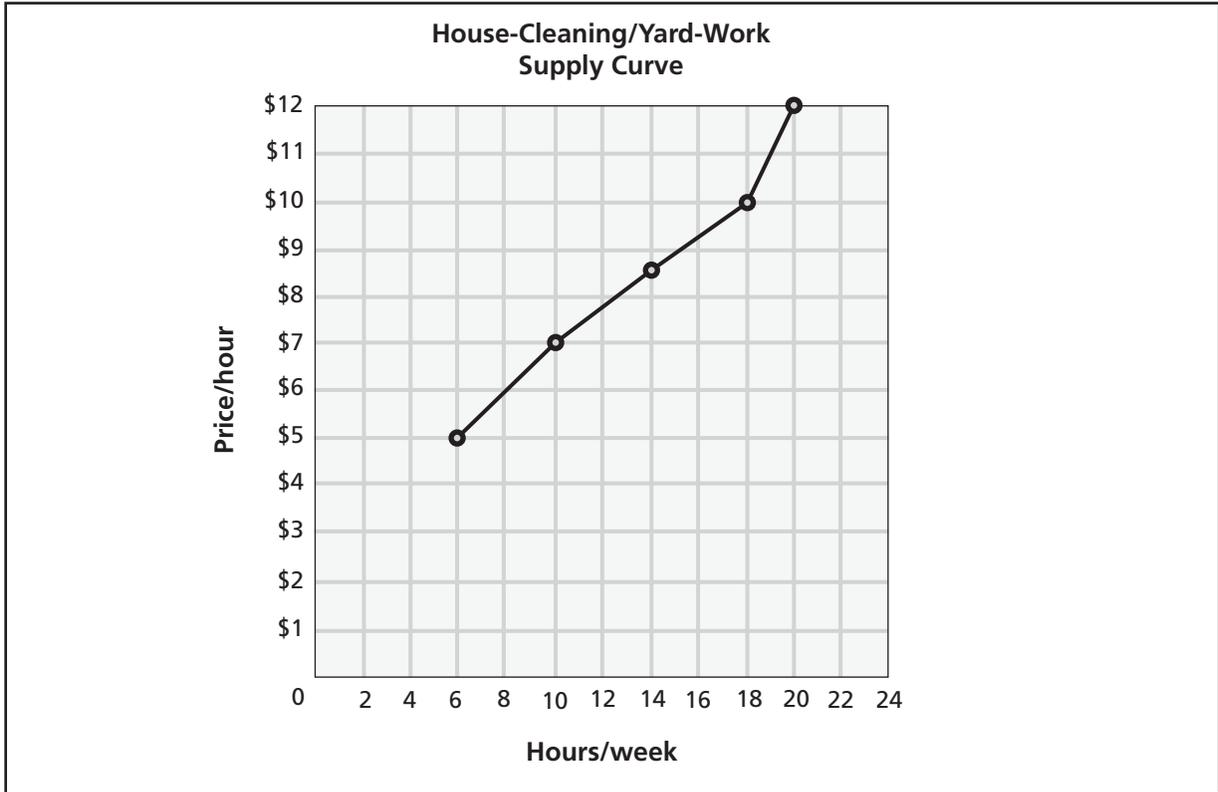
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**APPLICATION**

**Mark It Up!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



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**4. Label** the graph, **identifying** whether it is an individual or a market supply curve. **Explain.**

\_\_\_\_\_

**5. Based on the supply curve, list** the number of hours per week the supplier will offer to clean house or do yard-work at \$5.00 per hour.

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**6. Tell** how the number of hours offered changes if the pay rate goes from \$5.00 per hour to \$8.50 per hour and from \$5.00 per hour to \$10.00 per hour.

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**7. Explain** whether this supply curve illustrates the law of supply or not.

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