1 *Let s be the function such that*

$$s(t) = -t^3 - 4t$$

for every possible real number t. Evaluate $s(-2)$. (Show at least one intermediate step.)

I change every appearance of t to -2 (in parentheses, just in case) and simplify:

$$s(-2) = -(-2)^3 - 4(-2) = -(-8) - (-8) = 8 + 8 = 16.$$

2 *Suppose that*

$$2x + y = 10$$

for every possible real number x. Is there a function that makes y a function of x? (Show what you do to this equation to decide.)

I try to solve for y:

$$2x + y = 10;$$
$$y = -2x + 10.$$

Since there is only one solution (for any given value of x), y **is a function** of x. (Explicitly, $y = f(x)$, where $f(x) = -2x + 10$ for every possible value of x.)