Function Notation 101

f(x), called function notation, is “read f of x.” It does not mean f times x. It is just another way to write y.

For example
\[ y = 3x + 2 \]
is the same as
\[ f(x) = 3x + 2 \]

As ordered pairs
(x,y) is the same as (x,f(x))

Substituting values
Let’s say x=6, in function notation we write this as f(6)
Then in our example f(6)=3(6)+2 =11

Let’s say y=6, in function notation we write this as f(x)=6.
Then in our example 6=3x+2 which means x=4/3

Helpful Links:
http://www.purplemath.com/modules/fcnnot.htm
http://www.onlinemathlearning.com/function-notation.html
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