

Chapter 3 – Quadratic Equations Problem Solving

Name(s): KEY

Date: _____ Per: _____

1) Solve: $-x^2 - 10x - 16 = 0$ by accurately graphing the corresponding function (from vertex form).

$$y = -x^2 - 10x - 16$$

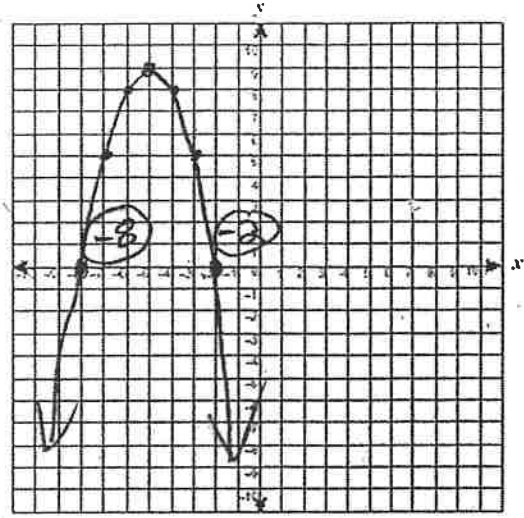
$$y = -\left(x^2 + 10x + 25 - 25\right) - 16$$

$$b = 10, \frac{b}{2} = \frac{10}{2} = \textcircled{5} \text{ save}, 5^2 = \textcircled{25} \text{ use}$$

$$y = -\left(x^2 + 10x + 25\right) + 25 - 16$$

$$y = -\left(x + 5\right)^2 + 9$$

vertex $(-5, 9)$, opens down, reg. count... find x-ints!



ANSWER to 1):
 $x = -8, -2$

2) Solve the equation $2x^2 - 5x - 3 = 0$ by a) factoring.

$a=2$, $b=-5$, $c=-3$
so decomp! $\frac{-b}{a} = \frac{5}{2} = 2\frac{1}{2}$
 $\frac{-6}{-6} + \frac{1}{1} = -5$
 $\frac{-6}{-6} \times \frac{1}{1} = \frac{-6}{(2x-3)}$

$$2x^2 + 1x - 6x - 3 = 0$$

$$x(2x+1) - 3(2x+1) = 0$$

$$(2x+1)(x-3) = 0$$

$$x = -\frac{1}{2}, 3$$

ANSWER:
 $x = -\frac{1}{2}, 3$

b) completing the square

$$2x^2 - 5x - 3 = 0$$

$$2\left(x^2 - \frac{5}{2}x\right) = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$b = -\frac{5}{2}, \frac{b}{2} = \frac{-5}{4} \text{ save}, \left(\frac{-5}{4}\right)^2 = \frac{25}{16} \text{ use}$$

$$\left(x^2 - \frac{5}{2}x + \frac{25}{16}\right) = \frac{3}{2} + \frac{25}{16}$$

$$\left(x - \frac{5}{4}\right)^2 = \frac{24+25}{16}$$

$$\sqrt{\left(x - \frac{5}{4}\right)^2} = \pm\sqrt{\frac{49}{16}}$$

$$x - \frac{5}{4} = \pm\frac{7}{4}$$

pos: $x - \frac{5}{4} = \frac{7}{4} \Rightarrow x = \frac{7}{4} + \frac{5}{4} = \frac{12}{4} = 3$

neg: $x - \frac{5}{4} = -\frac{7}{4} \Rightarrow x = -\frac{7}{4} + \frac{5}{4} = -\frac{2}{4} = -\frac{1}{2}$

ANSWER:
 $x = -\frac{1}{2}, 3$

c) using the quadratic formula

$$2x^2 - 5x - 3 = 0$$

$$a = 2, b = -5, c = -3$$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$x = \frac{-(-5) \pm \sqrt{(-5)^2 - 4(2)(-3)}}{2(2)}$$

$$x = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{25 + 24}}{4}$$

$$x = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{49}}{4}$$

$$x = \frac{5 \pm 7}{4}$$

pos: $x = \frac{5+7}{4} = \frac{12}{4} = 3$

neg: $x = \frac{5-7}{4} = \frac{-2}{4} = -\frac{1}{2}$

ANSWER:
 $x = -\frac{1}{2}, 3$

3) Solve $3x^2 - 4x - 8 = 0$ by completing the square. Leave the answer in exact form.

$+8 \quad +8$

$$3x^2 - 4x = 8$$

$$3\left(x^2 - \frac{4}{3}x\right) = \frac{8}{3}$$

$b = \frac{4}{3}$
 $\frac{b}{2} = \frac{-2}{3}$ save
 $\left(\frac{-2}{3}\right)^2 = \frac{4}{9}$ use

$$\left(x^2 - \frac{4}{3}x + \frac{4}{9}\right) = \frac{8}{3} + \frac{4}{9}$$

$$\left(x - \frac{2}{3}\right)^2 = \frac{24}{9} + \frac{4}{9}$$

$$\sqrt{\left(x - \frac{2}{3}\right)^2} = \sqrt{\frac{28}{9}}$$

$$x - \frac{2}{3} = \frac{\pm\sqrt{28}}{3} + \frac{2}{3}$$

$$x = \frac{2}{3} \pm \frac{\sqrt{4 \cdot 7}}{3}$$

$$x = \frac{2 \pm 2\sqrt{7}}{3}$$

ANSWER:
 $x = \frac{2 \pm 2\sqrt{7}}{3}$

4) Write the equations in standard form with roots:

a) -3 and 5

$$x = -3, \quad x = 5$$

$$(x+3)=0, \quad (x-5)=0$$

so... $(x+3)(x-5) = 0$

$$x^2 - 5x + 3x - 15 = 0$$

$$x^2 - 2x - 15 = 0$$

ANSWER:
 $x^2 - 2x - 15 = 0$

b) $\frac{3}{2}$ and $-\frac{1}{3}$

$$x^2 = \frac{3}{2} \times 2, \quad x^3 = -\frac{1}{3} \times 3$$

$$2x = 3, \quad 3x = -1$$

$$(2x-3)=0, \quad (3x+1)=0$$

so... $(2x-3)(3x+1) = 0$

$$6x^2 + 2x - 9x - 3 = 0$$

$$6x^2 - 7x - 3 = 0$$

ANSWER:
 $6x^2 - 7x - 3 = 0$

5) Determine the value of the discriminant and the nature of the roots for $2x^2 - 7x + 3 = 0$.

(hint: nature of roots means HOW MANY roots are there?)

$a = 2, b = -7, c = 3$

discriminant $\rightarrow b^2 - 4ac$

$$= (-7)^2 - 4(2)(3)$$

$$= 49 - 24$$

$$= +25 \dots \text{which is } > 0!$$

\therefore two possible roots

DISCRIMINANT:
 $= +25$

NATURE OF ROOTS:
 two roots

6) Solve by factoring. $4n^2 - 11n + 6 = 0$

$a=4,$

so decomp

$$4n^2 - 8n - 3n + 6 = 0$$

$$4n(n-2) - 3(n-2) = 0$$

$$(n-2)(4n-3) = 0$$

so... $n=2, n=\frac{3}{4}$

$$\begin{array}{r} \underline{-8} + \underline{-3} = -11 \\ \underline{-8} \times \underline{-3} = 24 \\ \hline (4)(6) \end{array}$$

ANSWER:

$$n=2, n=\frac{3}{4}$$

7) Solve by the quadratic formula

$$2x^2 + 4x - 5 = 0$$

$$a=2, b=4, c=-5$$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$x = \frac{-(4) \pm \sqrt{(4)^2 - 4(2)(-5)}}{2(2)}$$

$$x = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{16 + 40}}{4}$$

$$x = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{56}}{4}$$

$$x = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{4 \cdot 14}}{4}$$


$$\rightarrow x = \frac{-4 \pm 2\sqrt{14}}{4}$$

$$x = \frac{2(-2 \pm \sqrt{14})}{4 \div 2}$$

$$x = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{14}}{2}$$

ANSWER:

$$x = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{14}}{2}$$

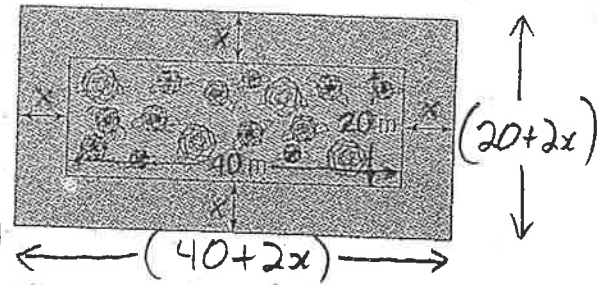
* turn over 

8) Sebastian plans to build a uniform walkway around a rectangular flower bed that is 20m by 40m. There is enough material to make a walkway that has a total area of 700m². What is the width of the walkway?

Area of flower bed = (20)(40) = 800m²

$A_{total} = A_{flower\ bed} + A_{walkway}$
 $= (800) + (700) = 1500m^2$

total length = (40+2x) total width = (20+2x)



so... $l \cdot w = \text{area}$

$(40+2x)(20+2x) = 1500$

$800 + 80x + 40x + 4x^2 = 1500$

$4x^2 + 120x = 700$

$4(x^2 + 30x) = 700$

$(x^2 + 30x) = \frac{700}{4}$

$(x^2 + 30x + 225) = 175 + 225$

$b=30, \frac{b}{2} = 15$ (save), $15^2 = 225$ (use)

$\sqrt{(x+15)^2} = \sqrt{400}$

$(x+15) = \pm 20$

(pos) $x+15=20$
 $x=5$

(neg) $x+15=-20$
 $x=-35$
 REJECT

SENTENCE ANSWER: The width of the walkway is 5m

9) Lola popped a baseball straight up with an initial upward velocity of 48ft/s. The height, h, in feet, of the ball above the ground is modeled by the function $h(t) = 3 + 48t - 16t^2$, where t is time, in seconds. How long was the ball in the air if the catcher catches the ball 3ft above the ground?

height, h, = 3

so... $3 + 48t - 16t^2 = h(t)$

$-16t^2 + 48t + 3 = 3$

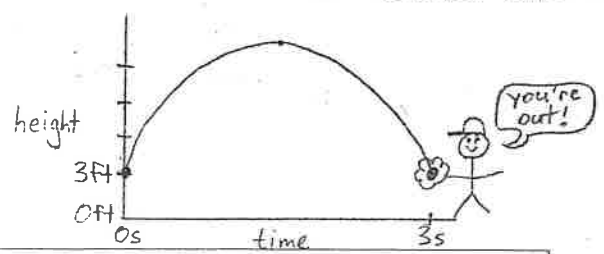
$-16t^2 + 48t = 0$

$-16t(t-3) = 0$

$t=0, t=3$

t=0... the ball was 3ft in the air when Lola hit it.

t=3... The ball was 3ft. high when the catcher caught it ... 3 seconds later!



SENTENCE ANSWER: The ball was in the air for 3 seconds