

Vertex Form Word Problems:

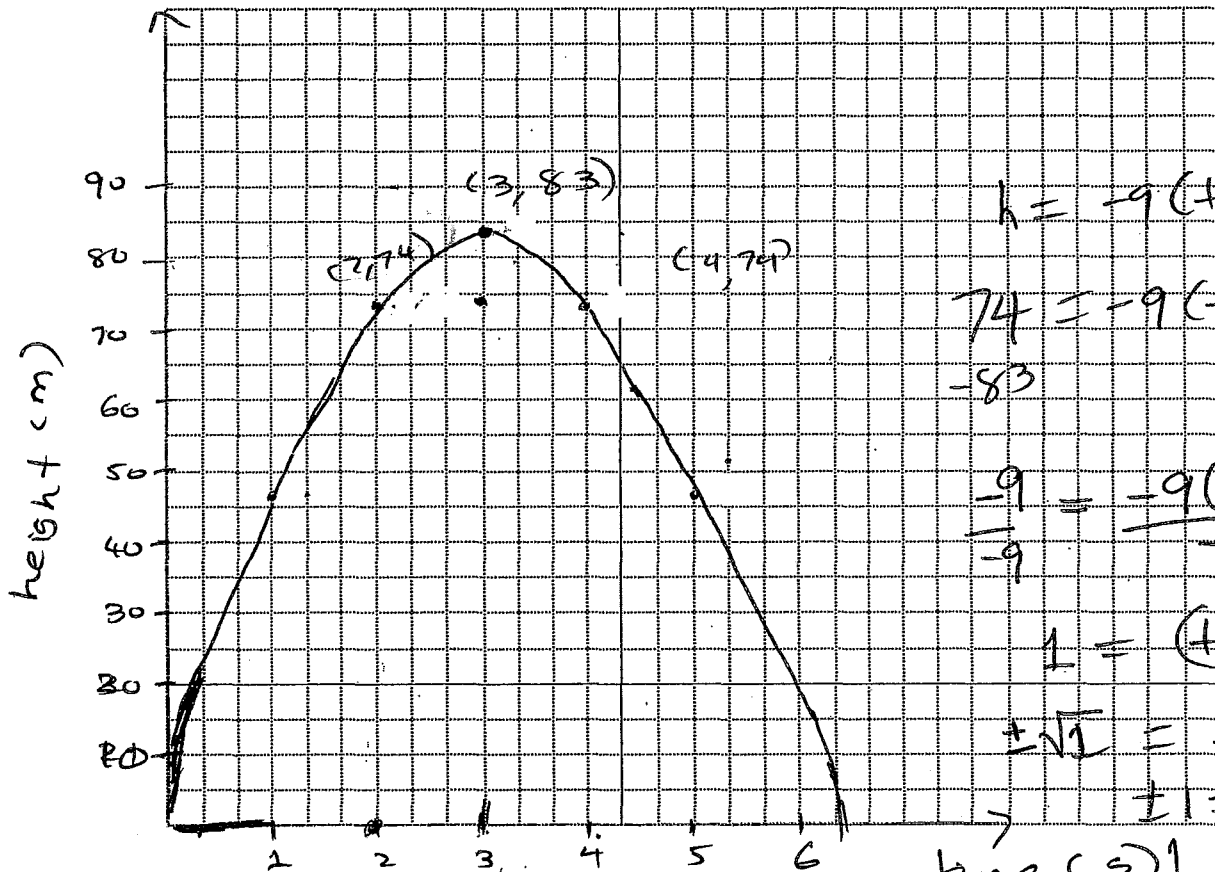
1. A red flare is used by some boaters in an emergency. The flight of the flare is modelled by the function $h = -9(t-3)^2 + 83$ where h is the height (m) of the flare and t is the time (s) that the flare is in flight.

(1, 3, 5, 7)

vertex (3, 83) opening down (max)

step pattern: -9, -27, -45

a) Sketch the path of the flare.



$$h = -9(t-3)^2 + 83$$

$$74 = -9(t-3)^2 + 83$$

$$-83 \quad -83$$

$$-9 = \frac{-9(t-3)^2}{-9}$$

$$1 = (t-3)^2$$

$$\pm\sqrt{1} = t-3$$

$$\pm 1 = t-3$$

b) What is the maximum height reached by the flare?

83 m is the max height

$$1 = t-3, -1 = t-3$$

$$t = 4, t = 2$$

c) After how many seconds does the flare reach its maximum height?

After 3 seconds.

d) What is the height of the flare after 2 seconds?

$$h = -9(t-3)^2 + 83 \quad \text{use } t=2$$

$$= -9(2-3)^2 + 83$$

$$= -9(1) + 83 = 74 \text{ m}$$

From the graph: 74m

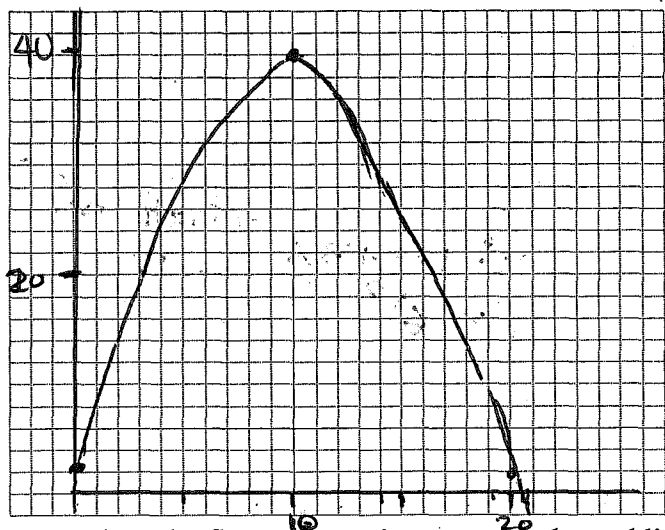
∴ After 2 seconds the height was 74m.

e) Find another time that the flare is at the height in part d.

t = 4 seconds (same horizontal distance from t=3)

2. At a fireworks display, a firework is launched from a height of 2 m above the ground and reaches a maximum height of 40 m at a horizontal distance of 10 m.

a. Determine an equation to model the flight path of the firework.



vertex (10, 40)

(0, 2)
t, h

$$h = a(t - 10)^2 + 40$$

$$2 = a(0 - 10)^2 + 40$$

$$2 = 100a + 40$$

-40

-40

$$\frac{-38}{100} = \frac{100a}{100}$$

$$a = -\frac{19}{50} = -0.38$$

- b. The firework continues to travel an additional 1 m horizontally, after it reaches its maximum height, before it explodes. What is its height when it explodes?

$$h = ? \quad t = 11$$

$$h = -0.38(11 - 10)^2 + 40$$

$$= -0.38 + 40$$

$$= 39.62 \text{ m.}$$

∴ The height was 39.62 when it exploded.

- c. At what other horizontal distance is the firework at the same height as in part b)?

$$t = 9 \text{ seconds.}$$

