

Student Workbook

Transformations of Functions

Name: _____

Date: _____

Period: _____

Learning Target: I can describe and graph transformations of parent functions, including shifts, stretches, compressions, and reflections.

Vocabulary

Term	Meaning
Parent Function	The simplest form of a function family (e.g., $f(x)=x^2$, $f(x)=\sqrt{x}$, $f(x)= x $).
Vertical Shift	Moves the graph up or down: $f(x) + k$.
Horizontal Shift	Moves the graph left or right: $f(x - h)$.
Stretch/Compression	Makes the graph taller/narrower (stretch) or shorter/wider (compression).
Reflection	Flips the graph over the x-axis (if a is negative) or the y-axis (if b is negative).

Key Concept: The General Transformation Form

$$g(x) = a \cdot f(b(x - h)) + k$$

Parameter	Effect
a	Vertical stretch ($ a >1$) or compression ($0< a <1$); reflects over x-axis if $a < 0$
b	Horizontal stretch/compression; reflects over y-axis if $b < 0$
h	Horizontal shift: RIGHT if h is positive, LEFT if h is negative
k	Vertical shift: UP if k is positive, DOWN if k is negative

COMMON MISTAKE

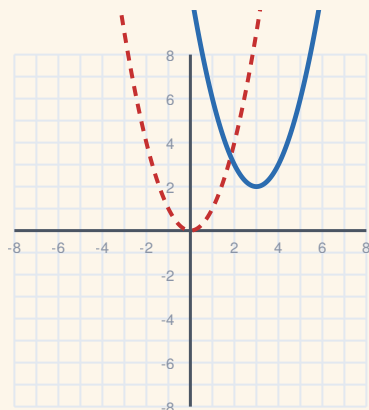
For horizontal shifts, the sign INSIDE the parentheses is opposite of the direction! $(x - 3)$ shifts RIGHT by 3, and $(x + 3)$ shifts LEFT by 3. This trips up almost everyone at first — slow down and double check.

Worked Examples

EXAMPLE 1

Parent: $f(x) = x^2$. Graph $g(x) = (x-3)^2 + 2$.

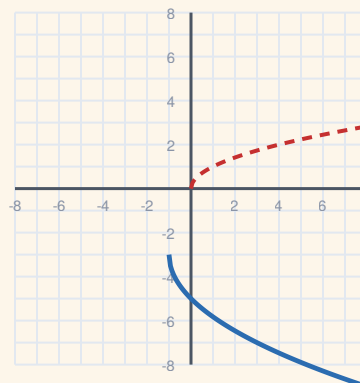
Shift right 3, up 2.



EXAMPLE 2

Parent: $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$. Graph $g(x) = -2\sqrt{x+1} - 3$.

Reflect over x-axis, stretch by 2, shift left 1, down 3.



EXAMPLE 3 — Write the Equation

The parent function $f(x) = |x|$ is shifted left 4 and reflected over the x-axis. Write the new equation.

$g(x) =$ _____

Guided Practice — Part A: Describe the Transformations

A1 $g(x) = (x+2)^2 - 5$ (parent: x^2)

A2 $g(x) = -3|x-1| + 4$ (parent: $|x|$)

A3 $g(x) = \sqrt{x-6} + 1$ (parent: $\sqrt{x}$)

Guided Practice — Part B: Graph the Transformation (Parent: x^2)

B1 $g(x) = (x-2)^2 + 3$

B2 $g(x) = -(x+1)^2 + 4$

Guided Practice — Part C: Graph the Transformation

C1 $g(x) = \sqrt{x+3} - 2$ (parent: $\sqrt{x}$)

C2 $g(x) = -|x-2| + 5$ (parent: $|x|$)

Guided Practice — Part D: Write the Equation

D1 $y = x^2$ shifted left 5 and down 2.

D2 $y = |x|$ reflected over the x-axis and shifted up 3.

BEFORE YOU MOVE ON

Check with a partner: for horizontal shifts, did you use the OPPOSITE sign of what's inside the parentheses?