

# Student Workbook

## Quadratic Functions

**Learning Target:** I can find the vertex of a quadratic function, convert between forms, and use quadratics to solve optimization problems.

### Vocabulary

| Term             | Meaning                                                                         |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Standard Form    | $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$                                                          |
| Vertex Form      | $f(x) = a(x-h)^2 + k$ , where $(h,k)$ is the vertex                             |
| Vertex           | The maximum or minimum point of the parabola                                    |
| Axis of Symmetry | The vertical line $x = h$ that splits the parabola into two mirror-image halves |

### Key Concept: Finding the Vertex from Standard Form

#### FORMULA

$$h = -b / 2a \quad \text{then} \quad k = f(h)$$

#### EXAMPLE 1

Find the vertex of  $f(x) = 2x^2 - 8x + 3$ .

$$h = -(-8)/(2 \cdot 2) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$k = f(2) = 2(4) - 16 + 3 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$\text{Vertex: } (\underline{\hspace{2cm}}, \underline{\hspace{2cm}})$$

### Key Concept: Converting to Vertex Form

#### EXAMPLE 2

Convert  $f(x) = x^2 + 6x + 5$  to vertex form by completing the square.

$$f(x) = (x^2 + 6x + 9) - 9 + 5 = \underline{\hspace{4cm}}$$

**COMMON MISTAKE**

In  $h = -b/2a$ , don't forget the negative sign! For  $f(x)=x^2-6x+2$  ( $b=-6$ ),  $h = -(-6)/2 = 3$ , NOT  $-3$ .

**Key Concept: Reading Vertex Form****EXAMPLE 3**

$f(x) = -4(x-2)^2 + 9$ : vertex  $(2,9)$ , axis of symmetry  $x=2$ . Since  $a=-4<0$ , the parabola opens downward with a



MAXIMUM value of 9.

**Key Concept: Optimization Problems****EXAMPLE 4**

A ball's height is modeled by  $h(t) = -16t^2 + 64t + 80$ . Find the maximum height and when it occurs.

$$t = -64/(2 \cdot -16) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$\text{Max height} = h(\underline{\hspace{2cm}}) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

**Guided Practice — Part A: Find the Vertex**

**A1**  $f(x) = 3x^2 - 12x + 7$

**A2**  $f(x) = -2x^2 + 8x - 3$

### Guided Practice — Part B: Convert to Vertex Form

**B1**  $f(x) = x^2 - 4x + 9$

**B2**  $f(x) = x^2 + 10x + 21$

### Guided Practice — Part C: Read Vertex Form

**C1**  $f(x) = -4(x-2)^2 + 9$ : vertex, axis of symmetry, max or min, and the value.

**C2**  $f(x) = 2(x+5)^2 - 3$ : vertex, axis of symmetry, max or min, and the value.

### Guided Practice — Part D: Optimization

**D1** A ball's height:  $h(t) = -16t^2 + 48t + 6$ . Find the max height and when it occurs.

**D2** A farmer has 300m of fencing for a rectangular pen against a barn (only 3 sides need fencing). Maximize the area.

#### BEFORE YOU MOVE ON

Check with a partner: after finding  $h$  with  $-b/2a$ , did you plug it back into the ORIGINAL function to find  $k$ ?