

## FREQUENTLY ASKED Questions

**Q:** How do you know whether the graph of  $y = ax^2$  will have a wider or narrower shape near its vertex, compared with the graph of  $y = x^2$ ?

**A:** The shape depends on the value of  $a$  in the equation. Each  $y$ -value is multiplied by a factor of  $a$ . When  $a > 1$ , the  $y$ -values increase. The parabola appears to be vertically stretched and becomes narrower near its vertex. When  $0 < a < 1$ , the  $y$ -values decrease. The parabola appears to be vertically compressed and becomes wider near its vertex.

**Q:** Why is the vertex form,  $y = a(x - h)^2 + k$ , useful for graphing quadratic relations?

**A1:** You can use the constants  $a$ ,  $h$ , and  $k$  to determine how the graph of  $y = x^2$  has been transformed.

- When  $a > 1$ , the parabola is vertically stretched and when  $0 < a < 1$ , the parabola is vertically compressed.
- When  $a < 0$ , the parabola is reflected in the  $x$ -axis.
- The parabola is translated to the right when  $h > 0$  and to the left when  $h < 0$ . The parabola is translated up when  $k > 0$  and down when  $k < 0$ .
- The coordinates of the vertex are  $(h, k)$ .

**A2:** You can use the constants  $a$ ,  $h$ , and  $k$  to determine key features of the parabola.

- When  $a > 0$ , the parabola opens upward. When  $a < 0$ , the parabola opens downward.
- The coordinates of the vertex are  $(h, k)$ .
- The equation of the axis of symmetry is  $x = h$ .

You can use these properties, as well as the coordinates of a few other points, to draw an accurate sketch of any parabola.

**Q:** When you use transformations to sketch a graph, why is the order in which you apply the transformations important?

**A:** When a graph is transformed, operations are performed on the coordinates of each point. Apply transformations in the same order you would apply calculations. Apply vertical stretches/compressions and reflections (multiplication) before translations (addition or subtraction).



### Study Aid

- See Lesson 5.1, Examples 1 and 2.
- Try Mid-Chapter Review Questions 1 and 2.

### Study Aid

- See Lesson 5.3, Examples 1 to 3.
- Try Mid-Chapter Review Questions 3, 4, and 6 to 8.

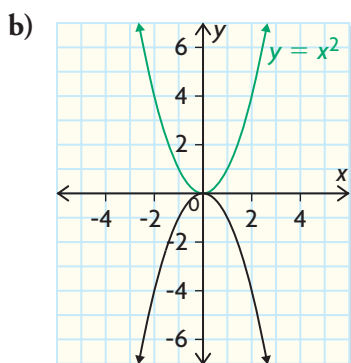
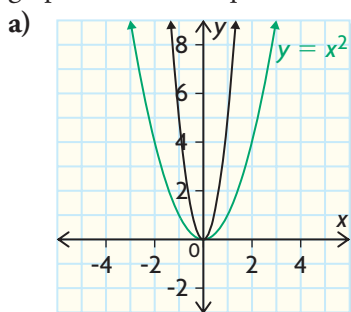
### Study Aid

- See Lesson 5.3, Examples 1 to 3.
- Try Mid-Chapter Review Question 5.

## PRACTICE Questions

### Lesson 5.1

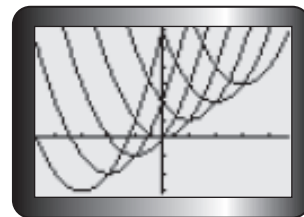
- Sketch the graph of each equation by correctly applying the required transformation(s) to points on the graph of  $y = x^2$ . Use a separate grid for each graph.
  - $y = 2x^2$
  - $y = -0.25x^2$
  - $y = -3x^2$
  - $y = \frac{2}{3}x^2$
- Describe the transformation(s) that were applied to the graph of  $y = x^2$  to obtain each **black** graph. Write the equation of the **black** graph.



### Lesson 5.2

- Determine the values of  $h$  and  $k$  for each of the following transformations. Write the equation in the form  $y = (x - h)^2 + k$ . Sketch the graph.
  - The parabola moves 3 units down and 2 units right.
  - The parabola moves 4 units left and 6 units up.

- These parabolas were entered as equations of the form  $y = (x - h)^2 + k$ . For each tick mark, the scale on both axes is 1. Determine as many of the equations as you can.



### Lesson 5.3

- Describe the sequence of transformations that you would apply to the graph of  $y = x^2$  to sketch each quadratic relation.
  - $y = -3(x - 1)^2$
  - $y = \frac{1}{2}(x + 3)^2 - 8$
  - $y = 4(x - 2)^2 - 5$
  - $y = \frac{2}{3}x^2 - 1$
- Sketch a graph of each quadratic relation in question 5 on a separate grid. Use the properties of the parabola and some additional points.
- For each quadratic relation,
  - state the stretch/compression factor and the horizontal/vertical translations
  - determine whether the graph is reflected in the  $x$ -axis
  - state the vertex and the equation of the axis of symmetry
  - sketch the graph by applying transformations to the graph of  $y = x^2$ 
    - $y = (x - 2)^2 + 1$
    - $y = -\frac{1}{2}(x + 4)^2$
    - $y = 2(x + 1)^2 - 8$
    - $y = -0.25x^2 + 5$
- A parabola lies in only two quadrants. What does this tell you about the values of  $a$ ,  $h$ , and  $k$ ? Explain your thinking, and provide the equation of a parabola as an example.