

# Algebra, Functions and Graphs Revision Sheet - Questions 3,4,5 and 6 of Paper 1

## Simple Equations -

**Step 1** Get rid of brackets or fractions

**Step 2** Take the x's to one side of the equals sign and the numbers to the other (remember to change the sign when crossing the '=')

**Step 3** Divide across by the number next to the x.

**Example -**

$$\begin{aligned}6x - 3 &= 4x \\6x - 4x &= +3 \\2x &= 3 \\x &= \frac{3}{2}\end{aligned}$$

Solve for x,  
 $3(2x - 1) = 4x$

*Get rid of brackets by multiplying  
x's to one side, numbers to the other*

*Divide across by 2*

**Example -**

$$\begin{aligned}6(x - 7) &= 2(x + 3) \\6x - 42 &= 2x + 6 \\6x - 2x &= 6 + 42 \\4x &= 48 \\x &= \frac{48}{4} = 12\end{aligned}$$

Solve for x,  
 $\frac{x - 7}{2} = \frac{x + 3}{6}$

*Cross multiply to get rid of the fractions  
Get rid of brackets by multiplying  
x's to one side, numbers to the other*

*Divide across by 4*

## Substitution -

Write out the question again substituting numbers for letters.

**Example -** Find the value of  $x^2 - 5xy$  when  $x = 3$  and  $y = -2$

$$\begin{aligned}x^2 - 5xy \\&= (3)^2 - 5(3)(-2) \\&= 9 + 30 \\&= 39\end{aligned}$$

*Write out expression*

*Substitute in numbers for x and y*

*Evaluate*

## Factorising –

Factorising basically means putting an expression into brackets.  
There are 4 types of factorising and you need to be familiar with each.

**1. Common factor** – This involves taking a term that is common to all the terms in the expression outside of the brackets.

**Example –** Factorise  $6x^2 - 18x$

$$6x^2 - 18x = 6x(x - 3)$$

*Take out the common factor 6x*

**2. Factors by Grouping** – We use this method when there is 4 terms and no factor common to all of the terms. In this case we group terms in pairs which have a common factor.

**Example –** Factorise  $x^2 - ab - bx + ax$

$$x^2 - ab - bx + ax$$

*The expression*

$$x^2 - bx + ax - ab$$

*Rearrange so we can take x out of first pair and a out of second*

$$x(x - b) + a(x - b)$$

*Take x out of first pair and a out of second. Brackets should be same.*

$$(x - b)(x + a)$$

*Take out the common factor (x - b)*

**3. Difference of two squares** – We use this method when we have an expression in the form  $a^2 - b^2$  which we can turn into  $(x + a)(x - a)$

**Examples** (i)  $x^2 - 25 = (x + 5)(x - 5)$

(ii)  $4x^2 - 49 = (2x + 7)(2x - 7)$

*Sometimes the terms being squared will be in brackets*

(iii)  $(x - 4)^2 - (2x + 2)^2 = ((x - 4) + (2x + 2))((x - 4) - (2x + 2))$   
 $= (x - 4 + 2x + 2)(x - 4 - 2x - 2) = (3x - 6)(-x - 6)$

*Sometimes you may have to take out a common factor first.*

(iv)  $2x^2 - 18 = 2(x^2 - 9) = 2(x + 3)(x - 3)$

**An expression can be changed into an equation by adding = 0 to the end**

**If there is an equals we are being asked to find values of x not just factorise.**

**In that case we factorise as above and then let each bracket = 0**

$$x^2 - 25 = 0$$

$$(x + 5)(x - 5) = 0$$

$$x + 5 = 0 \quad \text{AND} \quad x - 5 = 0$$

$$x = -5 \quad \quad \quad x = 5$$

$$6x^2 - 18x = 0$$

$$6x(x - 3) = 0$$

$$6x = 0 \quad \text{AND} \quad x - 3 = 0$$

$$x = 0 \quad \quad \quad x = 3$$

#### 4. Factorising Quadratic Equations.

A quadratic expression is one in the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$

Quadratics are a little bit harder to factorise and we use a trial and error approach.

Firstly all quadratics are factorised into two sets of brackets

$$ax^2 + bx + c = \\ (\quad)(\quad)$$

The first term in each bracket should multiply to give **a**

The second term in each bracket should multiply to give **c**

The product of the outer terms plus added to the product of the inner terms give **b**

**Example -**  $x^2 + 7x + 6$   
 $(x + 6)(x + 1)$

The first term in each bracket should multiply to give  $x^2$

$$x \times x = x^2$$

The second term in each bracket should multiply to give 6

$$6 \times 1 = 6$$

*2 and 3 also multiply to give 6 but wouldn't work below*

The product of the outer terms plus added to the product of the inner terms give 7x

$$(x)(1) + (6)(x) = x + 6x = 7x$$

**Example -**  $2x^2 - 5x - 12$   
 $(2x + 3)(x - 4)$

The first term in each bracket should multiply to give  $2x^2$

$$2x \times x = 2x^2$$

The second term in each bracket should multiply to give  $-12$

$$3 \times -4 = -12$$

*6 \times 2 or 12 \times 1 won't work below*

The product of the outer terms plus added to the product of the inner terms give  $-5x$

$$(2x)(-4) + (3)(x) = -8x + 3x = -5x$$

**If you cannot find the solutions (sometimes there are no even solutions) you can use the formula**

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

**A worked example using the formula is on page 5**

## Expressing as a Single Fraction -

**Step 1** – Find a lowest common denominator (usually all the bottom terms multiplied)

**Step 2** – Multiply each top term by any terms NOT underneath it

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{x+1} + \frac{2}{x-3} && \text{Common denominator is } (x+1)(x-3) \\ \longrightarrow & \frac{1(x-3) + 2(x+1)}{(x+1)(x-3)} && \text{Top terms times all terms NOT below them} \\ \longrightarrow & \frac{x-3+2x+2}{(x+1)(x-3)} && \text{Multiply out to simplify} \\ \longrightarrow & \frac{3x-1}{(x+1)(x-3)} && \text{Answer} \end{aligned}$$

## Equations with Algebraic Fractions -

These questions involve solving equations that have fractions and require you to get rid of the fractions before you can solve the equation.

**Step 1** – Find a lowest common denominator (usually all the bottom terms multiplied)

**Step 2** – Multiply each top term by any terms NOT underneath it

**Step 3** – Remove the common denominator

**Step 4** – Bring all the terms to the left of the '=' and simplify

**Step 5** – Solve the quadratic equation by factorising (if possible) and letting each bracket equal 0. If it cannot be factorised you must use the formula (see next page).

**Example** Solve  $\frac{1}{x+1} + \frac{2}{x-3} = 3$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{x+1} + \frac{2}{x-3} = \frac{3}{1} && \text{Common denominator is } (x+1)(x-3) \\ \longrightarrow & \frac{1(x-3)(1) + 2(x+1)(1) = 3(x+1)(x-3)}{(x+1)(x-3)} && \text{Top terms times all terms NOT below them} \\ \longrightarrow & 1(x-3) + 2(x+1) = 3\{(x+1)(x-3)\} && \text{Remove denominator (bottom section)} \\ \longrightarrow & x-3+2x+2 = 3\{x(x+1)+1(x-3)\} && \text{Multiply out, open } (x+1)(x-3) \\ \longrightarrow & x-3+2x+2 = 3\{x^2+x+x-3\} && \text{Simplify} \\ \longrightarrow & x-3+2x+2 = 3\{x^2+2x-3\} && \text{Simplify} \\ \longrightarrow & 3x-1 = 3x^2+6x-9 && \text{Simplify} \\ \longrightarrow & -3x^2-6x+9+3x-1 = 0 && \text{Everything to one side.} \\ \longrightarrow & -3x^2-3x+8 = 0 && \text{If the equation can be factorised do so and} \\ & && \text{let each bracket equal 0. If not use the} \\ & && \text{FORMULA.} \end{aligned}$$

Turn over to see how the FORMULA can be used to find our  $x$  values. The formula MUST be learned off by heart.

the **FORMULA**

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

This formula will give us the two roots (x values) for any quadratic equation. Where possible however it is easier to factorise and let each bracket equal 0.

$$-3x^2 - 3x + 8 = 0$$

$$a = -3 \quad b = -3 \quad c = 8$$

*A quadratic that cannot be factorised.  
The values of a, b and c for the formula.*

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

*The formula*

$$\frac{-(-3) \pm \sqrt{(-3)^2 - 4(-3)(8)}}{2(-3)}$$

*Substitute in the a, b and c values.*

$$\frac{+3 \pm \sqrt{9 + 96}}{-6}$$

*Simplify*

$$\frac{3 \pm \sqrt{104}}{-6}$$

*Simplify*

$$\frac{3 \pm 10.2}{-6}$$

*Remove square root*

$$x = \frac{3+10.2}{-6} \quad \text{and} \quad x = \frac{3-10.2}{-6}$$

*Split into the + and - parts*

$$x = \frac{13.2}{-6} \quad \text{and} \quad x = \frac{-7.2}{-6}$$

*Simplify*

$$x = -2.2 \quad \text{and} \quad x = 1.2$$

*The roots of the equation.*

Sometimes we will have to use our x values to find out something to solve a **similar** equation. To do this we let the x values equal what is replacing x in the **similar** equation.

**Example** – Solve for  $-3x^2 - 3x + 8 = 0$

Hence or otherwise solve  $-3(t-1)^2 - 3(t-1) + 8 = 0$

*Solve the equation using formula as above to get*

$$x = -2.2 \quad \text{and} \quad x = 1.2$$

*The two equations above are the same except that we use x in one and (t - 1) in the other. Therefore comparing both equations we can say that t - 1 = x*

*Since we have two values for x let each of these equal t - 1 to get the t values*

$$t - 1 = -2.2$$

*AND*

$$t - 1 = 1.2$$

$$t = -2.2 + 1$$

$$t = 1.2 + 2$$

$$t = -1.2$$

$$t = 2.2$$

## Simultaneous Equations –

This will be a question where we are looking to find the value of TWO unknowns. We must form equations from written problems using  $x$  and  $y$  to represent the unknown values.

We then use these equations to solve for  $x$  and  $y$ , find out their values.

It is important when writing out both equations that we arrange as follows:

$x$  term + or –  $y$  term = number

**Example** – A person has €650 made up of €5 and €10 notes. There are 87 notes in total. Taking  $x$  to be the number of €5 notes and  $y$  to be the number of €10 notes, write down two equations in  $x$  and  $y$  to represent this information.

### Equation 1

The number of  $x$  notes and number of  $y$  notes gives total of 87

$$x + y = 87$$

### Equation 2

The value of the €5's plus the value of the €10 gives a total value of €650

$$5x + 10y = 650$$

$$\begin{array}{l} x + y = 87 \\ 5x + 10y = 650 \end{array}$$

**Equation 1**

**Equation 2**

*We write one equation directly above the other.*

$$\begin{array}{l} 5x + 5y = 435 \\ 5x + 10y = 650 \end{array}$$

**Equation 1**

**Equation 2**

*We multiply the top equation by 5 to get the  $x$  values the same.*

$$\begin{array}{r} -5x - 5y = -435 \\ \underline{5x + 10y = 650} \\ 5y = 115 \end{array}$$

**Equation 1**

**Equation 2**

*To cancel the  $x$ 's their signs must be different so we change ALL the signs in Equation 1*

*We then add or subtract the  $y$ 's       $-5y + 10y = 5y$   
We add or subtract the numbers       $-435 + 650 = 115$*

$$y = \frac{115}{5} = 23$$

*Divide across by 5 to get our  **$y$  value***

To get our  **$x$  value** we sub in our  $y$  value into either Equation 1 or Equation 2

$$\begin{array}{l} x + y = 87 \\ x + (23) = 87 \\ x = 87 - 23 \\ x = 54 \end{array}$$

**Equation 1**

*Sub in  $y$  value*

*$x$ 's to one side, numbers to the other  
the  **$x$  value***

$$x = 54 \text{ AND } y = 23$$

## Algebraic Long Division -

Follow the steps on the right hand side of the below examples for the procedure to use in Algebraic Division

**Example -** Divide  $x - 2$  into  $x^3 + 3x^2 - 4x - 12$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 x^2 + 5x + 6 \\
 x - 2 \overline{) x^3 + 3x^2 - 4x - 12} \\
 \underline{x^3 - 2x^2} \phantom{- 4x - 12} \\
 5x^2 - 4x - 12 \\
 \underline{5x^2 - 10x} \phantom{- 12} \\
 6x - 12 \\
 \underline{6x - 12} \\
 0
 \end{array}$$

Divide  $x^3$  by  $x$  and **put the answer at the top**,  $x^2$

Multiply  $(x - 2)$  by  $x^2$  and **put answer under first two terms**

Subtract (change signs) and divide  $5x^2$  by  $x$

Multiply  $(x - 2)$  by  $5x$

Subtract (change signs) and divide  $6x$  by  $x$

Multiply  $(x - 2)$  by  $6$

Subtract (change signs)

$(x^2 + 5x + 6)$

**Answer**

We are basically repeating the same step 3 times. You will know that your answer is correct if when you subtract the last set of terms your answer is 0

**If we are asked to divide into an expression that has some parts missing, for example there is no  $x^2$  part, we leave space for any that may appear.**

**Example -** Divide  $27x^3 - 1$  by  $3x - 1$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 9x^2 + 3x + 1 \\
 3x - 1 \overline{) 27x^3 \phantom{- 9x^2} - 1} \\
 \underline{27x^3 - 9x^2} \phantom{- 1} \\
 9x^2 \phantom{- 3x} - 1 \\
 \underline{9x^2 - 3x} \phantom{- 1} \\
 3x - 1 \\
 \underline{3x - 1} \\
 0
 \end{array}$$

Divide  $27x^3$  by  $3x$  and **put the answer at the top**,  $9x^2$

Multiply  $(3x - 1)$  by  $9x^2$  and **put answer underneath**

Subtract (change signs) and divide  $9x^2$  by  $3x$

Multiply  $(3x - 1)$  by  $3x$

Subtract (change signs) and divide  $3x$  by  $3x$

Multiply  $(3x - 1)$  by  $1$

Subtract (change signs)

$(9x^2 + 3x + 1)$

**Answer**

## Problem Solving using Algebra –

This will be a written question which will ask you to write an expression using  $x$  to describe a situation. You will then be asked to alter this expression given new information.

Both the original and the new expressions are then used in some way to give us a quadratic equation, which we solve to find the values of  $x$ .

**Example** – In the first week of a club draw,  $x$  people shared equally in a prize of €400

(a) In terms of  $x$  how much was the value of each share?

(b) The following week,  $(x + 6)$  people shared equally in the prize of €400. In this second week, each share was €15 less than each share in the first week.

Write an equation to represent this information.

Solve the equation to find  $x$ .

*Firstly lets use  $x$  to write expressions for (a) and (b) above.*

### Expression (a)

$$\text{Value of each share} = \frac{\text{PRIZE}}{\text{Number.of .People}} = \frac{400}{x}$$

### Expression (b)

$$\text{Value of each share} = \frac{\text{PRIZE}}{\text{Number.of .People}} = \frac{400}{x + 6}$$

*To solve for  $x$  we ask what other information are we told?*

**Value of each share in week 1 = Value of each share in week 2 PLUS €15**

$$\frac{400}{x} = \frac{400}{x + 6} + \frac{15}{1}$$

*Write out equation above using our expressions*

$$\frac{400(x + 6)(1) = 400(x)(1) + 15(x)(x + 6)}{x(x + 6)(1)}$$

*Find common denominator to remove*

*fractions*

$$400(x + 6) = 400(x) + 15(x)(x + 6)$$

*Get rid of the bottom*

$$400x + 2400 = 400x + 15(x^2 + 6x)$$

*Simplify*

$$400x + 2400 = 400x + 15x^2 + 90x$$

*Simplify*

$$-15x^2 + 400x - 90x - 400x + 2400 = 0$$

*Take all to one side*

$$-15x^2 - 90x + 2400 = 0$$

*Simplify and take to one side*

$$15x^2 + 90x - 2400 = 0$$

*Change Signs*

$$x^2 + 6x - 160 = 0$$

*Divide across by 15 to simplify*

$$(x + 16)(x - 10) = 0$$

*Factorise*

$$(x + 16) = 0 \quad (x - 10) = 0$$

*Let each bracket = 0*

$$x = -16 \text{ and } x = 10$$

*Values for  $x$*

**$x = 10$  because  $x$  can't be a minus number (can't have minus number of people!)**



**Example** – A box of drinking chocolate powder costs €3.60 with x being the number of grams in the box.

- (a) Write an expression in terms of x to represent the cost of 1 gram of the powder.  
 (b) During a promotion an extra 30 grams is added to the box which remains at a selling price of €3.60. Write an expression to represent the cost of one gram of the powder during the promotion.

Each gram of powder in this case costs 1c less.

Write an equation in x to represent the above.

Solve the equation for x.

**Expression (a)**

$$\text{Cost of each gram} = \frac{\text{Cost.Of.Box}}{\text{Grams.in.the.Box}} = \frac{360}{x} \quad \text{Change €3.60 into 360c}$$

**Expression (b)**

$$\text{Cost of each gram} = \frac{\text{Cost.Of.Box}}{\text{Grams.in.the.Box}} = \frac{360}{x + 30}$$

To solve for x we ask what other information are we told?

**Cost of 1 gram before promotion = Cost of 1 gram after promotion PLUS 1c**

$$\frac{360}{x} = \frac{360}{x + 30} + \frac{1}{1} \quad \text{Write out equation above using our expressions}$$

$$\frac{360(x + 30)(1) = 360(x)(1) + 1(x)(x + 30)}{x(x + 30)(1)} \quad \text{Find common denominator to remove}$$

*fractions*

$$360(x + 30) = 360(x) + (x)(x + 30) \quad \text{Get rid of the bottom}$$

$$360x + 10800 = 360x + x^2 + 30x \quad \text{Simplify}$$

$$-x^2 + 360x + 10800 - 360x - 30x = 0 \quad \text{Simplify}$$

$$-x^2 - 30x + 10800 = 0 \quad \text{Take all to one side}$$

$$x^2 + 30x - 10800 = 0 \quad \text{Change Signs}$$

$$(x + 120)(x - 90) = 0 \quad \text{Factorise}$$

$$(x + 120) = 0 \quad (x - 90) = 0 \quad \text{Let each bracket} = 0$$

$$x = -120 \quad \text{and} \quad x = +90 \quad \text{Values for } x$$

**x = 90** because x can't be a minus number (can't have minus number of grams)

## **Problem Solving involving Areas using Algebra –**

The method used in these types of questions is as on the previous two pages but involves knowledge of the area formulae of various shapes.

**Example** – The length of a rectangle is 5cm more than its breadth. The area of the rectangle is  $104\text{cm}^2$ . Calculate the measurements of each side.

Area – Length x Breadth

*Write down formula for area*

Breadth =  $x$

*Let  $x$  be the breadth of the shape*

Length =  $x + 5$

*Let  $x + 5$  be the length of the shape*

Area =  $x(x + 5)$

*Sub these into the area formula*

=  $x^2 + 5x$

*This is the area of the shape*

$x^2 + 5x = 104$

*Let this equal the area of 104*

$x^2 + 5x - 104 = 0$

*Bring everything to the one side*

$(x + 13)(x - 8) = 0$

*Factorise the resultant quadratic*

$x = -13$        $x = 8$

*Let each bracket = 0 to solve*

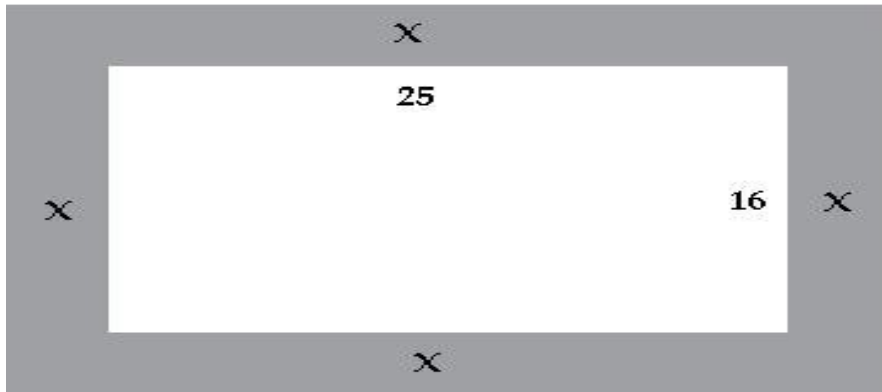
**$x = 8$  only because measurements cannot be minus numbers**

**Breadth = 8cm**

**Length =  $8 + 5 = 13\text{cm}$**

**TURN THE PAGE FOR ANOTHER EXAMPLE**

**Example** - A path of uniform width surrounds a rectangular lawn measuring 25m by 16m. The area of the path is 180. Find the width of the path.



Area of lawn = 400  
 Area of path = 180  
 Total area of garden = 580

*Multiply 25 by 16*  
*We are given this*  
*Lawn plus the path (400 + 180)*

Length of garden =  $x + 25 + x = 2x + 25$   
 Breadth of garden =  $x + 16 + x = 2x + 16$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Area of Garden} &= (2x + 25)(2x + 16) \\ 2x(2x + 16) + 25(2x + 16) &= 4x^2 + 32x + 50x + 400 \\ &= 4x^2 + 82x + 400 \\ 4x^2 + 82x + 400 &= 580 \\ 4x^2 + 82x + 400 - 580 &= 0 \\ 4x^2 + 82x + 180 &= 0 \\ 2x^2 + 41x - 180 &= 0 \\ (2x + 45)(2x - 4) &= 0 \\ 2x + 45 = 0 & \quad 2x - 4 = 0 \\ 2x = -45 & \quad 2x = 4 \\ x = \frac{-45}{2} & \quad x = \frac{4}{2} \\ x = -22.5 & \quad x = 2 \end{aligned}$$

*Area = Length by Breadth*  
*Open brackets and multiply*  
*Area of Garden*  
*Let area formula equal 580, above*  
*Bring everything to one side*  
*Simplify*  
*Simplify by dividing across by 2*  
*Factorise to solve*  
*Let each bracket = 0*  
*x's to one side, numbers to the other*  
*Divide across by 2*  
***x values***

*Because measurement (length) must be positive, the width of the path is :*

**$x = 2m$**

## Inequalities –

These are similar to simple equations but use the greater than, less than signs, greater than or equal to and less than or equal to signs ( $>$ ,  $<$ ,  $\geq$  and  $\leq$ ).

The rules for solving are similar to solving normal equations however one important difference is that if we decide to change all the signs we **MUST** change the direction of the inequality also.

**Example** if  $-x \geq 4$  then  $x \leq -4$  *Change the signs, change the direction of inequality*

**If asked to draw a number line we must pay close attention to whether the numbers are:**

$x \in R$  - these are rational numbers, fractions, decimals etc and are illustrated on the number line with a **shaded line**.

$x \in Z$  - these are integers, all positive and negative whole numbers and are illustrated on the number line with **dots**.

$x \in N$  - there are natural numbers, positive whole numbers and are illustrated on the number line with **dots**.

**Example** Solve  $5x+1 \geq 4x+3$  for  $x \in R$  and illustrate on number line.

$$5x+1 \geq 4x+3$$

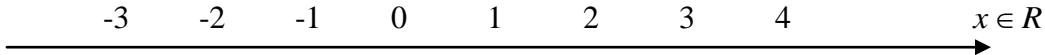
$$\longrightarrow 5x-4x \geq 3-1$$

*x's to one side, numbers to the other*

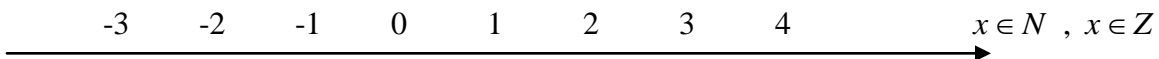
$$\longrightarrow x \geq 2$$

*Evaluate*

To show this on a number line



If the question had stated that  $x \in N$  or  $x \in Z$  we would use the following number line



**Example –**

**A** is the set  $3x - 2 \leq 4$   $x \in Z$

**B** is the set  $\frac{1-3x}{2} \leq 5$   $x \in Z$

**A**

$$3x \leq 4 + 2$$

$$3x \leq 6$$

$$x \leq 2$$

**B**

$$\frac{1-3x}{2} \leq 5$$

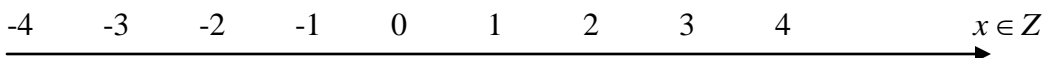
$$1 - 3x \leq 10$$

$$-9 \leq 3x$$

$$-3 \leq x$$

$A \cap B$  would be what is common to A and B  
In this case the numbers  
-3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2

If asked to illustrate on the number line the set  $A \cap B$ :



**Example** -  $2x - 1 \leq x - 2 \leq 3x + 10$

*In this example we split into two inequalities both having the middle term  $x - 2$*

$$2x - 1 \leq x - 2$$

**AND**

$$x - 2 \leq 3x + 10$$

$$2x - x \leq -2 + 1$$

$$-10 - 2 \leq 3x - x$$

$$x \leq -1$$

$$-12 \leq 2x$$

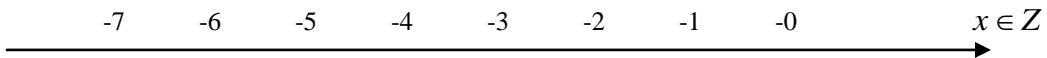
$$\frac{-12}{2} \leq x$$

$$-6 \leq x$$

So  $x$  is anything less than or equal to  $-1$  and  $x$  is everything greater than or equal to  $-6$

We write this like  $-6 \leq x \leq -1$

If asked to illustrate on the number line:



## Rearrange –

This involves using our algebra skills to rearrange equations

**Step 1** Remove brackets or fractions if necessary

**Step 2** Take anything with the letter we are looking for to the left of the '=' and everything else to the right of the '='.

**Step 3** If there is more than one term now on the left, factorise to get the letter alone.

**Step 4** Divide across by the term next to the letter we want to isolate.

**Example** – Express  $x$  in terms of  $a, b$  and  $c$  (this means get  $x$  by itself on left of the '=')

$$ax + b = c$$

$$ax + b = c$$

$$ax = c - b$$

*Bring everything with an  $x$  to the left, everything else to the right.*

$$x = \frac{c - b}{a}$$

*Divide across by  $a$  to isolate  $x$*

**Example** – Express  $b$  in terms of  $a$  and  $c$  (this means get  $b$  by itself on left of the '=')

$$\frac{8a - 5b}{b} = c$$

$$8a - 5b = bc$$

$$-5b - bc = -8a$$

$$5b + bc = 8a$$

$$b(5 + c) = 8a$$

$$b = \frac{8a}{(5 + c)}$$

*Get rid of fraction by multiplying across by  $b$   
Bring everything with a  $b$  to the left, everything else to the right.*

*Change all the signs.*

*Factorise by taking out  $b$*

*Divide across by  $(5 + c)$  to isolate  $b$*

**Example** – Express  $t$  in terms of  $p$  and  $q$  (this means get  $t$  by itself on left of the '=')

$$p = \frac{q - t}{3t}$$

$$3t(p) = q - t$$

$$3tp + t = q$$

*Get rid of fraction by multiplying across by  $3t$   
Bring everything with a  $t$  to the left, everything else to the right.*

*Factorise by taking out  $t$*

$$t(3p + 1) = q$$

$$t = \frac{q}{(3p + 1)}$$

*Divide across by  $(3p + 1)$  to isolate  $t$*

## Functions -

Questions with functions involve replacing the  $x$  in an expression with a number.

**Example -**  $f(x) = 3x + 5$

$$f(x) = 3x + 5$$

$$f(3) = 3(3) + 5 = 9 + 5 = \mathbf{14}$$

$$f(-1) = 3(-1) + 5 = -3 + 5 = \mathbf{2}$$

$$f(3) = 14 \text{ and } f(-1) = 2$$

**Calculate  $f(3)$  and  $f(-1)$**

*Write out the original function*

*To get  $f(3)$  replace the  $x$  with a 3*

*To get  $f(-1)$  replace the  $x$  with a  $-1$*

**Answers**

The numbers we put in to the function are called the **domain**.

The numbers we get out are called the **range**.

**Example -**  $f: x \rightarrow ax + b$

This line cuts the  $x$  axis at  $(3, 0)$  and the  $y$  axis at  $(0, -2)$ . Calculate **a** and **b**.

$(3, 0) \longrightarrow$  the  $y$  part is 0 when  $x$  is 3

let  $f: x = 0$

$$ax + b = 0 \quad \text{when } x = 3$$

$$a(3) + b = 0$$

$$\mathbf{3a + b = 0}$$

*because  $f: x$  means  $y$*

*sub in  $x = 3$*

**Equation 1**

$(0, -2) \longrightarrow$  the  $x$  part is 0 when the  $y$  part is  $-2$

let  $f: x = -2$

$$ax + b = -2 \quad \text{when } x = 0$$

$$a(0) + b = -2$$

$$\mathbf{b = -2}$$

*because  $f: x$  means  $y$*

*sub in  $x = 0$*

**Equation 2 (b value)**

$$3a + b = 0$$

$$3a + (-2) = 0$$

$$3a - 2 = 0$$

$$3a = 2$$

$$a = \frac{2}{3}$$

*Write out equation 1 again*

*Sub in above value for  $b$*

*Simplify*

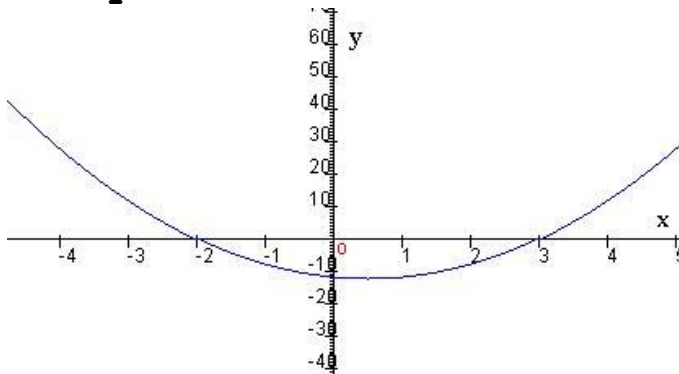
*$x$ 's to one side, numbers to the other*

*Divide across by 3*

**In the above example Equation 2 gave us the  $b$  value.**

**If though equation 1 and 2 both have  $a$ 's AND  $b$ 's we must do a simultaneous equation.**

## Example -



Left we have a graph of the function

$$f : x \rightarrow 2x^2 + ax + b$$

- (i) Evaluate **a** and **b**.  
 (ii) If the graph also contains  $(k, 3k)$  evaluate  $k$  if  $k > 0$

We can see that the curve crosses the x axis at  $(-2, 0)$  and  $(3, 0)$   
 So  $x = -2$  and  $x = 3$  when  $y = 0$

$$f : x \rightarrow 2x^2 + ax + b$$

(i)  $2x^2 + ax + b = 0$  when  $x = 3$  and when  $x = -2$

**Remember**  $f : x = y$

For  $(-2, 0)$

Sub in  $x = -2$  and let  $f : x = 0$

$$2(-2)^2 + a(-2) + b = 0$$

$$2(4) + -2a + b = 0$$

$$8 - 2a + b = 0$$

$$-2a + b = -8$$

$$2a - b = 8$$

**EQUATION 1**

For  $(3, 0)$

Sub in  $x = 3$  and let  $f : x = 0$

$$2(3)^2 + a(3) + b = 0$$

$$2(9) + a(3) + b = 0$$

$$18 + 3a + b = 0$$

$$18 + 3a + b = 0$$

$$3a + b = -18$$

**EQUATION 2**

Use the above equations to form a simultaneous equation

$$2a - b = 8$$

**EQUATION 1**

$$3a + b = -18$$

**EQUATION 2**

$$\begin{array}{r} 5a \\ \hline \end{array} = -10$$

$$a = -2$$

**Sub this into Equation 1 or 2 and get  $b = -12$**

$$f : x \rightarrow 2x^2 + ax + b$$

$$f : x \rightarrow 2x^2 - 2x - 12$$

(ii) If the point  $(k, 3k)$  is on the curve then when  $x = k$ ,  $f : x = 3k$ .

**Remember**  $f : x = y$

$$f : x \rightarrow 2x^2 - 2x - 12$$

$$2x^2 - 2x - 12 = 3k$$

when  $x = k$

$$2(k)^2 - 2k - 12 = 3k$$

sub in  $x = k$

$$2k^2 - 2k - 12 - 3k = 0$$

Bring everything to the left hand side

$$2k^2 - 5k - 12 = 0$$

Simplify

Using the  $-b$  formula we get  $k = -1.5$  and  $k = 4$   
 $k > 0$  therefore  **$k = 4$**

Page 5 for revision of the  $-b$  formula



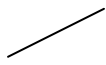


## Graphs –

Remember that to put a point on a graph we need an x part and a y part (x, y).  
To get the points we put numbers into a function. The numbers we put in are the x values, the numbers we get out are the y values.

**Very Important f:x or f(x) is another way or saying y.**

You will normally be given the x values to put in (known as the domain) such as  $-3 \leq x \leq 2$  which means put in all the numbers between -2 and 3.

There are a number of different graphs we can be asked to draw.

1. A linear function like  $f(x) = 3x + 5$  will give you a **straight line**. 
2. A quadratic function such as  $f(x) = 3x^2 + 5x + 4$  will give you a **curve with only one turning point** (that is one place on the curve where it changes direction). It will be  shaped or  shaped.

**1.** To easiest way to draw a line if you are not given the domain (i.e told what points to put in) is to work out the points where the line cuts the x and y axis.

A line cuts the x axis at  $y = 0$

A line cuts the y axis at  $x = 0$

**Example –** Draw the line  $3x + 4y = 12$

Cuts the x axis at  $y = 0$

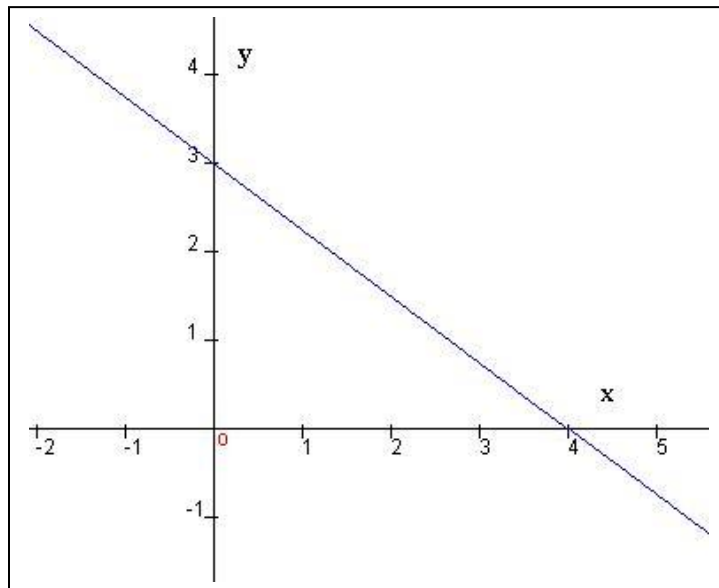
$$\begin{aligned} 3x + 4y &= 12 \\ 3x + 4(0) &= 12 \\ 3x &= 12 \\ x &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

**(4, 0)**

Cuts the y axis at  $x = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} 3x + 4y &= 12 \\ 3(0) + 4y &= 12 \\ 4y &= 12 \\ y &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

**(0, 3)**



**TURN OVER FOR AN EXAMPLE OF A CURVE AND LINE ON THE SAME GRAPH**

**2. If you are given the domain the graph is drawn by putting the x values into the function and getting a corresponding y value.**

**Example -**  $f(x) = 2 + 2x - x^2$  Draw a graph in the domain  $-2 \leq x \leq 3$

- Using the same axis and scale draw a graph of the line  $g(x) = 2x - 1$  in the domain  $-2 \leq x \leq 3$
- Find the values of x for which  $g(x) = f(x)$

$$f(x) = 2 + 2x - x^2$$

$$f(-2) = 2 + 2(-2) - (-2)^2 = 2 - 4 - 4 = -6$$

$$f(-1) = 2 + 2(-1) - (-1)^2 = 2 - 2 - 1 = -1$$

$$f(0) = 2 + 2(0) - (0)^2 = 2 - 0 - 0 = 2$$

$$f(1) = 2 + 2(1) - (1)^2 = 2 + 2 - 1 = 3$$

$$f(2) = 2 + 2(2) - (2)^2 = 2 + 4 - 4 = 2$$

$$f(3) = 2 + 2(3) - (3)^2 = 2 + 6 - 9 = -1$$

**Points for graph**

**(-2, -6)**

**(-1, -1)**

**(0, 1)**

**(1, 0)**

**(2, 2)**

**(3, -1)**

$$g(x) = 2x - 1$$

$$g(-2) = 2(-2) - 1 = -4 - 1 = -5$$

$$g(-1) = 2(-1) - 1 = -2 - 1 = -3$$

$$g(0) = 2(0) - 1 = 0 - 1 = -1$$

$$g(1) = 2(1) - 1 = 2 - 1 = 1$$

$$g(2) = 2(2) - 1 = 4 - 1 = 3$$

$$g(3) = 2(3) - 1 = 6 - 1 = 5$$

**Points for graph**

**(-2, -5)**

**(-1, -3)**

**(0, -1)**

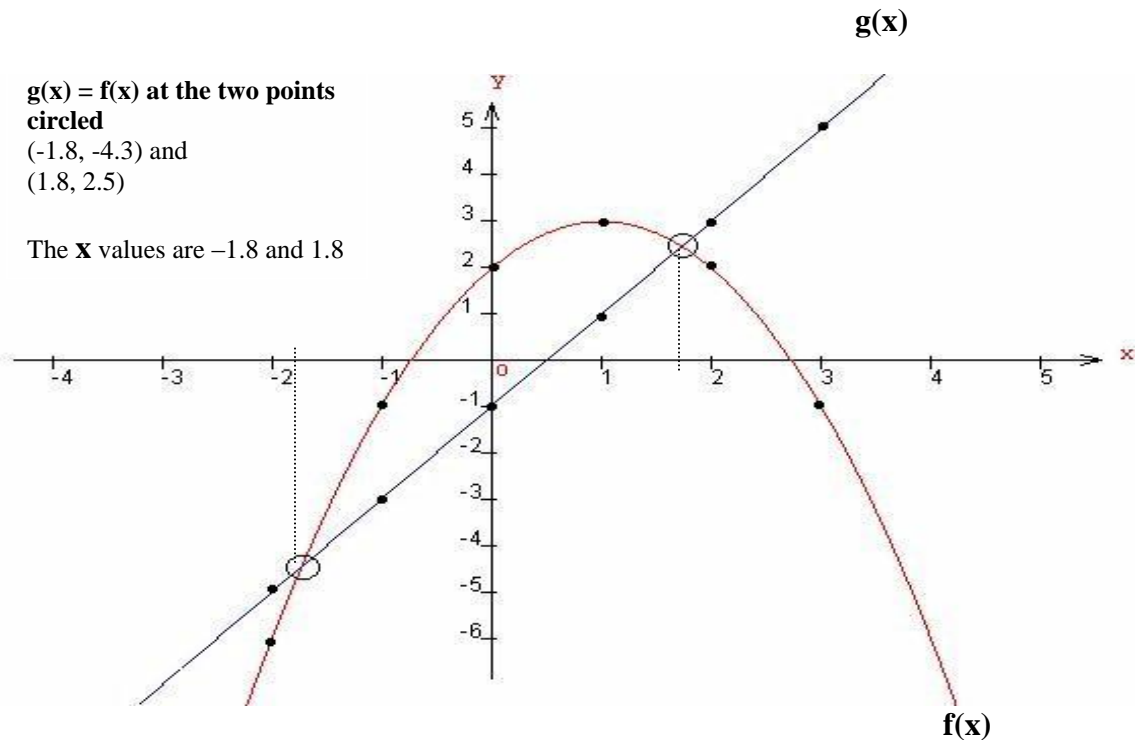
**(1, 1)**

**(2, 3)**

**(3, 5)**

**$g(x) = f(x)$  at the two points circled**  
 (-1.8, -4.3) and  
 (1.8, 2.5)

The **X** values are -1.8 and 1.8



## Reading Graphs –

Once the graph has been drawn you can be asked a number of questions about it. Below are examples of the most common types. Make sure you understand each one.

### **What are the negative areas and positive areas of the curve?**

Negative areas are parts of a graph below the x axis.

Can be written in exam as; Give the range of values of x for which  $f(x) < 0$

Positive areas are parts of a graph above the x axis.

Can be written in exam as; Give the range of values of x for which  $f(x) > 0$

Give the x values, not the points.

### **What are the areas where the curve is increasing and decreasing?**

Read the graph from left to right, the curve is increasing when it is going up and decreasing when it is going down (think of a roller coaster).

Give the x values, not the points.

### **What are the roots of the equation $f(x) = 0$ ?**

Here they are asking what are the x values when  $y = 0$  (remember  $f(x) = y$ ).

This means what are the x values where the curve cuts the x axis.

Give the x values.

### **What are the roots of the equation $f(x) = -3$ ?**

Here they are asking what are the x values when  $y = -3$ . To do this draw a horizontal line through  $y = -3$ . Where this line cuts your curve read off the x values.

Give the x values.

### **What are the values of $f(4)$ and $f(-2)$ .**

This means what are the y values when  $x = 4$  and when  $x = -2$ . Draw vertical lines through  $x = 4$  and  $x = -2$  and where these lines cut our curve read off the y values.

Give the y values this time.

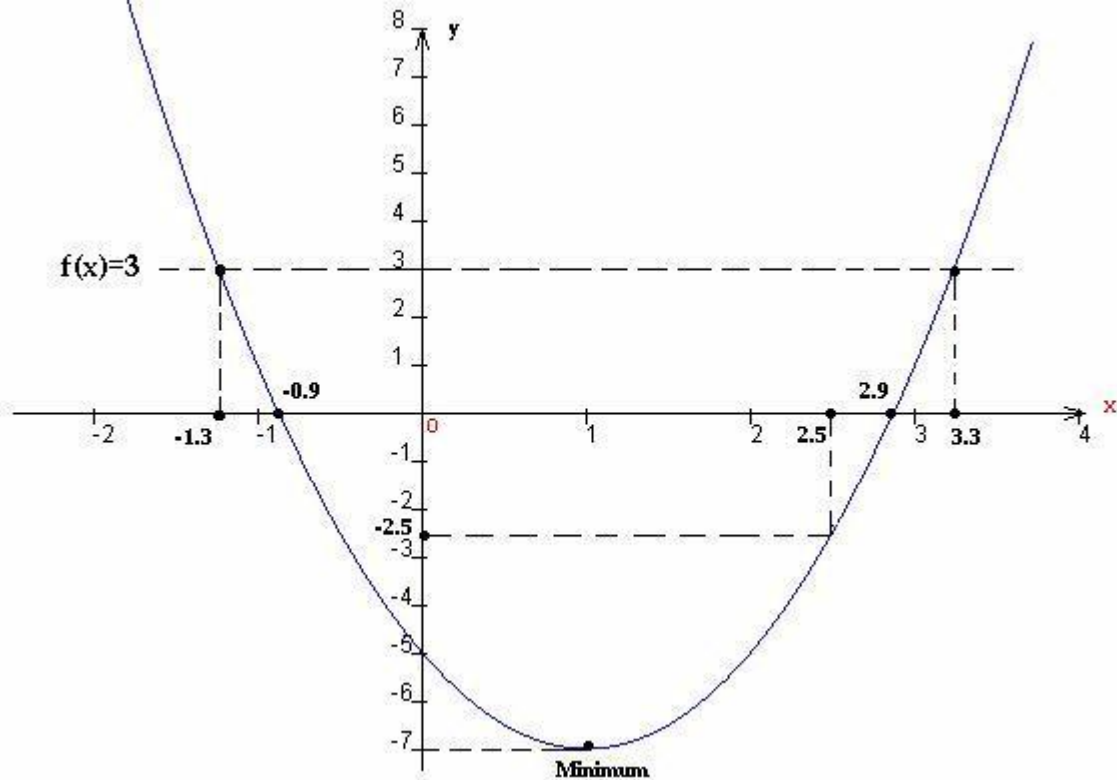
### **What are the maximum and minimum points?**

These are the highest and lowest points of turning on your curve.

Give the points in the form (x, y) unless they ask specifically for x or y values.

**TURN OVER FOR AN EXAMPLE THAT INCLUDES ALL OF THESE**

Below is a graph of the function  $f : x \rightarrow 2x^2 - 4x - 5$  (in the exam you'll have to draw it first).



Use the graph to find:

1.  $f(2.5)$

Go to where  $x = 0.5$  and draw dotted line down to where it cuts the curve.  
 $y = -2.5$

2. **The minimum point on the graph**

Go to lowest point on the curve.  $(1, -7)$

3. **The range of values of  $x$  for  $f(x) > 0$  (where is graph positive?)**

Graph is positive above  $x$  axis so before  $x = -0.9$  and after  $2.9$

We write this  $x < -0.9$  and  $x > 2.9$

4. **The range of values for  $x$  for which  $f(x) < 0$  (where is graph negative?)**

Graph is negative below  $x$  axis so after  $-0.9$  and before  $2.9$

We write this  $-0.9 < x < 2.9$

5. **The range of values for  $f(x) = 3$**

$f(x)$  is the same as saying  $y$  so draw a dotted line through  $y = 3$

Where it cuts the curve read down the  $x$  values  $x = -1.3$  and  $x = 3.3$

6. **The range of values for  $f(x)$  is increasing**

Curve is increasing from  $x = 1$  all the way to infinity

We write this  $x > 1$

7. **The range of values for which  $f(x)$  is decreasing**

Curve decreasing from minus infinity to  $x = 1$

We write this  $x < 1$

8. **The values of  $x$  for which  $2x^2 - 4x - 5 = 0$**

Similar to 5 above.  $2x^2 - 4x - 5 = 0$  is the same as saying  $f(x) = 0$  or  $y = 0$

$y = 0$  where the curve cuts the  $x$  axis,  $x = -0.9$  and  $x = 2.9$

**Example** – The area of a rectangle is given by the function  $f : x \rightarrow 6x - 2x^2$  where  $x$  stands for the width in meters.

Draw the graph for  $0 \leq x \leq 3$

Using the graph estimate

1. The area of the rectangle when the width,  $x$ , is 0.5m
2. The maximum possible area of the rectangle
3. The width of the rectangle at this area
4. Two possible values of the width when the area is  $4m^2$

**Putting the points in we get.**

$$f : x \rightarrow 6x - 2x^2$$

$$f : 0 \rightarrow 6(0) - 2(0)^2 = 0$$

$$f : 1 \rightarrow 6(1) - 2(1)^2 = 6 - 2 = 4$$

$$f : 2 \rightarrow 6(2) - 2(2)^2 = 12 - 8 = 4$$

$$f : 3 \rightarrow 6(3) - 2(3)^2 = 18 - 18 = 0$$

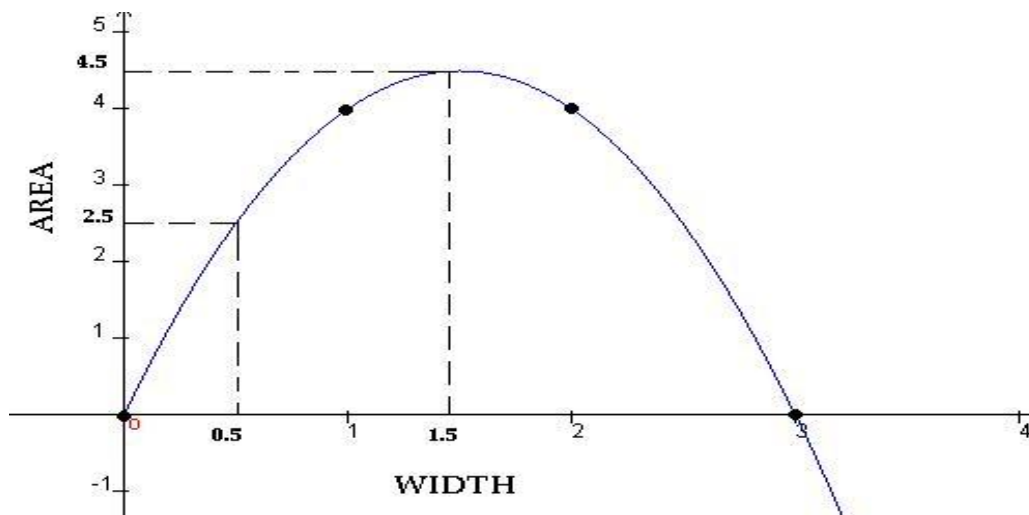
**Points for graph**

**(0, 0)**

**(1, 4)**

**(2, 4)**

**(3, 0)**



**1. The area of the rectangle when the width,  $x$ , is 0.5m**

Go to  $x = 0.5$  and draw dotted line to where it meets curve, read across the  $y$  value.

When width is 0.5 the Area is  $2.5m^2$

**2. The maximum possible area of the rectangle**

Go to the maximum (highest) point of the curve, draw a dotted line across to read area.

At the highest point on the curve the area is  $4.5m^2$

**3. The width of the rectangle at this area**

Bring the maximum point down and read the width value.

At the max point the width is 1.5m

**4. Two possible values of the width when the area is  $4m^2$**

Read off the  $x$  values for which the  $y$  value (the area value) is equal to 4.

In this case for  $x = 1$  and  $x = 2$