

## Using Factoring to Solve Problems

For each problem, define the variable, draw a diagram as indicated, write an equation(s), and solve.

## Projectiles, Finding Maximum Height

The maximum height will be at the vertex of the graph,

where  $x$  = time and  $y$  = height.  $x = \frac{-b}{2a}$

When height,  $h$ , is in feet:  $h = -16t^2 + vt + c$

$t$  is the time in motion (in seconds)

$v$  is the initial upward velocity (in ft/sec or m/sec)

$c$  is the initial height

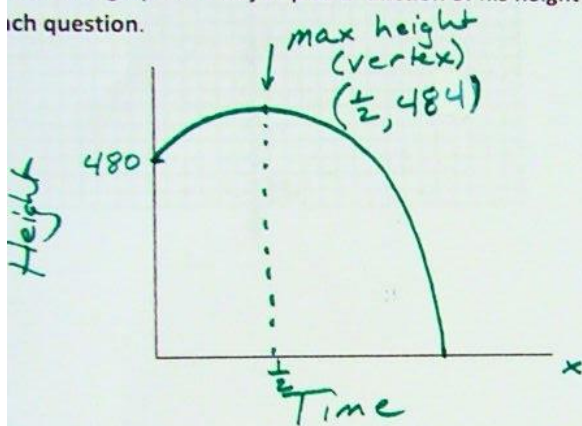
EXAMPLES:

Chris Eli jumped off of a cliff with an initial velocity of 16 ft/s into the ocean in Acapulco while vacationing with some friends. The cliff was 480 ft above the ocean.

$$v = 16$$

$c$

Sketch the graph of Eli's jump as a function of his height over time. Label all important information as you answer each question.



$$\text{Function } h(t) = -16t^2 + 16t + 480$$

$$a = -16 \quad b = 16 \quad c = 480$$

1) How long did it take for Eli to reach his maximum height? Variable:  $x = \text{time}$  Equation:

$$x = \frac{-b}{2a}$$

$$x = \frac{-16}{2 \cdot -16} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Solution:  $\frac{1}{2}$  sec

2) What was the highest point that Eli reached? Variable:

$h = \text{height}$   
(at vertex)  
when  $t = \frac{1}{2}$

$$\text{Equation: } h = -16\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + 16\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + 480$$

$$h = -16 \cdot \frac{1}{4} + 8 + 480$$

$$h = -4 + 8 + 480$$

$$h = 484$$

Solution: ~~480~~  
484 ft

3) Eli hit the water after how many seconds? Variable:

$t = \text{time}$   
 $h = 0$

$$\text{Equation: } 0 = -16t^2 + 16t + 480$$

$$0 = -16(t^2 - t - 30)$$

$$0 = -16(t + 5)(t - 6)$$

-5      6

Solution: 6 sec



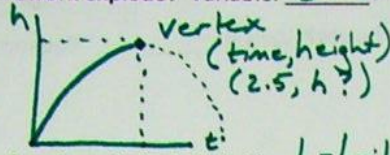
Some fireworks are fired vertically into the air from the ground at an initial velocity of 80 feet per second. When the highest point is reached by the firework - it explodes.

Function  $h(t) = -16t^2 + 80t + 0$

$a = -16$     $b = 80$     $c = 0$

How long does the firework explode? Variable:  $t = \text{time}$  Equation:  $t = \frac{-b}{2a}$

Answer: 2 1/2 sec



$t = \frac{-80}{2 \cdot -16} = \frac{-80}{-32} = 2 \frac{1}{2}$

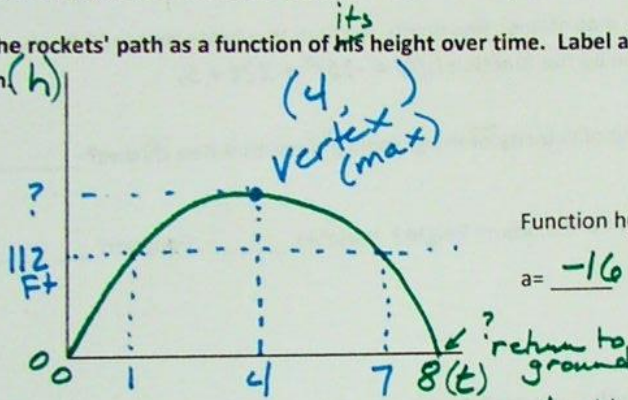
What is the height of the firework when it explodes? Variable:  $h = \text{height}$  Equation:  $h = -16t^2 + 80t + 0$

Answer: 100 Ft

$h = -16(2.5)^2 + 80(2.5) + 0$   
 $h = 100$

A toy rocket is launched vertically upward from ground level with an initial velocity of 128 feet per second, then eight, h after t seconds is given by the equation  $h(t) = -16t^2 + 128t$  (if air resistance is neglected.)

Sketch the graph of the rockets' path as a function of its height over time. Label all important information as you answer each question.



Function  $h(t) = -16t^2 + 128t$

$a = -16$     $b = 128$     $c = 0$

How long will it take for the rocket to return to the ground? Variable:  $t = \text{time}$  Equation:  $h = -16t^2 + 128t$

Answer: 8 sec

$0 = -16t^2 + 128t$   
 $0 = -16t(t - 8)$   
0 and 8

For how many seconds will the rocket be 112 feet above the ground? Variable:  $t = \text{time}$  Equation:  $112 = -16t^2 + 128t$

For 6 sec    $7-1=6$     $h=112$

$0 = -16t^2 + 128t - 112$   
 $0 = -16(t^2 - 8t + 7)$   
 $0 = -16(t-1)(t-7)$   
 $\frac{1}{1} \div 7$

How long will it take the rocket to reach its maximum height? Variable:  $t = \text{time}$  Equation:  $t = \frac{-b}{2a}$

Answer: 4 sec

$t = \frac{-128}{-32} = 4$

What is the maximum height?

Answer: 256 Ft

Variable:  $h = \text{height}$  Equation:  $h = -16t^2 + 128t$   
 $h = -16(4)^2 + 128(4)$   
 $h = 256$