

Conics Pretest

Section 1 - Recognizing conics (roughly 20%)

There will be a few questions of the form:

Identify the type of conic section whose equation is given.

$$x^2 = y + 1$$

In this equation we do not have a y^2 term, so we know this is a **parabola**.

$$x^2 = 4y - 2y^2$$

First we need to rearrange this equation to get all of the terms on the left hand side.

$$x^2 - 4y + 2y^2 = 0$$

Now since both the x^2 and y^2 terms are positive it is an **ellipse**.

$$y^2 + 2y = 4x^2 + 3$$

Again, first bring all the terms to the left hand side.

$$y^2 + 2y - 4x^2 - 3 = 0$$

Now since exactly one of the x^2 and y^2 terms is negative it is a **hyperbola**.

$$x^2 = y^2 + 1$$

Rewrite as:

$$x^2 - y^2 - 1 = 0$$

Now since exactly one of the x^2 and y^2 terms is negative it is a **hyperbola**.

$$y^2 - 8y = 6x - 18$$

Here we can see that we only have a y^2 term, so we know this is a **parabola**.

$$4x^2 + 6y^2 = 21$$

Now since both the x^2 and y^2 terms are positive it is an **ellipse**.

$$4x^2 + 6y = 21$$

In this equation we do not have a y^2 term, so we know this is a **parabola**.

$$4x^2 - 6y^2 + 2x - 3y = 21$$

Now since exactly one of the x^2 and y^2 terms is negative it is a **hyperbola**.

Section 2 - Graphing (roughly 30%)

In this section, the equations will require minimal manipulation to put them into standard form. The questions will be of the form:

Graph the following parabola. Include the following information on your graph: vertex, axis of symmetry, focus, directrix.

$$(x - 3)^2 = 12y - 4$$

This is almost in standard form for a parabola with a vertical axis: $(x - h)^2 = 4p(y - k)$

$$(x - 3)^2 = 12\left(y - \frac{1}{3}\right) \quad \leftarrow \text{factor out the 12}$$

$$(x - 3)^2 = 12\left(y - \frac{1}{3}\right) \quad \leftarrow 4p = 12 \Rightarrow p = 3$$

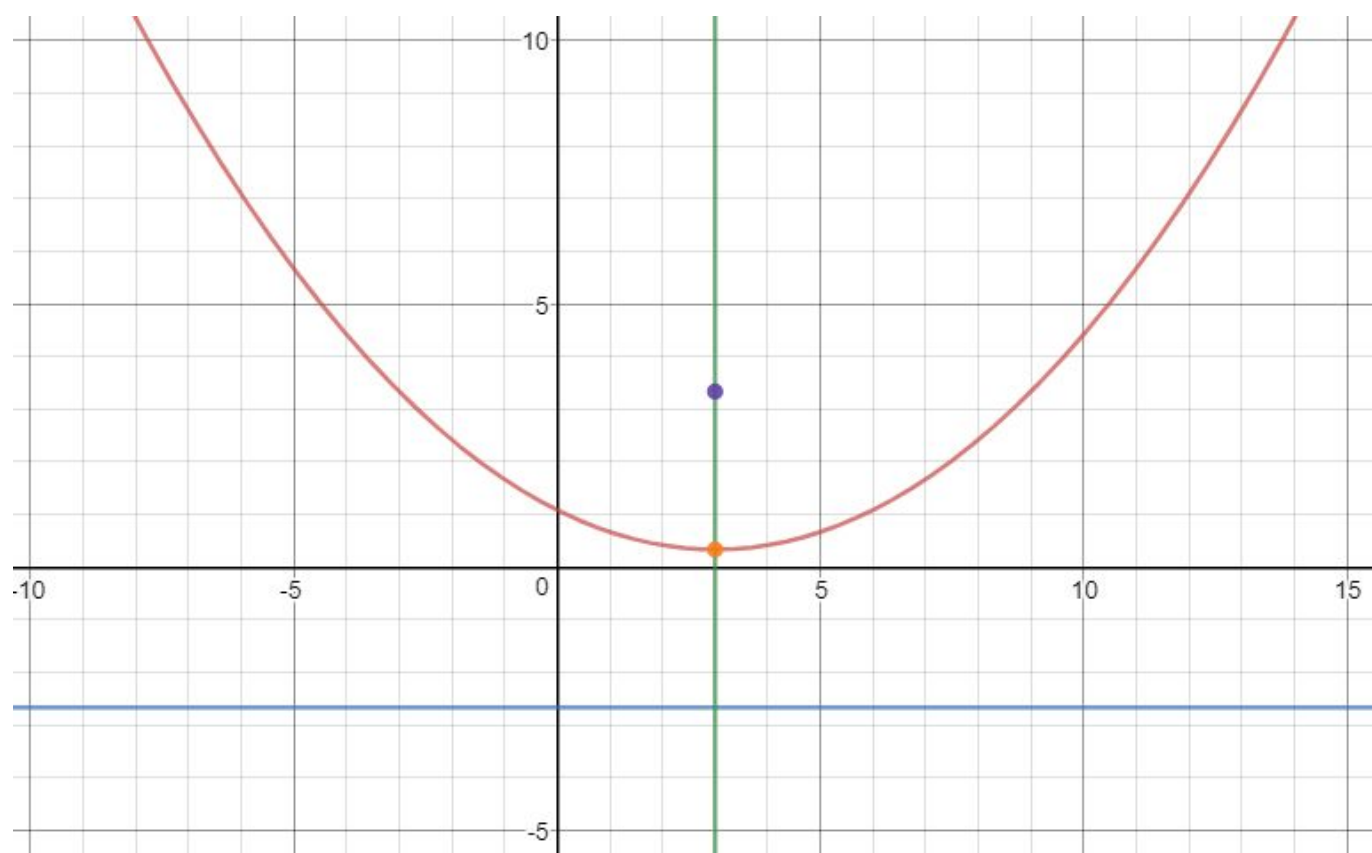
$$(x - 3)^2 = 4(3)\left(y - \frac{1}{3}\right) \quad \leftarrow \text{Substitute } 12 = 4(3) \text{ and now it is in standard form.}$$

$$\text{Axis of symmetry: } x = h = 3$$

$$\text{Vertex: } (h, k) = \left(3, \frac{1}{3}\right)$$

$$\text{Focus: } (h, k + p) = \left(3, \frac{1}{3} + 3\right) = \left(3, \frac{10}{3}\right)$$

$$\text{Directrix: } y = k - p = \frac{1}{3} - 3 = \frac{-8}{3}$$



Graph the following ellipse. Include the following information on your graph: center, vertices, co-vertices, and foci.

$$(x+2)^2 + 4y^2 - 36 = 0$$

Since both the x^2 and y^2 terms are positive it is an **ellipse**. So we need to make the equation look like one of the following formulas. (remember for an ellipse $a > b$ determines which formula)

$$\frac{(x-h)^2}{a^2} + \frac{(y-k)^2}{b^2} = 1 \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{(y-k)^2}{a^2} + \frac{(x-h)^2}{b^2} = 1$$

$$(x+2)^2 + 4y^2 - 36 = 0$$

$$(x - (-2))^2 + 4(y - 0)^2 - 36 = 0 \quad \leftarrow \text{writing it like this so we have the h and k values}$$

$$(x - (-2))^2 + 4(y - 0)^2 = 36$$

$$\frac{(x-(-2))^2}{36} + \frac{4(y-0)^2}{36} = 1$$

\leftarrow dividing both sides of the equation by 36

$$\frac{(x-(-2))^2}{36} + \frac{(y-0)^2}{9} = 1$$

\leftarrow cancelling the $\frac{4}{36} = \frac{1}{9}$

$$\frac{(x-(-2))^2}{6^2} + \frac{(y-0)^2}{3^2} = 1$$

\leftarrow now it is in standard form of an ellipse with a horizontal major axis

Center: $(h, k) = (-2, 0)$

Vertices: $(h \pm a, k) = (-2 \pm 6, 0)$

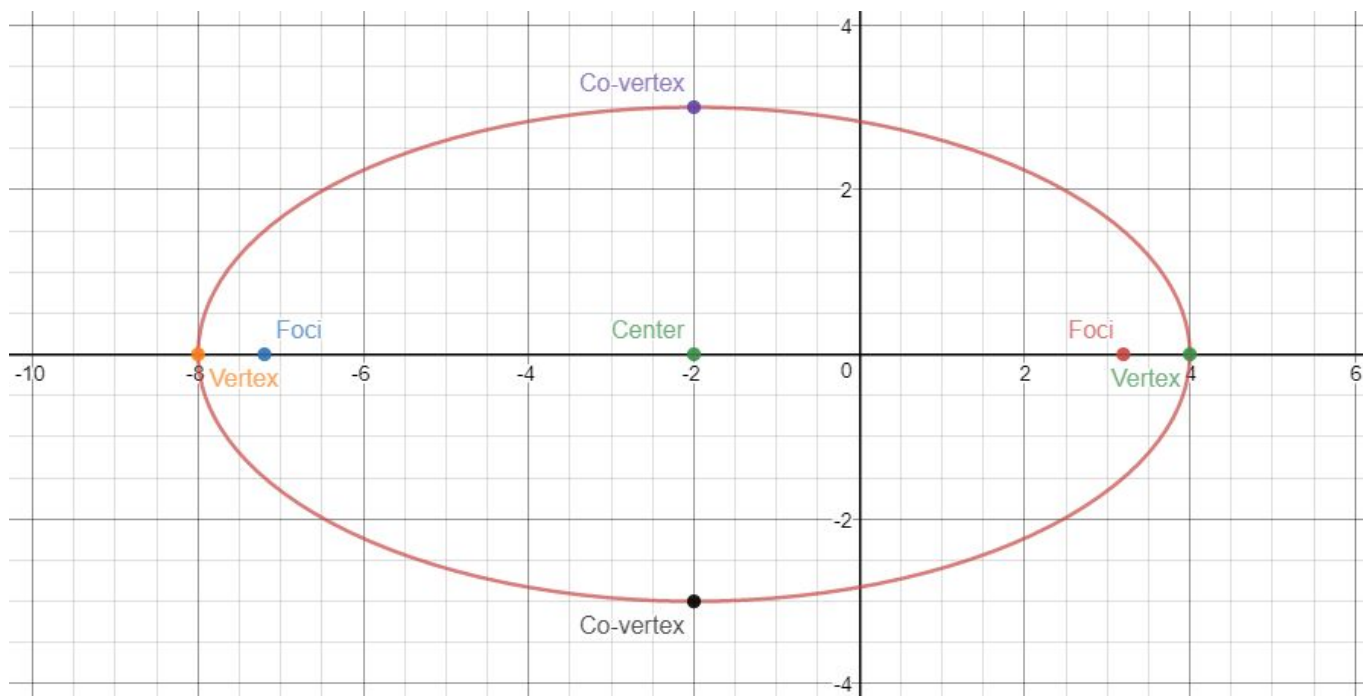
Co-vertices: $(h, k \pm b) = (-2, \pm 3)$

Foci: $(h \pm c, k) = (-2 \pm 3\sqrt{3}, 0)$

To find the foci, first we need to solve for c:

$$c^2 = a^2 - b^2 = 36 - 9 = 27$$

$$c = \pm\sqrt{27} = \pm 3\sqrt{3}$$



Graph the following hyperbola. Include the following information on your graph: center, vertices, foci and asymptotes.

$$(y + 1)^2 - 4(x - 1)^2 = 100$$

We need to make this look like one of the following:

$$\frac{(y-k)^2}{a^2} - \frac{(x-h)^2}{b^2} = 1 \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{(x-h)^2}{a^2} - \frac{(y-k)^2}{b^2} = 1$$

$$(y + 1)^2 - 4(x - 1)^2 = 100$$

$$(y - (-1))^2 - 4(x - 1)^2 = 100$$

← writing it like this so we have the h and k values

$$\frac{(y-(-1))^2}{100} - \frac{4(x-1)^2}{100} = 1$$

← divide both sides by 100

$$\frac{(y-(-1))^2}{100} - \frac{(x-1)^2}{25} = 1$$

← simplify the $\frac{4}{100} = \frac{1}{25}$

$$\frac{(y-(-1))^2}{10^2} - \frac{(x-1)^2}{5^2} = 1$$

← Now in standard form

Center: $(h, k) = (1, -1)$

Vertices: $(h, k \pm a) = (1, -1 \pm 10)$

Foci: $(h, k \pm c) = (1, -1 \pm 5\sqrt{5})$

To find the foci we need to solve:

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2 = 100 + 25$$

$$c = \pm \sqrt{125} = \pm 5\sqrt{5}$$

Asymptote equation:

$$y = k \pm \frac{a}{b}(x - h)$$

$$y = -1 \pm \frac{10}{5}(x - 1)$$

$$y = -1 \pm 2(x - 1)$$

$$y = -1 \pm 2(x - 1)$$

Positive:

$$y = -1 + 2(x - 1)$$

$$y = -1 + 2x - 2$$

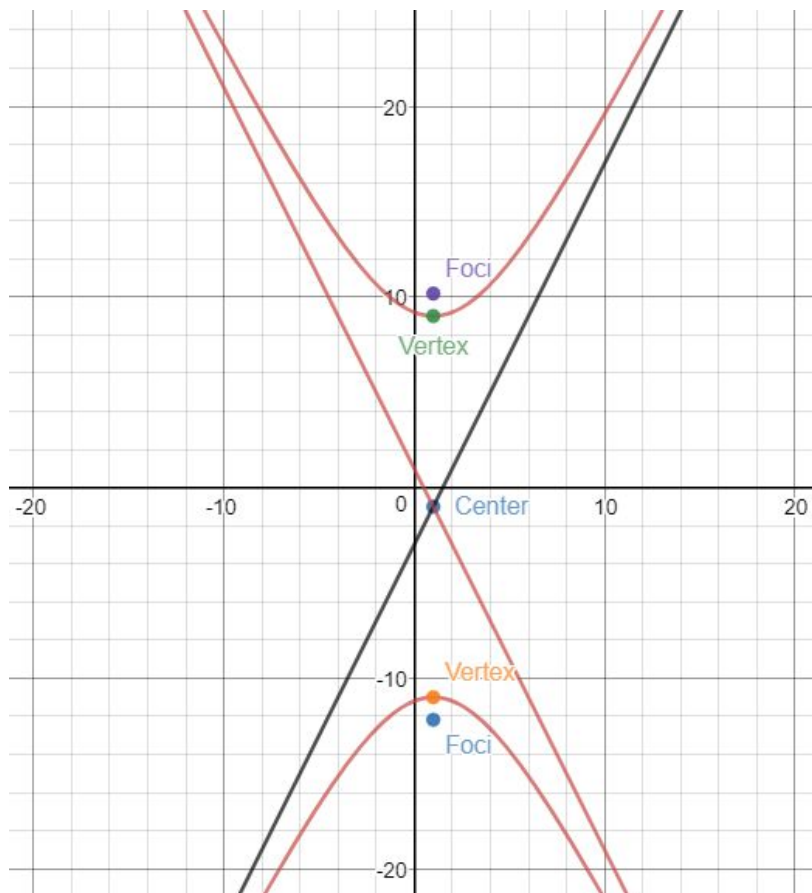
$$y = 2x - 3$$

Negative:

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

$$y = -1 - 2x + 2$$

$$y = -2x + 1$$



Section 3 - Manipulating Equations (roughly 30%)

In this section, the equations will require more manipulation than in the previous section (think completing the square). The questions will be of the form:

Identify the conic and rewrite the equation in standard form:

$$x^2 - 4x - 2y + 18 = 0$$

$$(x^2 - 4x + \quad - \quad) - 2y + 18 = 0 \quad \leftarrow \text{we need to add and subtract } \left(\frac{4}{2}\right)^2$$

$$(x^2 - 4x + 4 - 4) - 2y + 18 = 0$$

$$((x - 2)^2 - 4) - 2y + 18 = 0 \quad \leftarrow (x^2 - 4x + 4 - 4) = ((x - 2)^2 - 4)$$

$$(x - 2)^2 - 4 - 2y + 18 = 0$$

$$(x - 2)^2 - 2y + 14 = 0$$

$$(x - 2)^2 = 2y - 14$$

$$(x - 2)^2 = 2(y - 7)$$

Now we need to solve: $4p = 2 \Rightarrow p = \frac{1}{2}$

$$(x - 2)^2 = 4p(y - 7)$$

$$(x - 2)^2 = 4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)(y - 7)$$

$$4x^2 + 32x + 25y^2 - 150y - 111 = 0$$

$$4(x^2 + 8x) + 25(y^2 - 6y) - 111 = 0 \quad \leftarrow \text{factoring out the terms in front of the squares}$$

$$4(x^2 + 8x + 16 - 16) + 25(y^2 - 6y + 9 - 9) - 111 = 0 \quad \leftarrow \text{starting to complete the square}$$

$$4((x + 4)^2 - 16) + 25((y - 3)^2 - 9) - 261 = 0 \quad \leftarrow \text{completing the square}$$

$$4(x + 4)^2 - 4(16) + 25(y - 3)^2 - 25(9) - 111 = 0 \quad \leftarrow \text{distributing the 4 and the 9}$$

$$4(x + 4)^2 - 64 + 25(y - 3)^2 - 225 - 111 = 0$$

$$4(x + 4)^2 + 25(y - 3)^2 = 400$$

$$\frac{4(x+4)^2}{400} + \frac{25(y-3)^2}{400} = 1 \quad \leftarrow \text{simplifying the fractions}$$

$$\frac{(x+4)^2}{100} + \frac{(y-3)^2}{16} = 1$$

$$\frac{(x+4)^2}{10^2} + \frac{(y-3)^2}{4^2} = 1$$

$$2x^2 - 4x - 8y^2 - 16y - 14 = 0$$

$$2(x^2 - 2x) - 8(y^2 + 2y) - 14 = 0$$

$$2(x^2 - 2x + 1 - 1) - 8(y^2 + 2y + 1 - 1) - 14 = 0$$

$$2((x - 1)^2 - 1) - 8((y + 1)^2 - 1) - 14 = 0$$

$$2(x - 1)^2 - 2 - 8(y + 1)^2 + 8 - 14 = 0$$

$$2(x - 1)^2 - 8(y + 1)^2 = 8$$

$$\frac{(x-1)^2}{4} - \frac{(y+1)^2}{1} = 1$$

$$\frac{(x-1)^2}{4} - \frac{(y-(-1))^2}{1} = 1$$

Section 4 - Understanding the properties of conics (roughly 20%)

In this section, you will be given some information about a conic and be asked to determine further information (beyond just using formulas). These questions will be similar to the following:

1. **Find the vertex of a parabola with the directrix $x=2$ and focus at $(6,-1)$.**

Hint: the vertex is halfway between the directrix and the focus.

2. **The point $(7,3)$ lies on a parabola with the axis of symmetry $y=1$. Find another point on the parabola.**

Hint: think about what symmetry means

3. **A circle has vertices of $(-4,8)$ and $(-12,8)$, find the other two vertices.**

Hint: find the center of the circle and the radius

4. **A hyperbola has vertices at $y = 1 \pm \frac{3}{4}(x - 2)$. Find the center.**

Hint: sometimes the formula is easier to use than solving equations