

Function Face-Off

Compare key properties from equations, tables, and descriptions.

HIGH SCHOOL • HSF-IF.C.9

CCSS.Math.Content.HSF-IF.C.9 "Compare properties of two functions each represented in a different way (algebraically, graphically, numerically in tables, or by verbal descriptions). For example..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

MATCH THE PROPERTY

First decide which property you are comparing, such as a maximum, minimum, y-intercept, zero, rate of change, or function value. Read that same property from each representation, then compare the numbers. In vertex form, $a(x - h)^2 + k$, the vertex is (h, k) , and k is a maximum when a is negative or a minimum when a is positive.

WORKED EXAMPLE

Function $f(x) = -(x - 17)^2 + 23$. A table for g is shown: x : 14, 15, 16; $g(x)$: 18, 21, 18. Which function has the greater maximum value?

1. The vertex of f is $(17, 23)$, so the maximum of f is 23.
2. The greatest value in g 's table is 21.
3. Since $23 > 21$, f has the greater maximum.

Answer: f has the greater maximum value, 23.

PRACTICE 6 problems

- 1** Function $f(x) = 4x - 7$. A table for g is shown: x : -2, -1, 0, 1; $g(x)$: -9, -6, -3, 0. Which function has the greater y-intercept?

ANSWER _____

- 2** Function $p(x) = (x - 6)^2 - 12$. Function q is described as a parabola with a minimum value of -10. Which function has the lower minimum value?

ANSWER _____

- 3** A table for h is shown: x : -7, -6, -5, -4, -3; $h(x)$: 1, 6, 9, 10, 9. Function $k(x) = -(x + 2)^2 + 12$. Which function has the greater maximum value?

ANSWER _____

- 4** Function $f(x) = x^2 - 9$. The graph of g crosses the x -axis at $x = -2$ and $x = 7$. Which function has the larger positive x -intercept?

ANSWER _____

- 5** Function $f(x) = -2x + 5$. A table for g is shown: x : -1, 1, 3; $g(x)$: 9, 3, -3. Which function has the greater rate of change?

ANSWER _____

- 6** Function $f(x) = 3x + 2$. A table for g is shown: x : -2, 0, 2; $g(x)$: -8, -2, 4. Which function has the greater value when $x = 2$?

ANSWER _____

APPLY IT Show your work

1

For a game design project, two students model the height of animated rocket launches. Rocket A has height $A(t) = -(t - 4)^2 + 30$, where height is in feet. Rocket B has these heights: t : 1, 2, 3, 4, 5; $B(t)$: 18, 24, 28, 30, 28. Which rocket reaches a greater maximum height, or do they tie? State the maximum height.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

2

Two school clubs sell custom sticker packs. Club A's profit, in dollars, is $P(x) = 5x - 12$ after selling x packs. Club B's profits are shown: x : 0, 2, 4, 6; profit: -15, -7, 1, 9. Which club's profit increases faster, and by how much per pack?

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

CHALLENGE One step up

CHALLENGE

Function $m(x) = -x^2 + 8x - 7$. A table for n is shown: x : 2, 3, 4, 5, 6; $n(x)$: 5, 10, 13, 14, 13. Which function has the greater maximum value? Which function reaches its maximum at the smaller x -value? Explain your reasoning.

PART 1 • PRACTICE

#	PROBLEM	ANSWER
1	Function $f(x) = 4x - 7$. A table for g is shown: x : -2, -1, 0, 1; $g(x)$: -9, -6, -3, 0. Which function has the greater y-intercept?	g has the greater y-intercept: -3. The y-intercept of f is -7.
2	Function $p(x) = (x - 6)^2 - 12$. Function q is described as a parabola with a minimum value of -10. Which function has the lower minimum value?	p has the lower minimum value, -12.
3	A table for h is shown: x : -7, -6, -5, -4, -3; $h(x)$: 1, 6, 9, 10, 9. Function $k(x) = -(x + 2)^2 + 12$. Which function has the greater maximum value?	k has the greater maximum value, 12. The maximum of h is 10.
4	Function $f(x) = x^2 - 9$. The graph of g crosses the x-axis at $x = -2$ and $x = 7$. Which function has the larger positive x-intercept?	g has the larger positive x-intercept, 7. The positive x-intercept of f is 3.
5	Function $f(x) = -2x + 5$. A table for g is shown: x : -1, 1, 3; $g(x)$: 9, 3, -3. Which function has the greater rate of change?	f has the greater rate of change. Its rate is -2, while g's rate is -3.
6	Function $f(x) = 3x + 2$. A table for g is shown: x : -2, 0, 2; $g(x)$: -8, -2, 4. Which function has the greater value when $x = 2$?	f has the greater value when $x = 2$. $f(2) = 8$ and $g(2) = 4$.

PART 2 • APPLY IT

- They tie. Both rockets reach a maximum height of 30 feet.** Rocket A has vertex (4, 30), so its maximum is 30. The greatest height in Rocket B's table is also 30.
- Club A's profit increases faster by 1 dollar per pack.** Club A has a rate of change of 5 dollars per pack. Club B's profit rises 8 dollars for every 2 packs, so its rate is 4 dollars per pack.

CHALLENGE

n has the greater maximum value, 14. Rewrite m as $m(x) = -(x - 4)^2 + 9$, so m has maximum 9 at $x = 4$. The table shows that n has maximum 14 at $x = 5$, so m reaches its maximum at the smaller x -value.

Accept equivalent statements of each comparison, including correctly identified maximums, minimums, intercepts, and rates of change. For the challenge, students may find m 's vertex by completing the square or by using $x = -b/(2a)$.