

# Writing Equations of Lines

# I. How to Write an Equation of a Line **Given $m$ and $b$**

1. Write down  $y = mx + b$
2. Substitute ***slope*** for ***m*** and ***y-intercept*** for ***b***.
3. Simplify the equation

**Write the equation of the line  
given  $m$  and  $b$ .**

**Ex. 1 Slope is  $-5$  and  $y$ -intercept is  $2$**

**Ex. 2 Slope is  $-1/2$  and  $y$ -intercept is  $-2$**

**Write the equation of the line given m and b.**

**Ex. 1 Slope is -5 and y-intercept is 2**

$$y = -5x + 2$$

**Ex. 2 Slope is  $-1/2$  and y-intercept is -2**

$$y = -\frac{1}{2}x - 2$$

**Write the equation of the line  
given  $m$  and  $b$ .**

**Ex. 3 Slope is 0 and  $y$ -intercept is 3**

**Ex. 4 Slope is  $1/3$  and  $y$ -intercept is 0**

**Write the equation of the line given m and b.**

**Ex. 3 Slope is 0 and y-intercept is 3**

$$y = 3$$

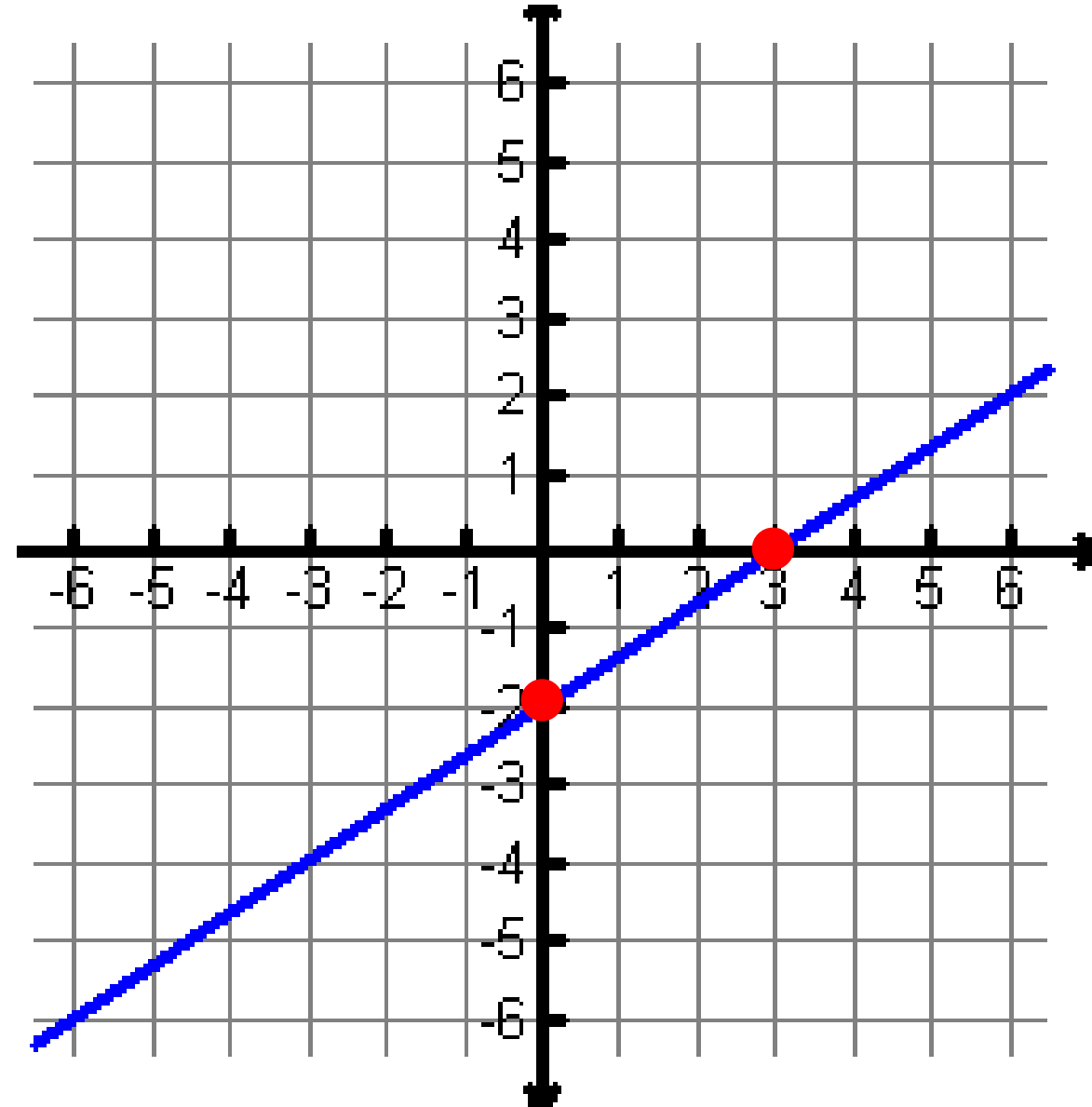
**Ex. 4 Slope is  $\frac{1}{3}$  and y-intercept is 0**

$$y = \frac{1}{3}x$$

## II. How to Write an Equation of a Line Given a Graph

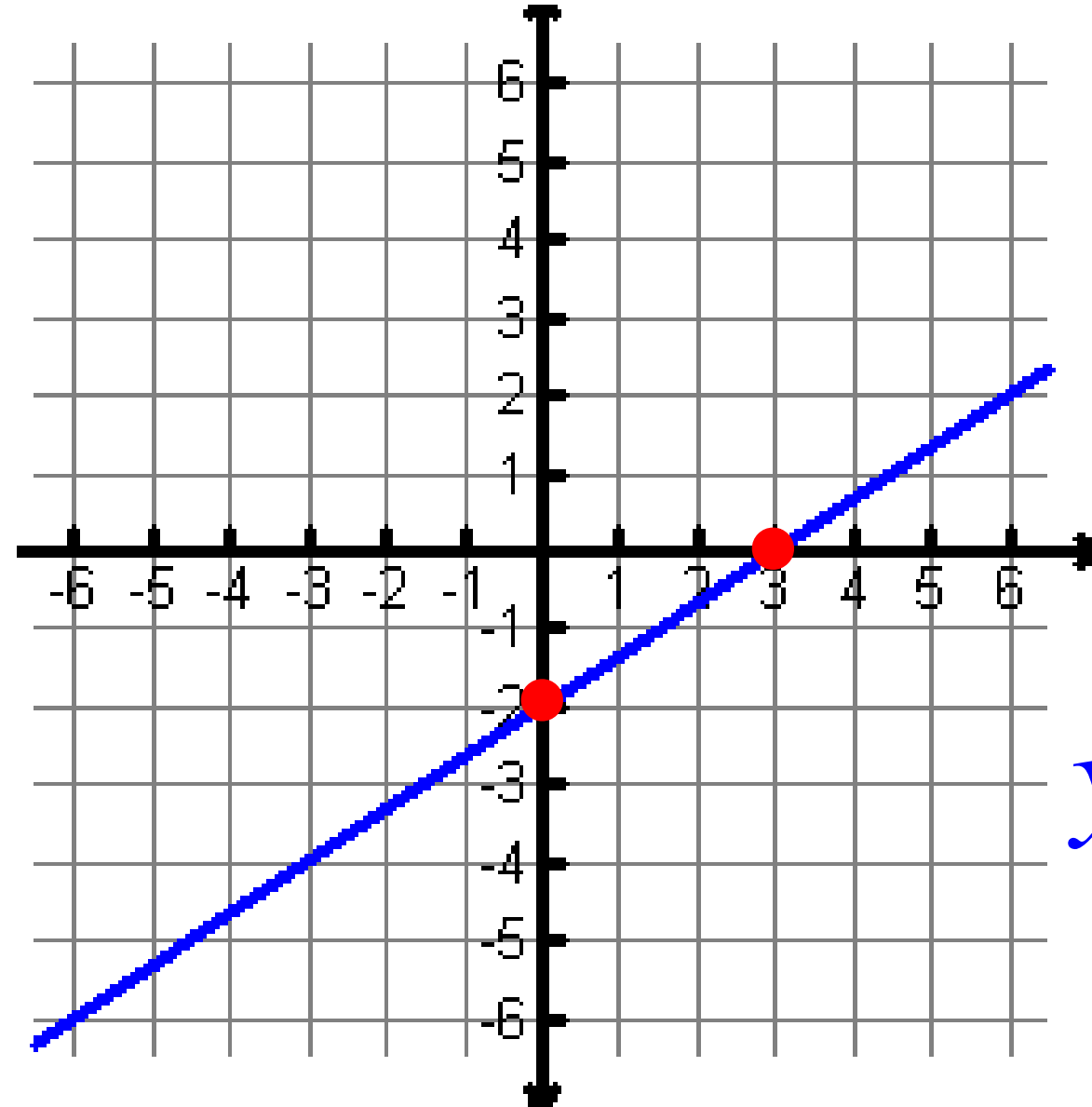
1. Write down  $y = mx + b$
2. Use any 2 “good” points on the graph to find the *slope*,  $m$ .
3. Find the *y-intercept on the graph*,  $b$ .
4. Substitute *slope* for  $m$  and *y-int* for  $b$  into the equation  $y = mx + b$ .

6. Write the equation of this graph



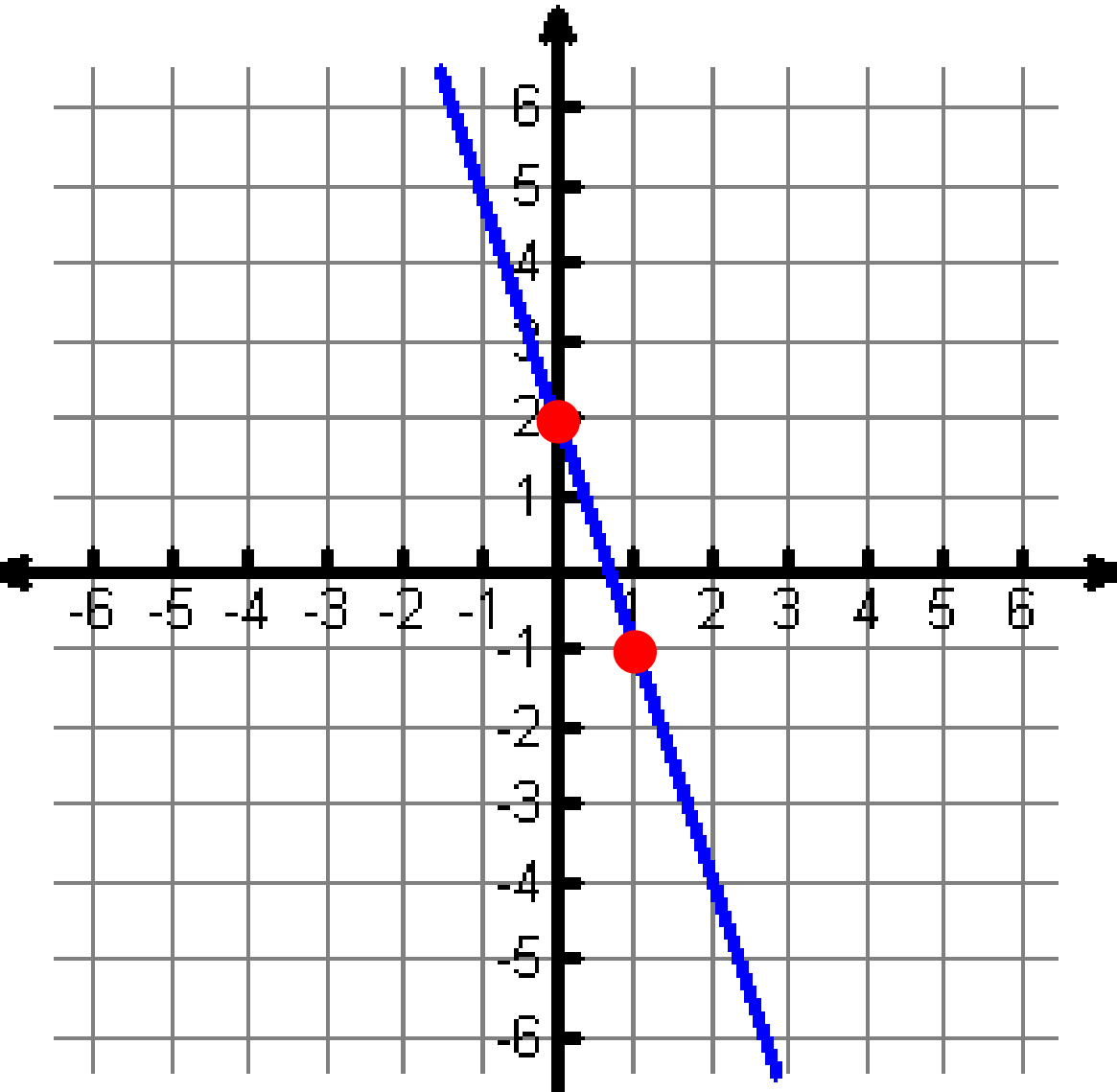


6. Write the equation of this graph

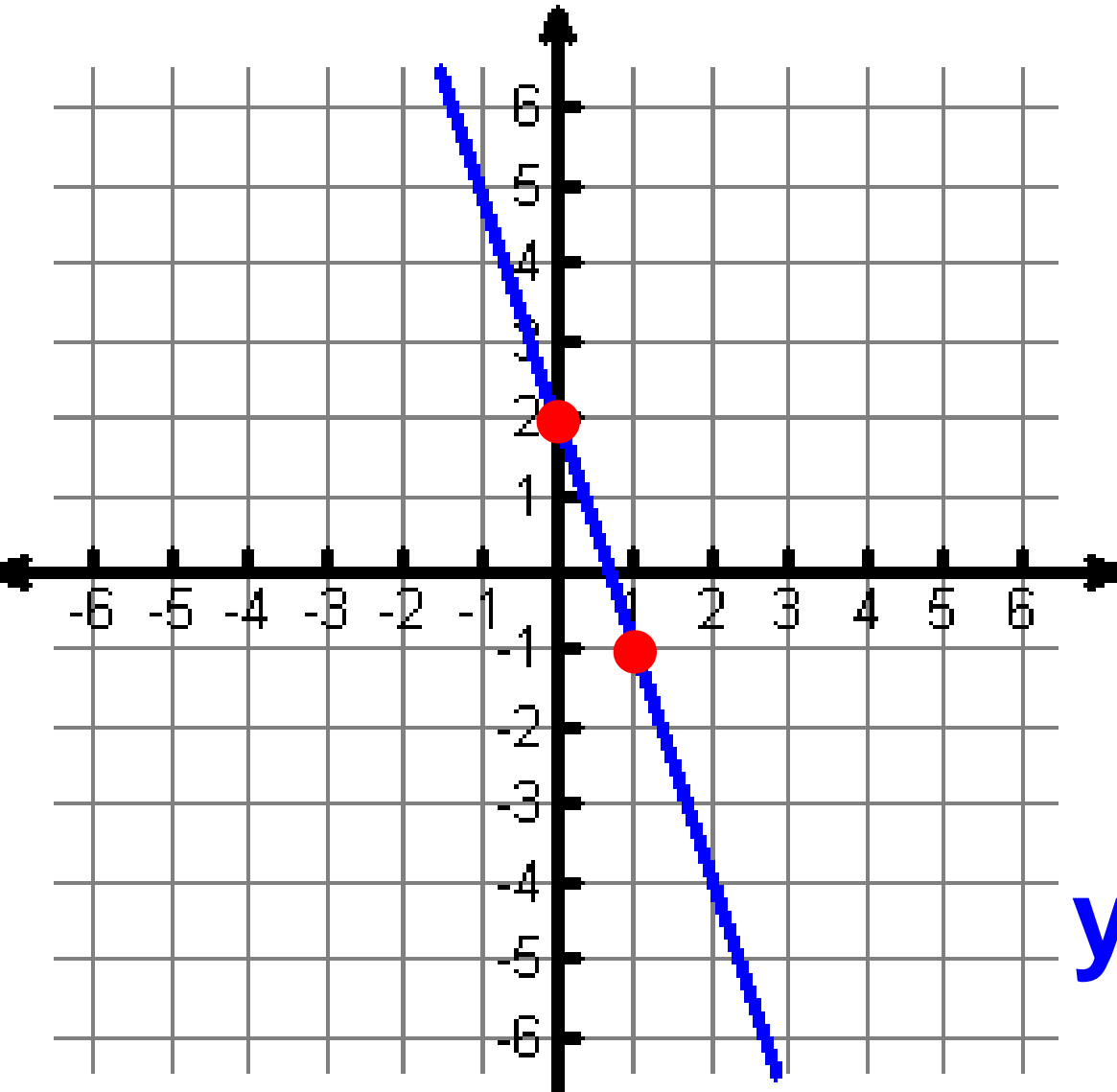


$$y = \frac{2}{3}x - 2$$

7. Write the equation of this graph

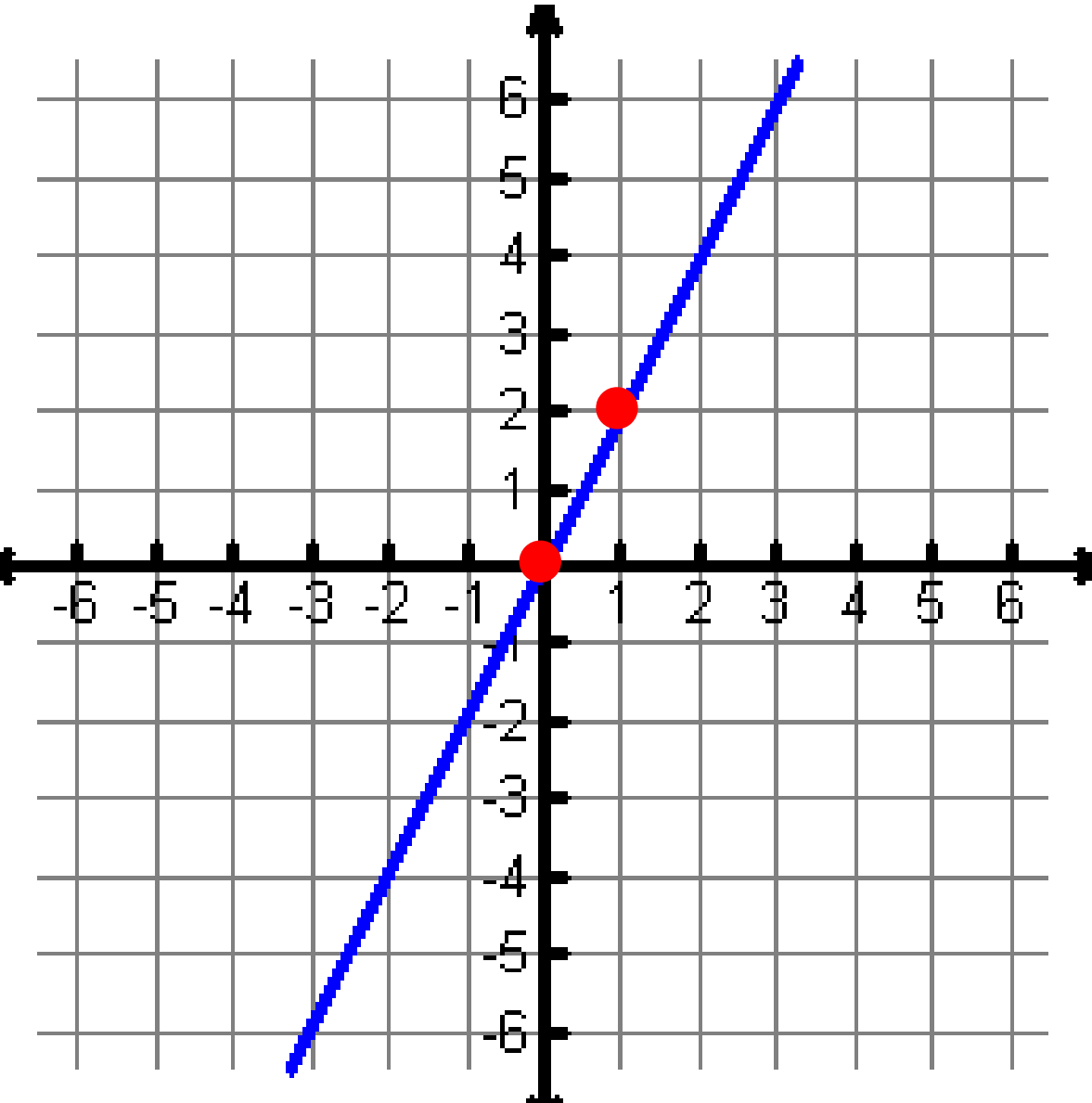


7. Write the equation of this graph

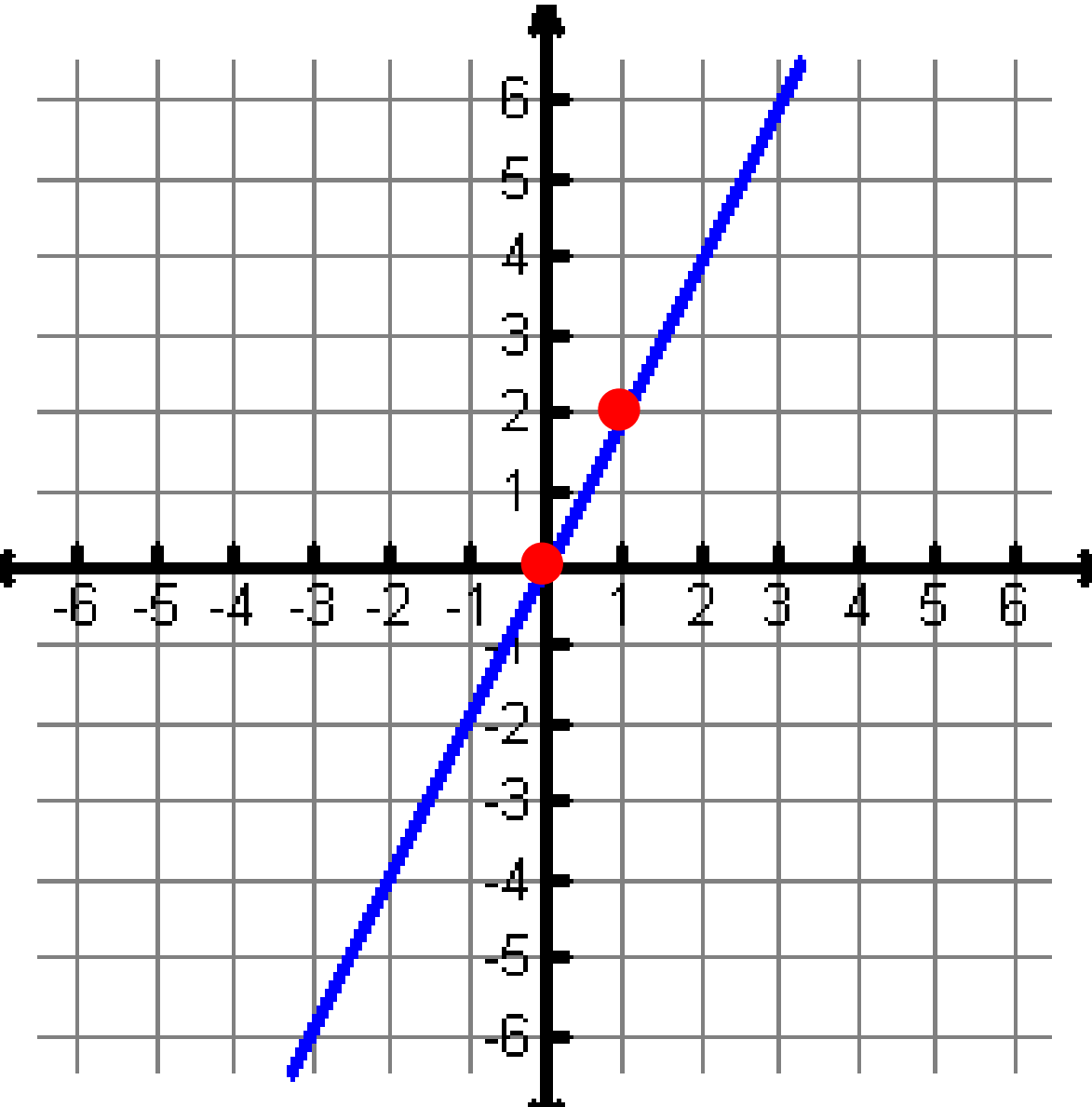


$$y = -3x + 2$$

8. Write the equation of this graph

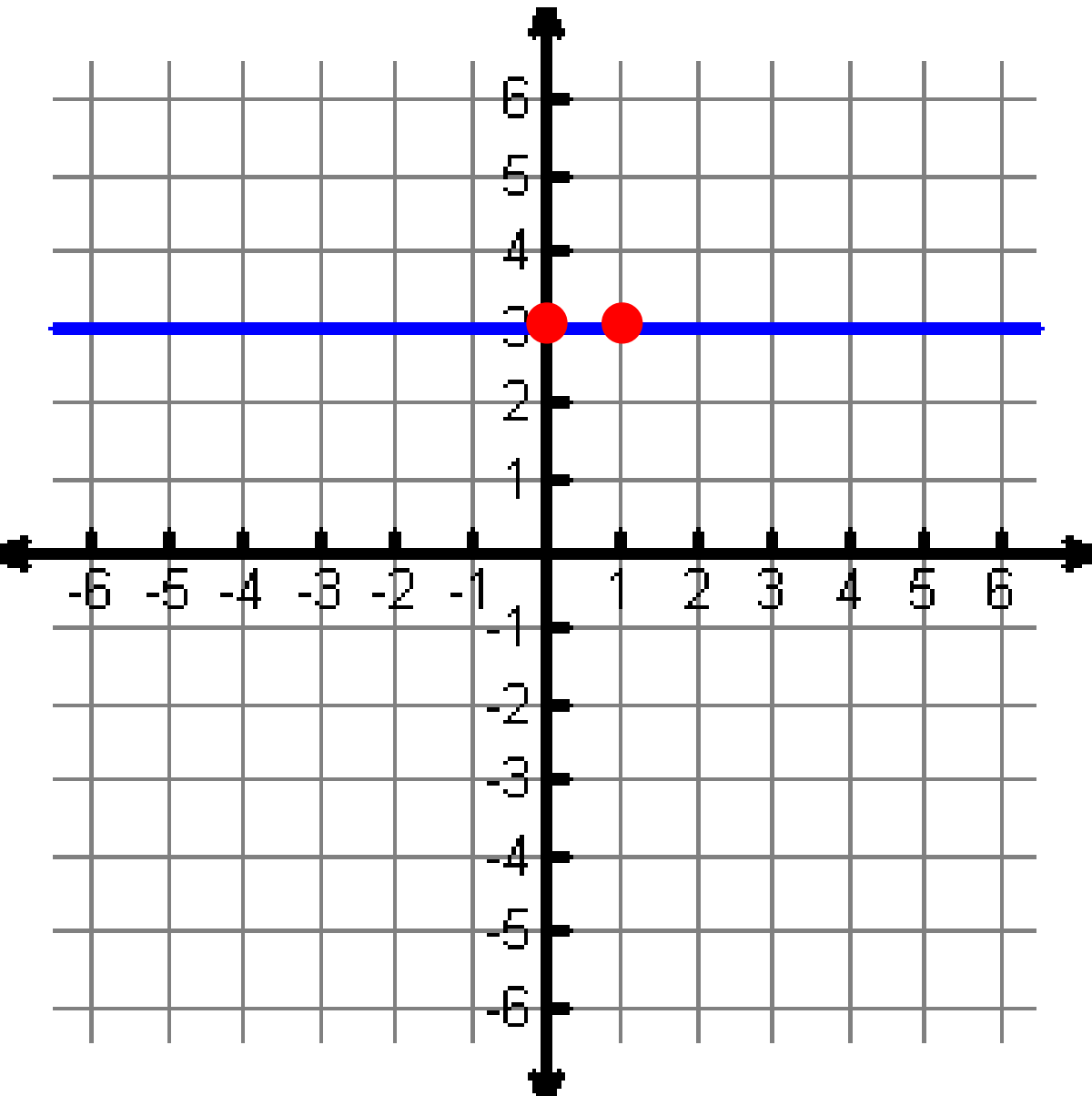


8. Write the equation of this graph

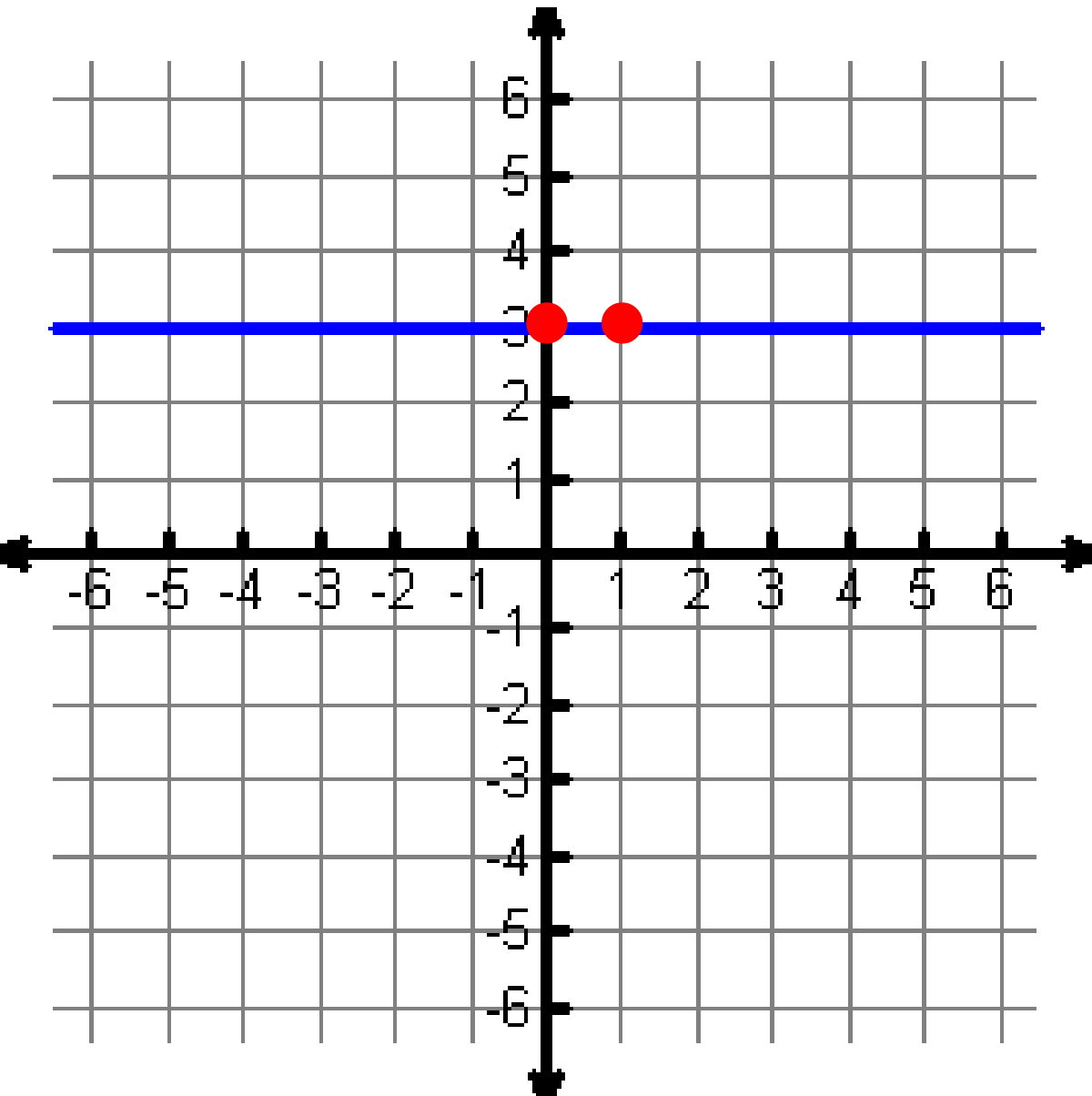


$$y = 2x$$

9. Write the equation of this graph

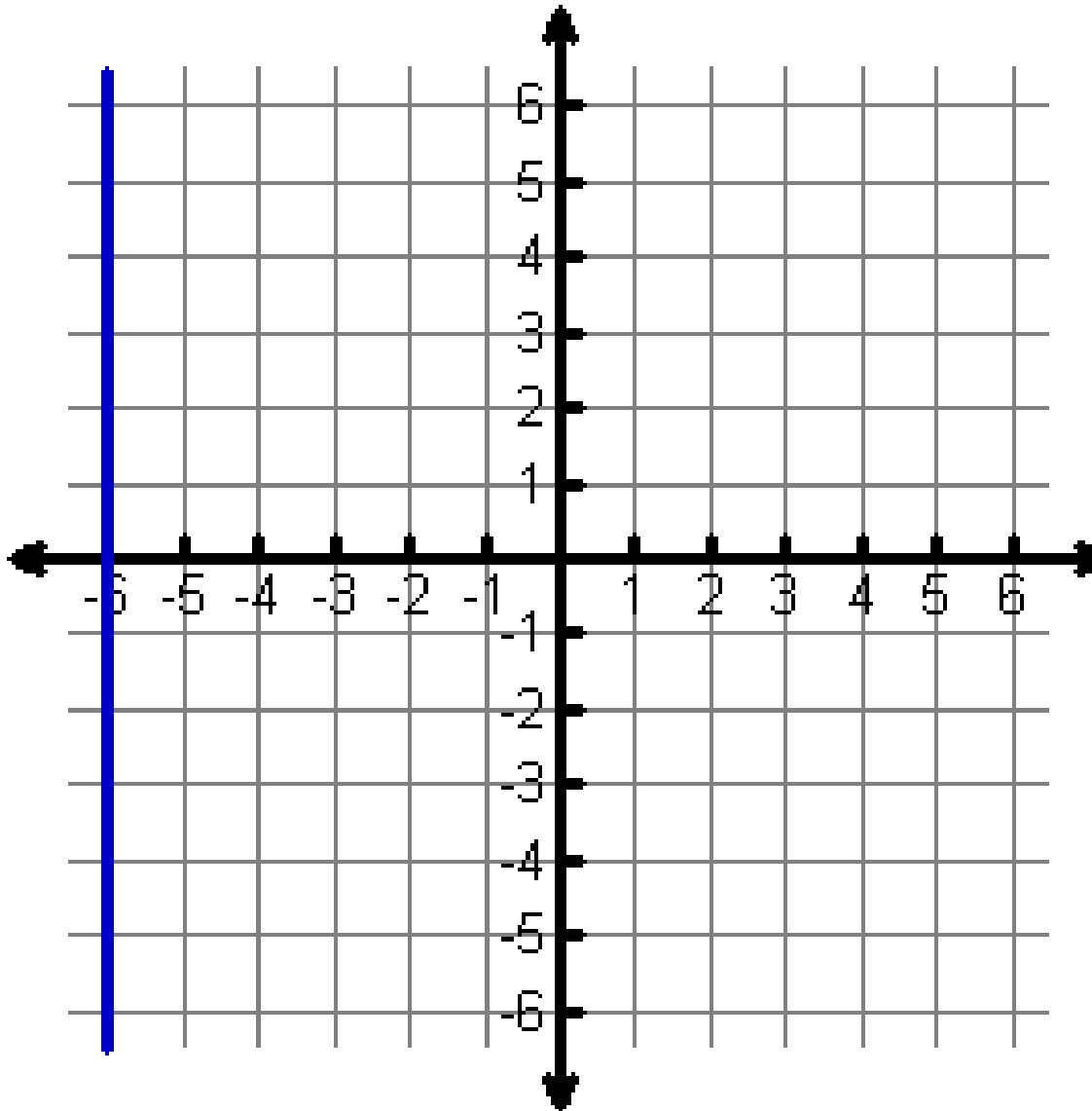


9. Write the equation of this graph



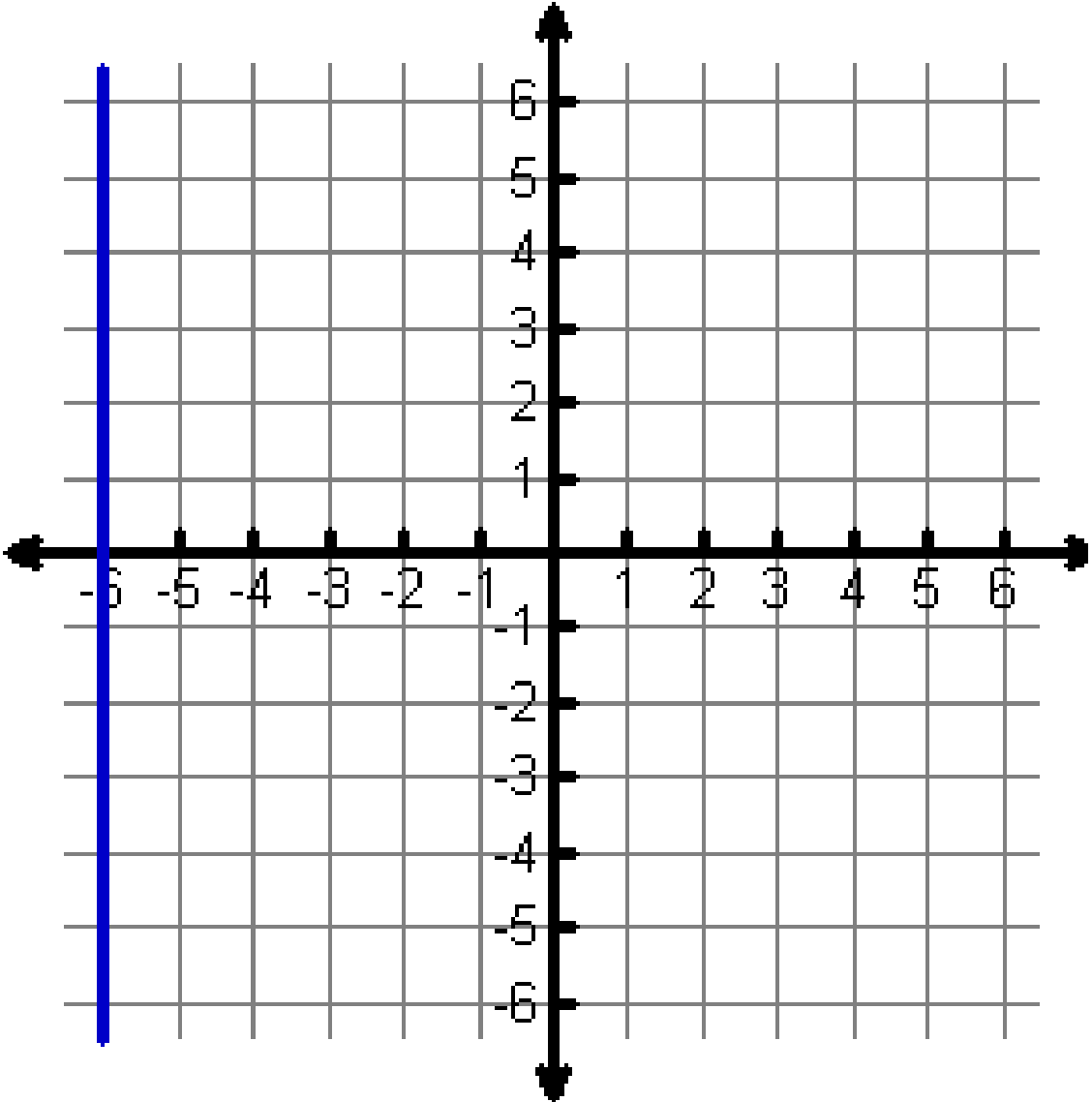
$$y = 3$$

10. Write the equation of this graph





10. Write the equation of this graph



$x = -6$

# III. How to Write an Equation of a Line Given $m$ and a point

1. Write down  $y = mx + b$ .
2. Substitute slope for  $m$  and the point  $(x, y)$ .
3. Solve for  $b$ .
4. Substitute  $m$  and  $b$  back into the equation.

Write the equation of the line given  $m$  and a point

**Ex 13:  $m = 2$  Point:  $(2, 3)$**

$$y = mx + b$$

$$3 = 2(2) + b$$

$$b = -1$$

$$y = 2x - 1$$

Write the equation of the line given  $m$  and a point

**Ex 14:  $m = 1/2$     Point:  $(4, -3)$**

$$y = mx + b$$

$$-3 = 1/2 (4) + b$$

$$b = -5$$

$$y = 1/2 x - 5$$

Write the equation of the line given  $m$  and a point

**Ex: 16**

**$m = 4$      $(1,4)$**

Write the equation of the line given  $m$  and a point

**Ex: 16**

$$m = 4 \quad (1, 4)$$

$$y = 4x$$

Write the equation of the line given  $m$  and a point

**Ex: 18**

**$m = 2$      $(0,3)$**

Write the equation of the line given  $m$  and a point

**Ex: 18**

**$m = 2$      $(0,3)$**

$$**y = 2x + 3**$$



Write the equation of the line given  $m$  and a point

**Ex: 20**

**$m = \text{undefined}$      $(3,6)$**

Write the equation of the line given  $m$  and a point

**Ex: 20**

**$m = \text{undefined}$      $(3,6)$**

$$**x = 3**$$

## IV. How to Write an Equation of a Line **Given TWO points**

1. Write down  $y = mx + b$ .
2. Use the slope formula to find  $m$ .
3. Pick one of the ordered pairs & substitute slope for  $m$  and the point  $(x, y)$ .
4. Solve for  $b$ .
5. *Substitute  $m$  and  $b$  into the equation.*

# Equation of a Line - Given 2 points

Ex: 21 (2, 3) (4, 5)

$$m = \frac{5 - 3}{4 - 2} = \frac{2}{2} = 1$$

$$y = mx + b$$

$$3 = 1(2) + b$$

$$b = 1$$

$$y = x + 1$$

# Equation of a Line - Given 2 points

**Ex: 22**     $(2, 3)$     $(-4, 15)$

# Equation of a Line - Given 2 points

**Ex: 22** (2, 3) (-4, 15)

$$m = \frac{15 - 3}{-4 - 2} = \frac{12}{-6} = -2$$

$$y = -2x + 7$$

# Equation of a Line - Given 2 points

**Ex: 23**     $(2, 2)$     $(0, 4)$

# Equation of a Line - Given 2 points

**Ex: 23** (2, 2) (0, 4)

$$m = \frac{4 - 2}{0 - 2} = \frac{2}{-2} = -1$$

$$y = -x + 4$$



# PARALLEL LINES

- Graphs: Lines Never Intersect and are in the same plane (coplanar)
- Equations:
  - Same Slopes
  - Different  $y$ -intercepts

# PERPENDICULAR LINES

- Graphs: Lines Intersect at right angles ( $90^\circ$  angles)

- Equations:

Opposite (negative) Reciprocal Slopes

With the same or different y-int

# Find the Opposite (negative) Reciprocal Slopes

1.  $-\frac{2}{3}$

2.  $\frac{11}{12}$

3. 7

4.  $-\frac{1}{9}$

# Find the Opposite (negative) Reciprocal Slopes

1.  $-\frac{2}{3}$     $\frac{3}{2}$

2.  $\frac{11}{12}$     $-\frac{12}{11}$

3.  $7$     $-\frac{1}{7}$

4.  $-\frac{1}{9}$     $9$

**Are these lines parallel, perpendicular, or neither?**

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

**$y = -2x - 4$**

**2.  $y = 3x - 4$**

**$y = -3x + 1$**

**3.  $y = \frac{1}{5}x + 2$**

**$y = -5x + 6$**

Are these lines parallel, perpendicular, or neither?

1.  $y = -2x + 1$

$$y = -2x - 4$$

**parallel**

2.  $y = 3x - 4$

$$y = -3x + 1$$

**neither**

3.  $y = \frac{1}{5}x + 2$

$$y = -5x + 6$$

**perpendicular**

Are these lines parallel, perpendicular, or neither? 4.  $y = -2x + 1$

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

5.  $y = 3x - 4$

$$y = 1 + 3x$$

6.  $y = \frac{5}{6}x + 2$

$$y = -\frac{6}{5}x + 6$$

Are these lines parallel, perpendicular, or neither? 4.  $y = -2x + 1$

$$y = -1/2x - 4$$

**neither**

5.  $y = 3x - 4$

$$y = 1 + 3x$$

**parallel**

6.  $y = 5/6 x + 2$

$$y = -6/5 x + 6$$

**perpendicular**



# How to Write an Equation of a Line PARALLEL to another and given a point

1. Given equation should be solved for  $y$  ( $y = mx + b$ )
2. Write down the slope of that line
3. Substitute  $m$  and  $(x, y)$  in  $y = mx + b$ .
4. Solve for  $b$ .
5. Write the equation using  $m$  and  $b$ .

Write a line parallel to the line  $2x + y = 3$  and passes through the point  $(-2, 5)$ .

Write a line parallel to the line  $2x + y = 3$  and passes through the point  $(-2, 5)$ .

$$y = -2x + 1$$

Write a line parallel to the line  $y = 3x - 5$  and passes through the point  $(-5, -2)$ .

Write a line parallel to the line  $y = 3x - 5$  and passes through the point  $(-5, -2)$ .

$$y = 3x + 13$$

Write a line parallel to the line  $y = -4x + 1$  and passes through the point  $(2, -1)$ .

Write a line parallel to the line  $y = -4x + 1$  and passes through the point  $(2, -1)$ .

$$y = -4x + 7$$

Write a line parallel to the line  $y = -x - 7$  and passes through the point  $(-4, -4)$ .



Write a line parallel to the line  $y = -x - 7$  and passes through the point  $(-4, -4)$ .

$$y = -x - 8$$

# How to Write an Equation of a Line PERPENDICULAR to another and given a point

1. Given equation should be solved for  $y$  ( $y = mx + b$ )
2. Write down the **OPPOSITE RECIPROCAL** slope of that line
3. Substitute  $m$  and  $(x, y)$  in  $y = mx + b$ .
4. Solve for  $b$ .
5. Write the equation using  $m$  and  $b$ .

Write a line perpendicular to the line  $y = \frac{1}{2}x - 2$  and passes through the point  $(1, 0)$ .

Write a line perpendicular to the line  $y = \frac{1}{2}x - 2$  and passes through the point  $(1, 0)$ .

$$y = -2x + 2$$

Write a line perpendicular to the line  $y = -3x + 2$  and passes through the point  $(6, 5)$ . Leave the equation in standard form.

Write a line perpendicular to the line  $y = -3x + 2$  and passes through the point  $(6, 5)$ . Leave the equation in standard form.

$$x - 3y = -9$$

Write a line perpendicular to the line  $2x + 3y = 9$  and passes through the point  $(6, -1)$ .

Write a line perpendicular to the line  $2x + 3y = 9$  and passes through the point  $(6, -1)$ .

$$y = \frac{3}{2}x - 10$$



Write a line perpendicular to the line  $y = 2x - 1$  and passes through the point  $(2, 4)$ .

Write a line perpendicular to the line  $y = 2x - 1$  and passes through the point  $(2, 4)$ .

$$y = -\frac{1}{2}x + 5$$

**Write a line perpendicular to  
the line  $y = -\frac{1}{3}x + 2$  and passes  
through the point  $(5, 1)$ . Leave  
the equation in standard form.**

Write a line perpendicular to the line  $y = -\frac{1}{3}x + 2$  and passes through the point  $(5, 1)$ . Leave the equation in standard form.

$$3x - y = 14$$