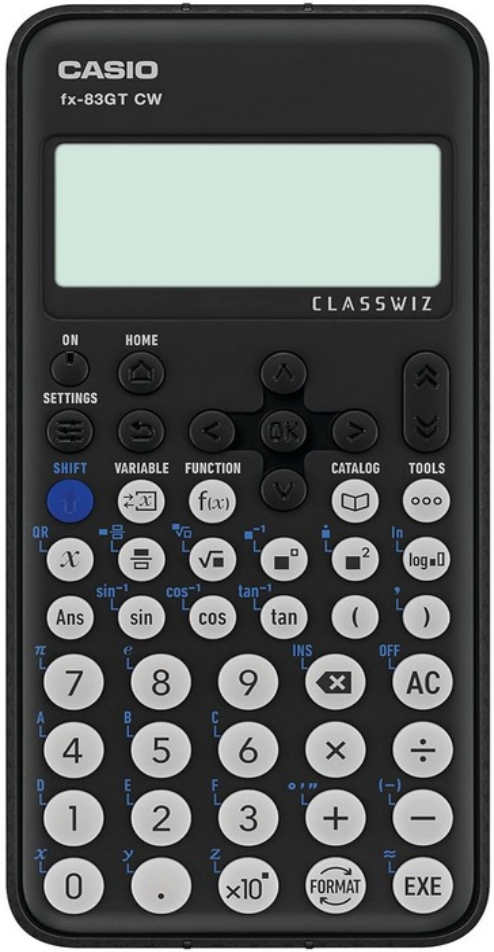
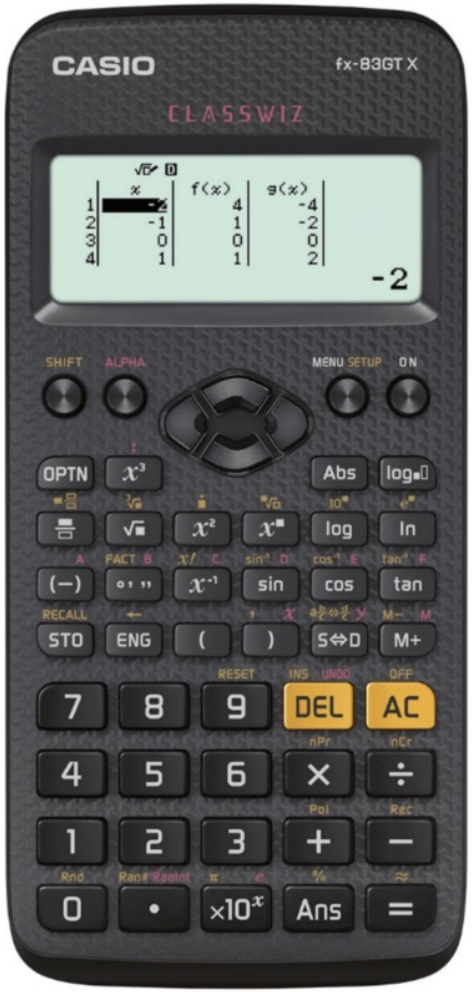
Calculator Tips and Tricks

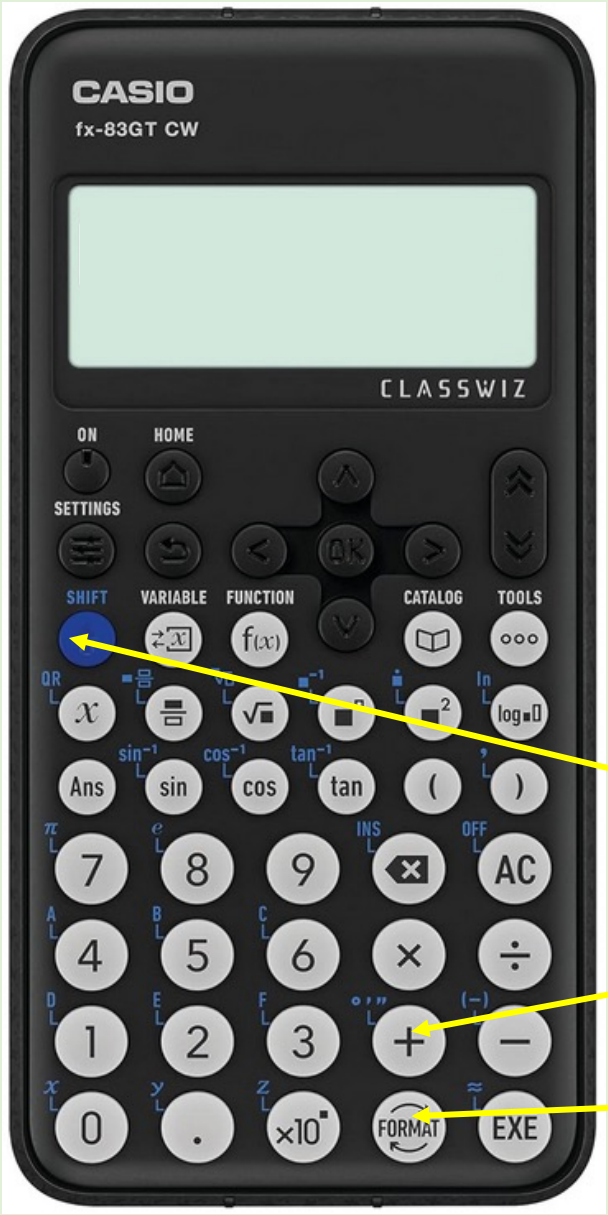
Please get out your calculator and decide which type you have:

New calculator – round buttons



Original – square buttons





Changing Between Hours and Minutes and Decimals of Hours

Inputting Hours/Minutes,
press Shift and +
then Format Decimal

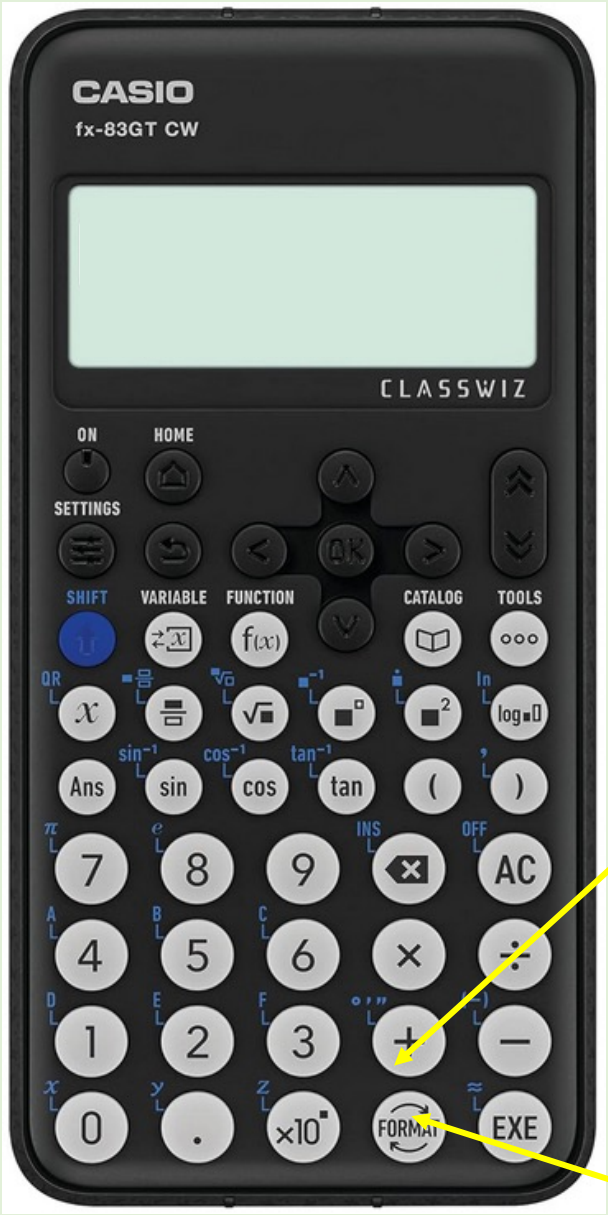
Press Format and choose Sexagesimal

3 hours 25 minutes =

Type $3^{o}\ 25'\ 0''''' =$

$=3.41666667$

Remember to type in the 0 seconds.



Changing Between Decimals of Hours and Hours and Minutes

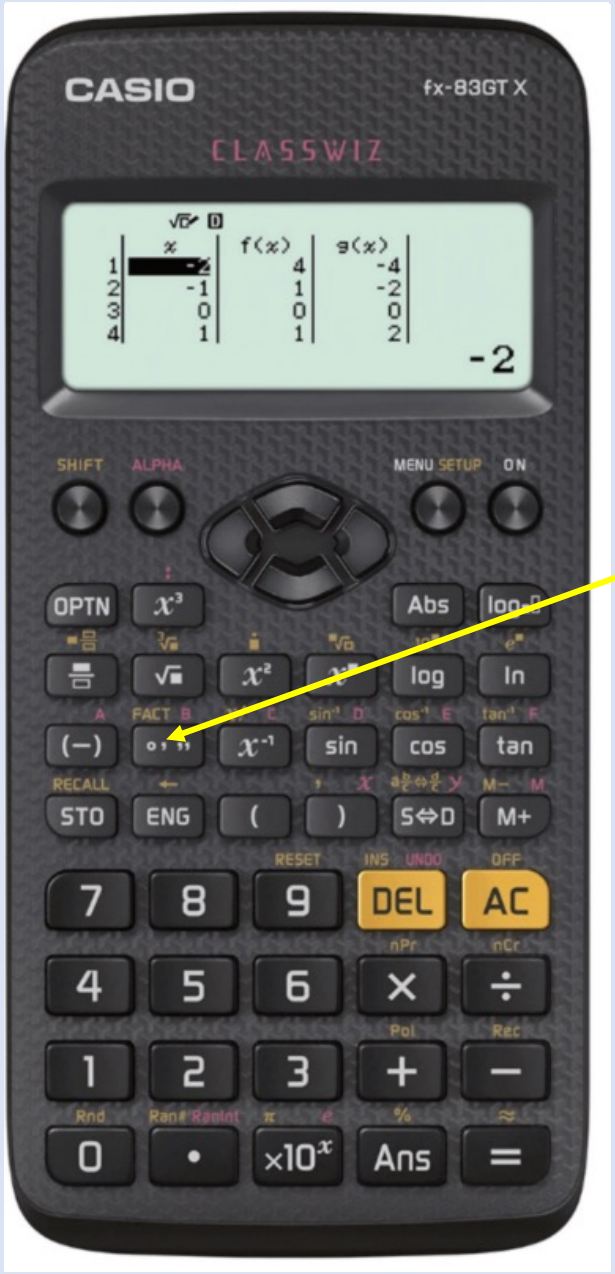
To change a decimal into hours and minutes, type in the decimal.
Press Format and choose Sexagesimal

$$2.75 \text{ hours} =$$

$$2^{\circ}\ 45'\ 0"$$

Press Exe then Format Sexagesimal to get an answer in hours and minutes.

Changing Between Hours and Minutes and Decimals of Hours



Type in the hours/minutes/seconds using this button

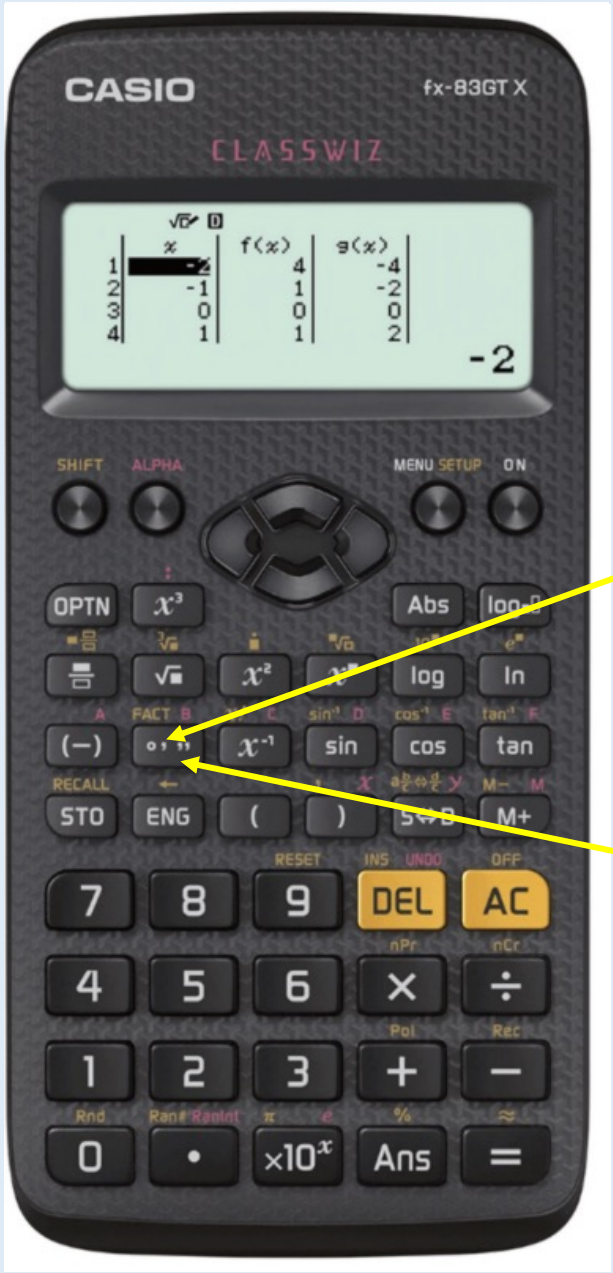
3 hours 25 minutes =

Type $3^{o}\ 25\ '\ 0''\ =$

Press S <> D $= 3.41666667$

Remember to include the 0 seconds

Changing Between Decimals of Hours and Hours and Minutes



Type in the decimal and then press this button

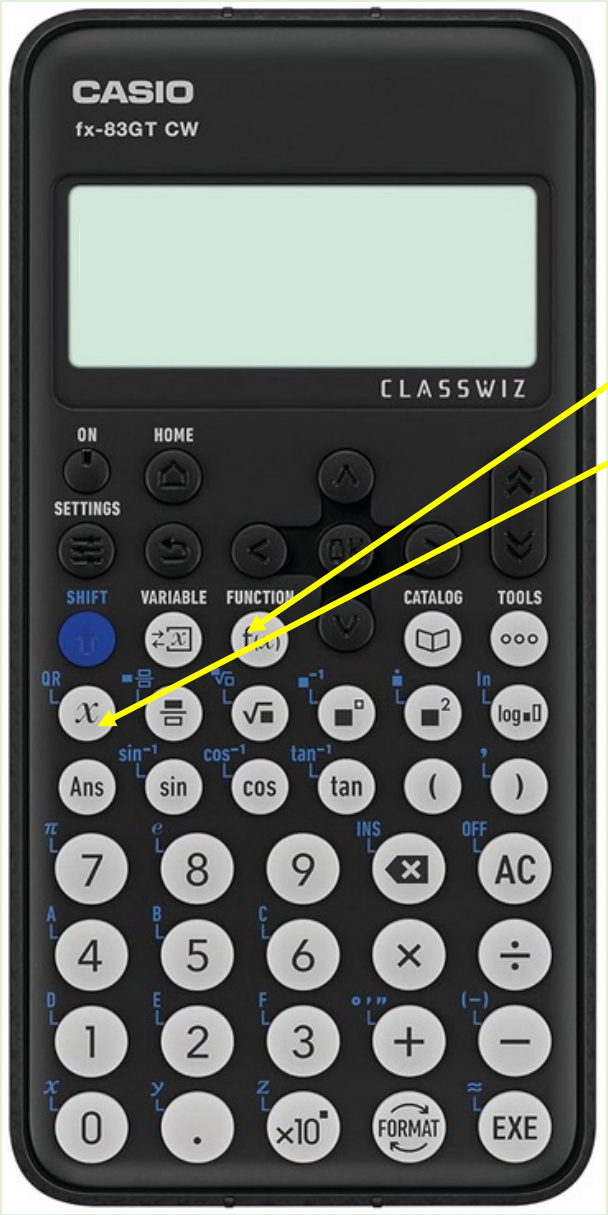
2.75 hours =

Type 2.75 =

Press the time button =

$2^{o}\ 45'\ 0''$

Remember to include the 0 seconds



Tables of Values for Graphs

Function: Define f(x)

(x is under the Shift key)

Complete the table for $y = x^2 - 3x$

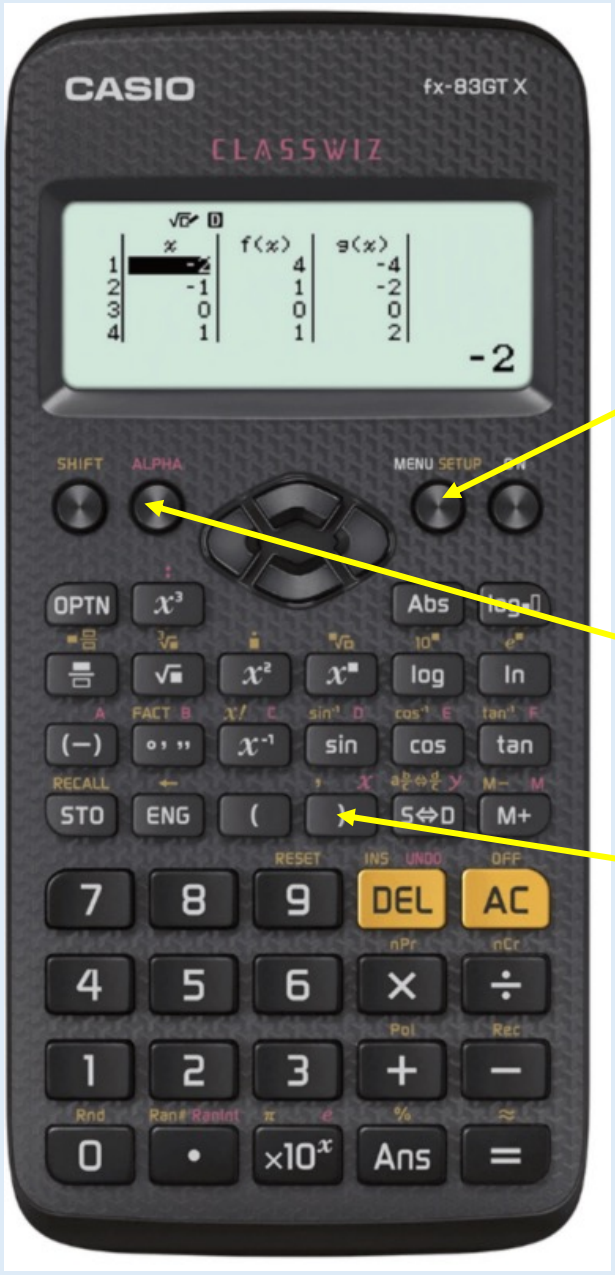
x	-2	-1	0	1	2
y					

10 4 0 – 2 – 2

Then Press Home and Table

Press Tools then Table Range

Start – 2 End 2 Step 1



Tables of Values for Graphs

Press Menu - Table

Complete the table for $y = x^2 - 3x$

x	-2	-1	0	1	2
y					

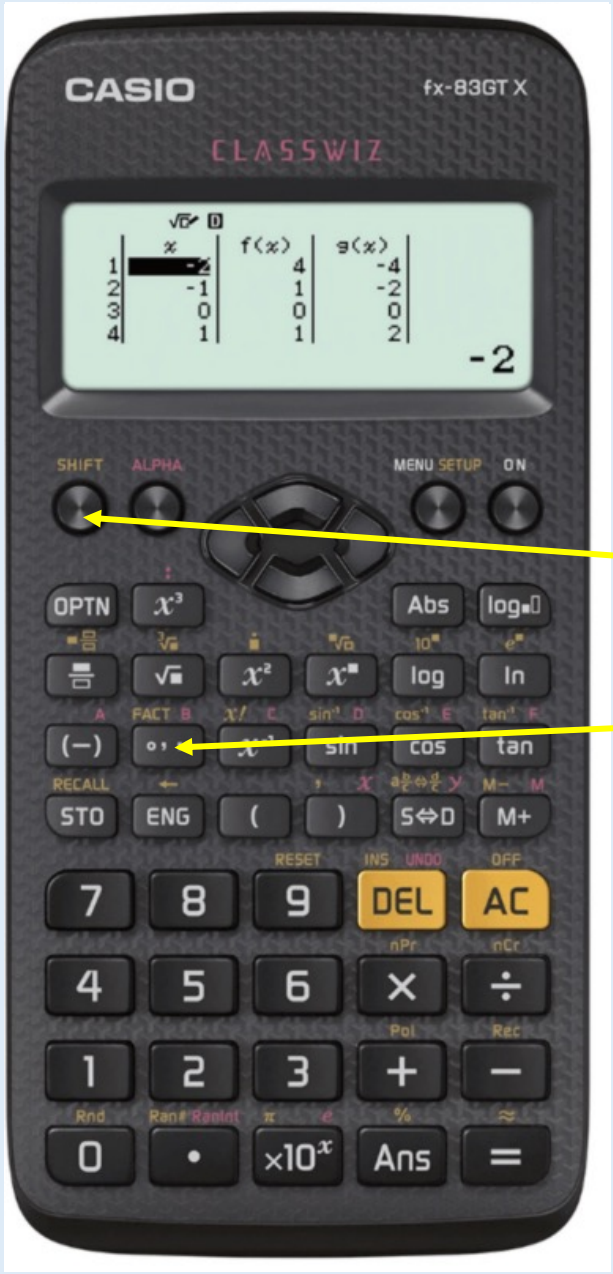
10 4 0 − 2 − 2

Press Menu then Table

$f(x) = x^2 - 3x$ x is Alpha)

Start − 2 End 2 Step 1

Express 1155 as a product of prime factors



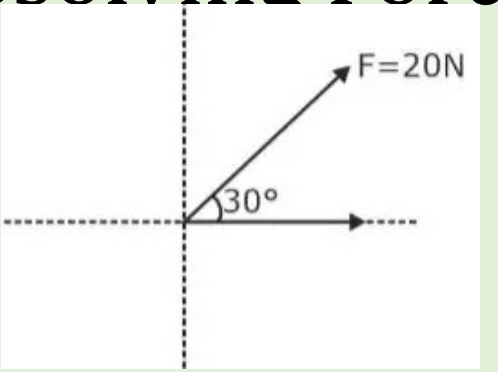
Type 1155 and press =

Then press Shift and the time button

$$1155 =$$

$3 \times 5 \times 7 \times 11$

Resolving Forces



To change from a force at an angle
to horizontal and vertical

Press Catalogue then Angle/CoOrd

Choose Polar to Rect =

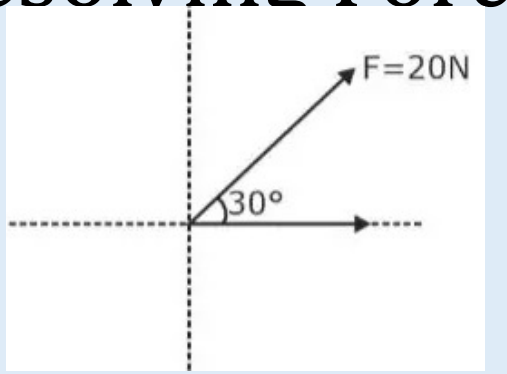
Rec(20, 30)

, is Shift and)

x = 17.32, y = 10

To go the other way, choose Rect to Polar
and type in the force and the angle

Resolving Forces



To change from a force at an angle to horizontal and vertical

Press Shift and -

Rec(20, 30)

, is Shift and)

x = 17.32, y = 10

To go the other way, press Shift and + and type in the force and the angle

Solving Simultaneous Equations

Menu or Home then choose Equation
Simul Equation
2 unknowns

$$x + 3y = 5$$
$$2x - 4y = 7$$

Press Exe; $x = \frac{1}{2}, y = \frac{3}{2}$

Choosing Polynomial will solve quadratic equations and find the minimum point

Solving Quadratic Equations

Menu or Home then choose Equation
Polynomial
Degree 2

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

Press Exe; $x = 1, x = 4$

Min x = 3/2, min y = -25/4

The “min” is the minimum point on the graph

Solving Quadratic Inequalities

Solve $x^2 - 3x - 4 > 0$

Menu or Home
then choose Inequality
Polynomial Degree 2

$ax^2 + bx + c > 0$

Type in 1, -3, -4

Press Exe; $x < 1, 4 < x$

Without writing anything down…

Change 3.4 into a mixed number and an improper fraction

Find $3\frac{2}{7} \div \frac{1}{5}$ as a mixed number and an improper fraction.

Change 2.7 hours into hours and minutes

Change 3 hours 5 minutes into a decimal of an hour

Express 1260 as a product of prime factors

Complete the table of values for $y = x^2 - 3x - 4 = 0$

X	-2	-1	0	1	2
y					

Without writing anything down…

Solve the simultaneous equations $3x + 4y = 5$ and $5x + 6y = -2$

Solve the quadratic equation $3x^2 - 4x - 16 = 0$

Write down the minimum value of $y = 3x^2 - 4x - 16$ and the value of x for which it occurs

Solve the quadratic inequalities

$x^2 - 5x - 6 > 0$

$x^2 + 3x - 4 \leq 0$