

### 3.1 Graphing a Line Parallel to an Axis

Recall:  $x$  axis is horizontal  
 $y$  axis is vertical

Equations that contain only one variable:

will be parallel to the other lettered axis

#### Special Graphs:

1.  $y = \#$ 
  - no  $x$  then the graph cannot cross the  $x$  axis
  - parallel to the  $x$  axis (horizontal)
  - to graph - start at the given # on the  $y$  axis
  
2.  $x = \#$ 
  - no  $y$  then the graph cannot cross the  $y$  axis
  - parallel to the  $y$  axis (vertical)
  - to graph → start at the given # on the  $x$  axis.

Examples:

1. Write the equation of a line that is parallel to the  $y$ -axis and 2 units left of the  $y$ -axis.
- $x = -2$
- ↳ doesn't cross  $y$  axis  
 ↳ no "y"  
 ↳  $x = \#$

2. Write the equation of a line that is parallel to the  $x$ -axis and 8 units above.

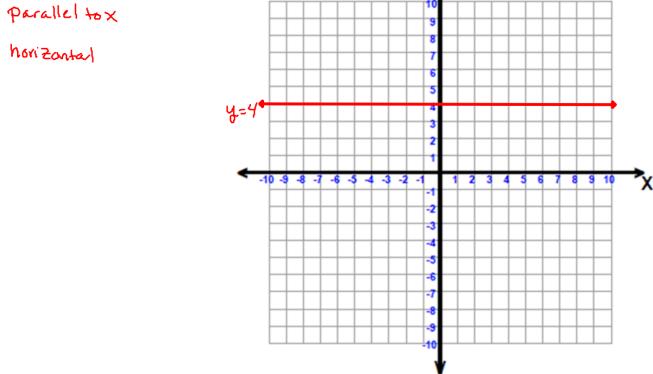
$$y = 8$$

↳ doesn't cross  $x$  axis  
 ↳ no  $x$   
 ↳  $y = \#$

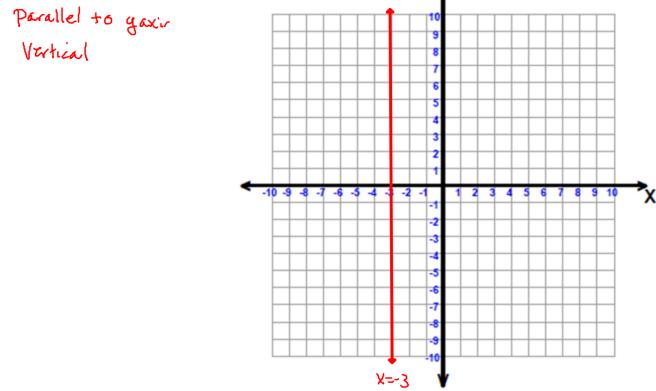
Describe fully the graph of a line whose equation is:

3.  $y = 5$  no  $x$ , doesn't cross  $x$  axis, so it is parallel to  $y = 5$  is parallel to the  $x$  axis and up 5 units.
4.  $x = -4$  parallel to  $y$  axis and left 4 units
  
5.  $y = -1$  parallel to  $x$  axis and down 1 unit
  
6.  $x = 7$  parallel to the  $y$  axis and right 7 units

7. Graph  $y = 4$

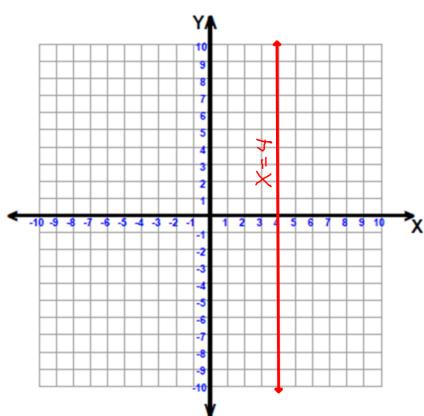


8. Graph  $x = -3$



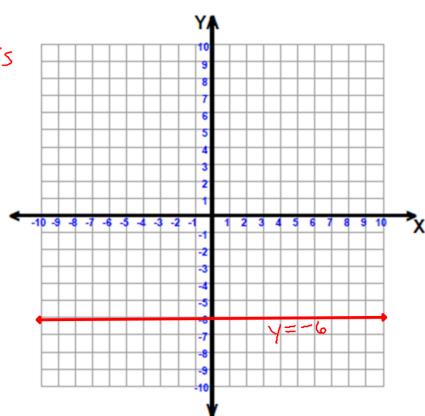
9. Graph  $x = 4$

parallel to y-axis  
vertical



10. Graph  $y = -6$

parallel to the x-axis  
horizontal



# HOMEWORK

Worksheet - HW 3.1 Graphing a Line  
Parallel to an Axis