

4.4 – Matching Equations and Graphs

Ex. 1: Match each graph on the grid with its equation:

$$y = x \quad y = 2x \quad y = -3x$$

Method 1: Choose an x-value and substitute it into each equation to determine the corresponding y-value. This will give you a coordinate. Look for the graph that goes through this coordinate.

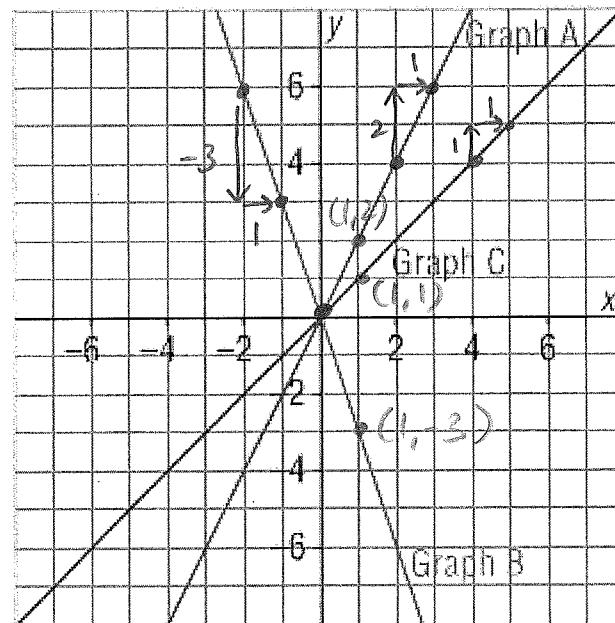
*Don't choose $x=0$ since all 3 graphs have the same y-value there ($y=0$)

Choose $x=1$:

$$y = x \Rightarrow y = 1 \therefore (1, 1) \therefore \boxed{\text{Graph C}}$$

$$y = 2x \Rightarrow y = 2(1) = 2 \therefore (1, 2) \therefore \boxed{\text{Graph A}}$$

$$y = -3x \Rightarrow y = -3(1) = -3 \therefore (1, -3) \therefore \boxed{\text{Graph B}}$$



Method 2: Find the y-intercept and the slope from the equation and see which graph has these properties.

$$y = x \quad (\text{same as } y = \frac{1}{1}x + 0) \quad \begin{matrix} \text{rise 1, run 1} \\ y\text{-int 0} \end{matrix} \quad \boxed{C}$$

$$y = 2x \quad (\text{same as } y = \frac{2}{1}x + 0) \quad \begin{matrix} \text{rise 2, run 1} \\ y\text{-int 0} \end{matrix} \quad \boxed{A}$$

$$y = -3x \quad (\text{same as } y = \frac{-3}{1}x + 0) \quad \begin{matrix} \text{drop 3, run 1} \\ y\text{-int 0} \end{matrix} \quad \boxed{B}$$

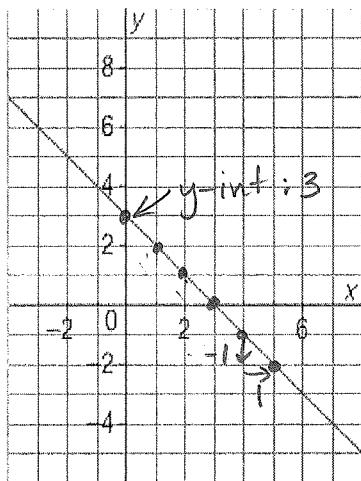
Ex. 2: Match each of these equations with either graph A, B, or C.

$$y = 3x + 3$$

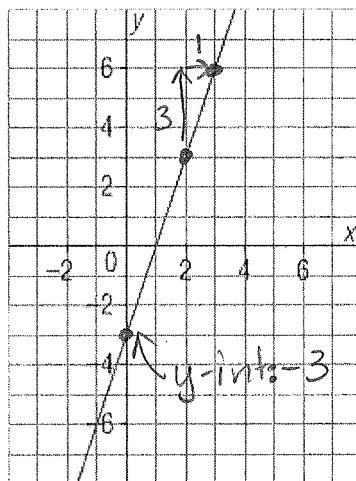
$$x + y = 3$$

$$y = 3x - 3$$

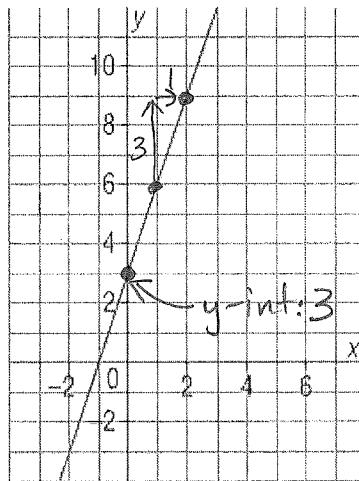
Graph A



Graph B



Graph C



Method 1: Choose an x-value and substitute it into each equation to determine the corresponding y-value. This will give you a coordinate. Look for the graph that goes through this coordinate.

Choose $x = 1$: (Ask why not $x = 0$? Why won't we be able to determine which graph?)

$$y = 3x + 3 \Rightarrow y = 3(1) + 3 = 3 + 3 = 6 \therefore (1, 6) \quad \boxed{\text{Graph C}}$$

$$x + y = 3 \Rightarrow -1 + y = 3 \therefore (1, 2)$$

$$y = 2$$

Graph A

$$y = 3x - 3 \Rightarrow y = 3(1) - 3 = 3 - 3 = 0 \therefore (1, 0) \quad \boxed{\text{Graph B}}$$



Method 2: Find the y-intercept and the slope from the equation and see which graph has these properties.

$$y = 3x + 3 \Rightarrow y = \frac{3}{1}x + 3 \quad \begin{matrix} \text{rise 3, run 1} \\ y\text{-int } 3 \end{matrix}$$

C

$$x + y = 3 \Rightarrow y = 3 - x \quad \begin{matrix} \text{drop 1, run 1} \\ y\text{-int } 3 \end{matrix}$$

A

$$y = 3x - 3 \Rightarrow y = \frac{3}{1}x - 3 \quad \begin{matrix} \text{rise 3, run 1} \\ y\text{-int } -3 \end{matrix}$$

B