

Exploring Quadratic Relations

Parabola

– a visual representation of a quadratic equation. Looks like a “U” opening up or down.

A graph of any quadratic relation of the standard form $y = ax^2 + bx + c$, where $a \neq 0$, is a parabola.

a reveals the direction of opening of the parabola.

When positive, the parabola opens **up**.

When negative, the parabola opens **down**.

Important points on a Parabola:

Axis of symmetry-

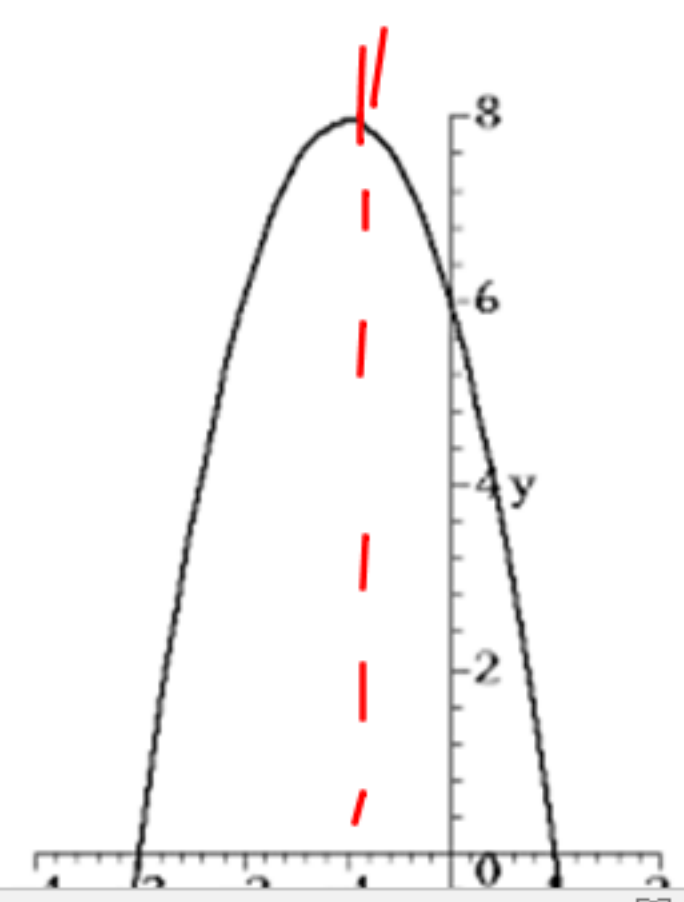
where the parabola folds in half equally ($x = -$)

Vertex-

Max/min value-

Zeros-

Y-intercept-



U → min
 A → max

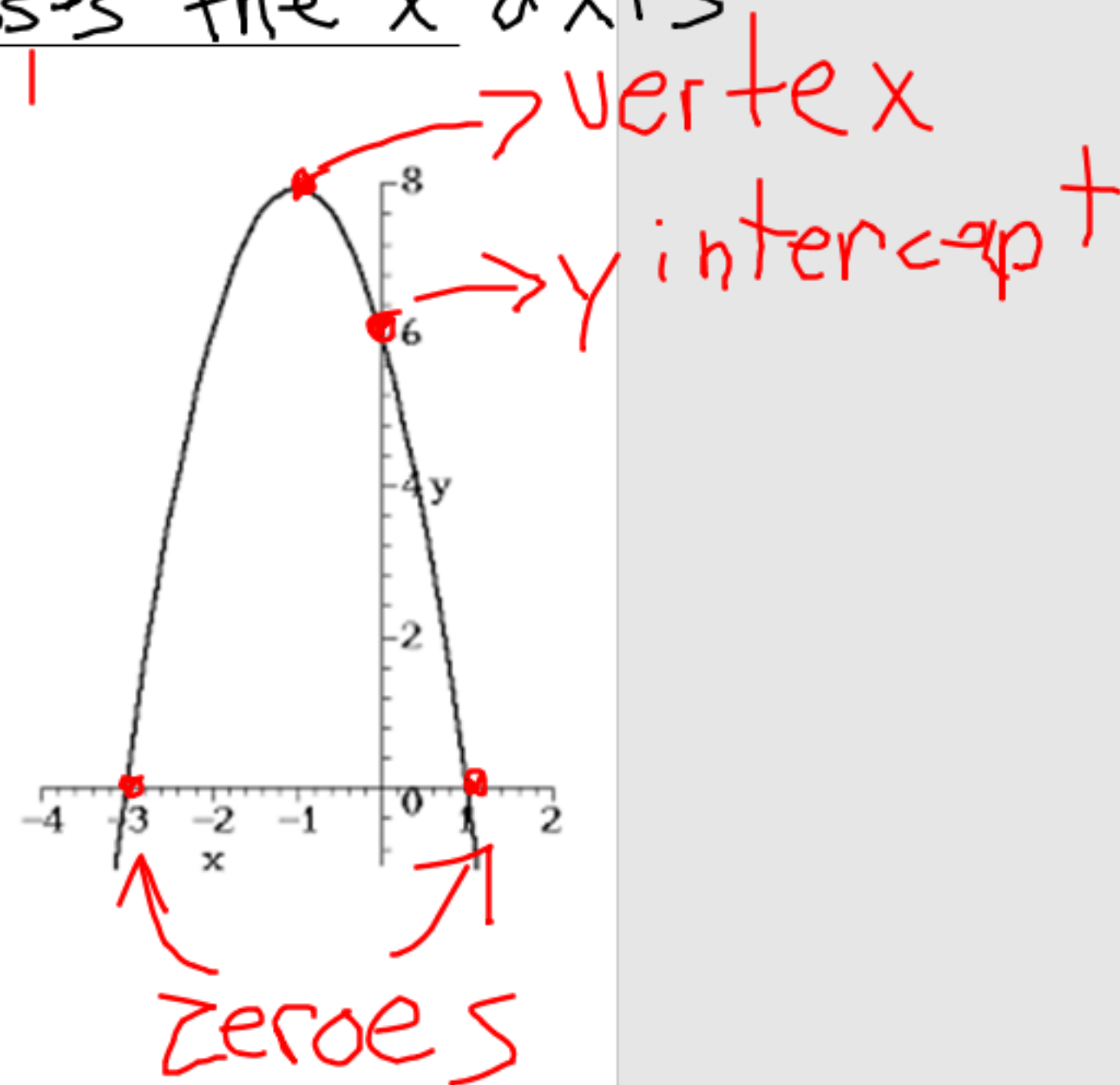
Vertex- the point where it changes direction
 ex → $(-1, 8)$

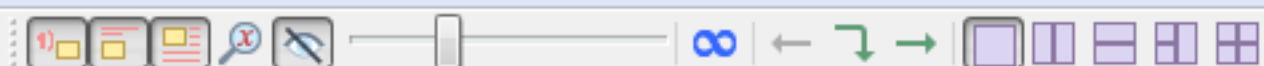
Max/min value- does the parabola have max or min
 ex → max value

Zeros- where the parabola crosses the x axis
 (x-intercepts, roots) ex → -3 and 1

Y-intercept- where the parabola crosses the y axis
 ex $(0, 6)$

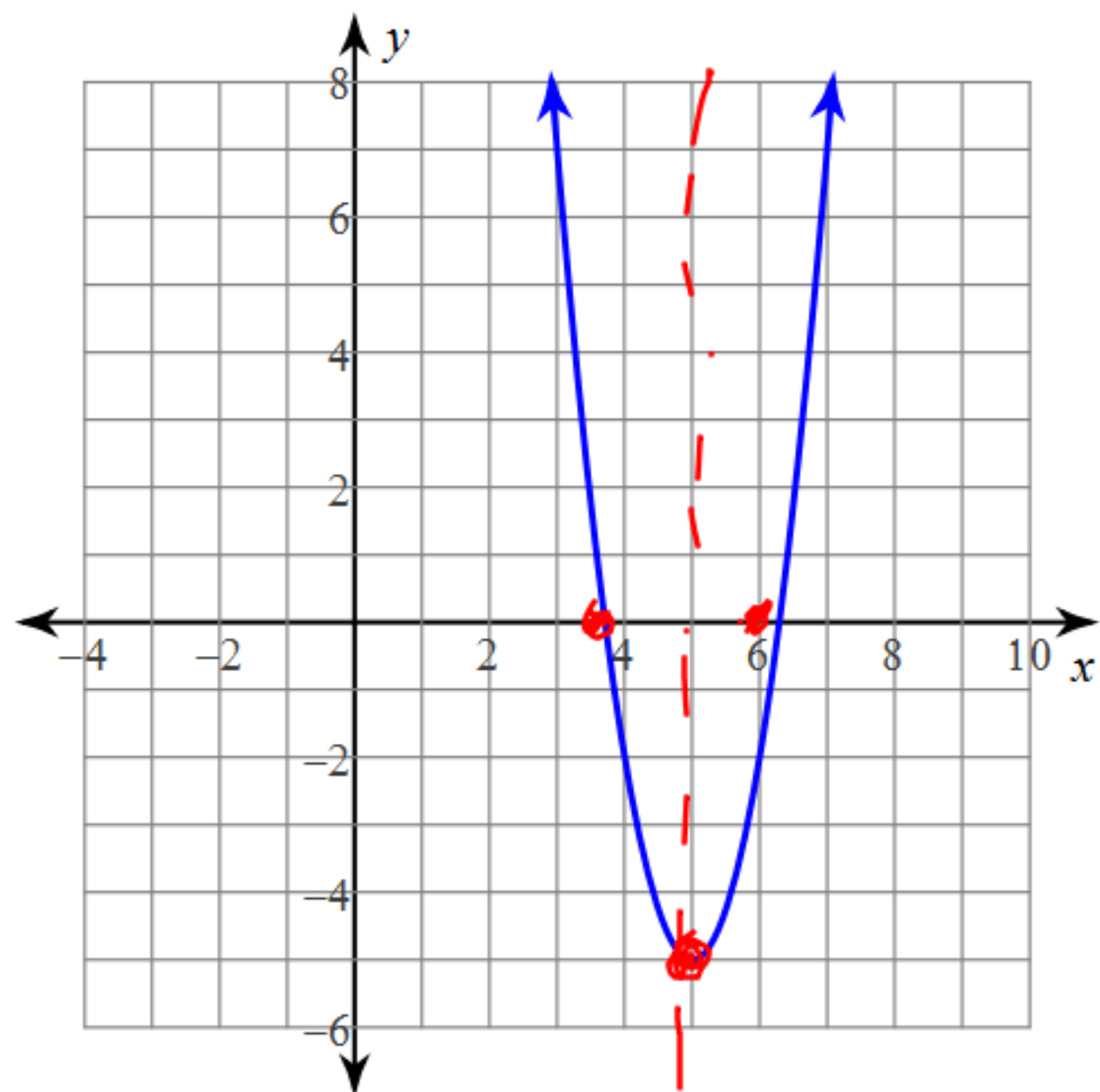
opens down





Use the information provided state the axis of symmetry, vertex, max/min, zeroes, and y intercept, and whether it opens up or down.

1)



$$\text{a.o.s} \rightarrow x = 5$$
$$\text{vertex} \rightarrow (5, -5)$$

$$\cup \rightarrow \text{min}$$

$$\text{zeroes} \Rightarrow 4, 6$$

$$\text{y-int} \rightarrow \text{not shown}$$

$$\text{opens up.}$$