

## 4. FIND EQUIVALENT REPRESENTATION FOR ABSOLUTE VALUES

4A. Consider the following absolute value function:

$$g(x) = |2x + 2|$$

Make a conjecture (a mathematical guess) for an equivalent piecewise representation of this function. Call your piecewise guess function  $h(x)$ .

Let's make a guess:

$$g(x) = |2x + 2|$$

argument (expression inside) : the stuff inside abs value bars

left abs value bar

right abs value bar

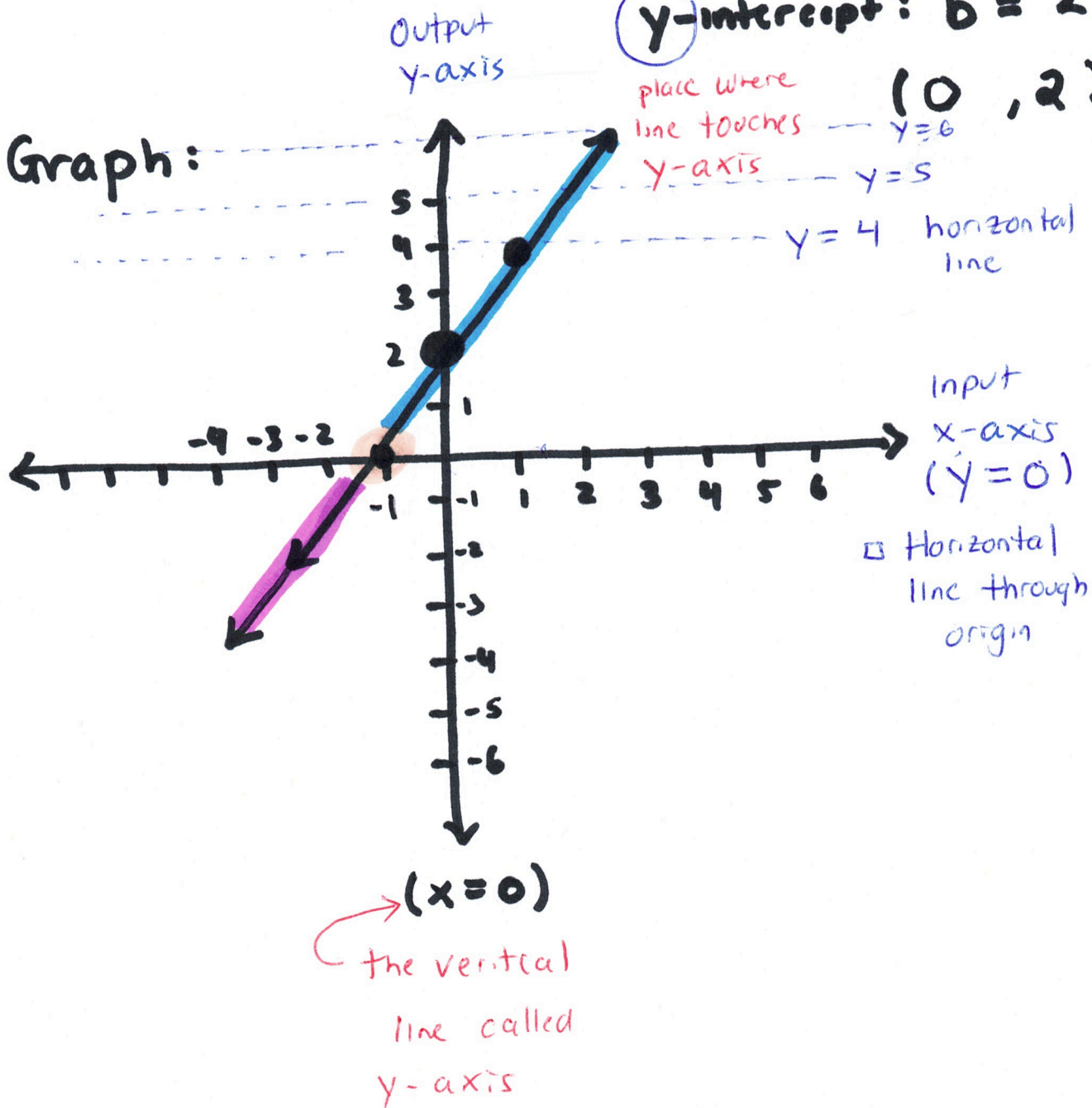
$$\Rightarrow |2x + 2| = \begin{cases} 2x + 2 & \text{if } 2x + 2 > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } 2x + 2 = 0 \\ -(2x + 2) & \text{if } 2x + 2 < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$2x + 2 = 0 \quad \text{output}$$

$$\text{slope: } m = \frac{2}{1} \begin{matrix} \text{rise} \\ \text{run} \end{matrix}$$

$$\text{y-intercept: } b = 2$$

Graph:



Graphically we see  $x = -1$

$$\Rightarrow 2x + 2 = 0$$

line touches  $y=0$  as an output

# Algebraic argument

$$2x + 2 = 0$$

*+0* (under the 2)  
*cancel out* (diagonal line from the top 2 to the bottom 2)

$$\frac{2x + 2}{-2} = \frac{0}{-2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\cancel{2} \cdot x}{\cancel{2}} = \frac{-2}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{x = -1}$$

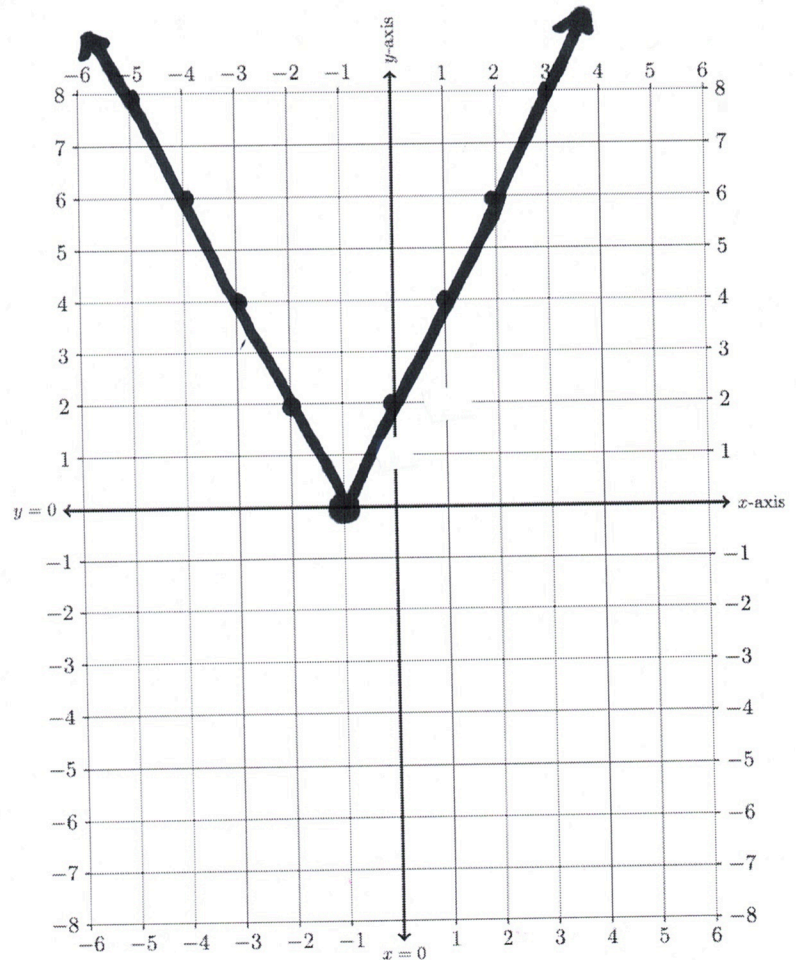
$$h(x) = \begin{cases} 2x + 2 & \text{if } x > -1 \\ 0 & \text{if } x = -1 \\ -(2x + 2) & \text{if } x < -1 \end{cases}$$

4B. Test the conjecture you made in problem 4A by creating a graph of your test piecewise function  $h(x)$  and also the absolute value function

$$g(x) = |2x + 2| = |2(x+1)|$$

Try to adapt your conjecture until you get your guess for  $h(x)$  to match identically the graph of  $h(x)$ . Capture this equivalent representation.

$x$	$g(x)$ .	$h(x)$ .
-6	10	10
-5	8	8
-4	6	6
-3	4	4
-2	2	2
-1	0	0
0	2	2
1	4	4
2	6	6
3	8	8
4	10	10
5	12	12
6	14	14



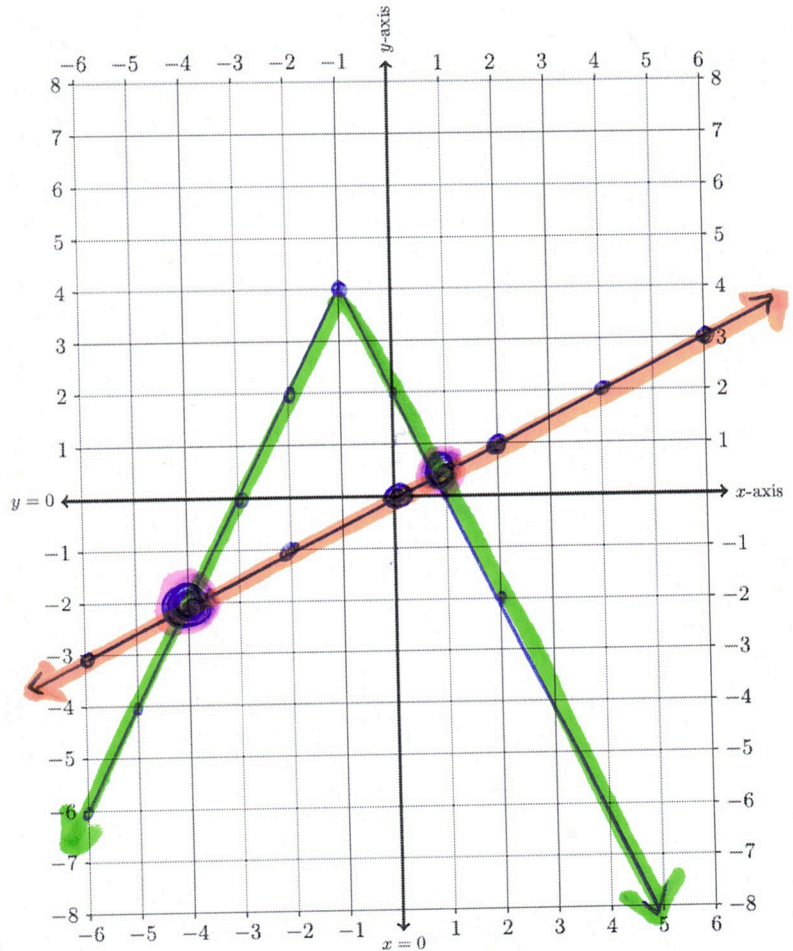
## 5. SOLVE ABSOLUTE VALUE EQUATIONS

5A. Consider the following absolute value equation:

$$4 - |2x + 2| = \frac{1}{2}x$$

Use the left-hand side (LHS) and right-hand side of this equation to a table of values and draw the resulting graph on the axes below.

$x$	LHS	RHS
	$4 -  2x + 2 $	$\frac{1}{2}x$
-6	-6	-3
-5	-4	-2.5
-4	-2	-2
-3	0	-1.5
-2	2	-1
-1	4	-0.5
0	2	0
$\frac{4}{5}$	0.4	0.4
1	0	0.5
2	-2	1
3	-4	1.5
4	-6	2
5	-8	2.5
6	-10	3



Note:  $y = mx + b$  (Slope - intercept)  
 slope  $\uparrow$   $y$ -intercept  $\uparrow$

$$\frac{1}{2}x = \frac{1}{2}x + 0$$

$$\Rightarrow m = \frac{1}{2}, \quad b = 0$$

$y$ -intercept  $(0, 0)$

58 The two points of intersection are

Point 1:  $(-4, -2)$

Point 2:  $(\frac{4}{5}, 0.4)$

⇒ We have two solutions

$$\boxed{x = -4}$$

and

$$\boxed{x = \frac{4}{5}}$$

5C. Now let's solve the absolute value equation

$$4 - |2x + 2| = \frac{1}{2}x$$

using an algebraic technique. Hint: Use your work in problems 4A – 4B.

$$+4 - |2x + 2| = \frac{1}{2}x$$

$$-4 \qquad -4$$

0

$$\Rightarrow -1 \cdot (-12x + 21) = -1 \left( \frac{1}{2}x - 4 \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow |2x + 2| = -\frac{1}{2}x + 4$$

$$\text{Option 1: } 2x + 2 = -\frac{1}{2}x + 4$$

$$\text{Option 2: } -(2x + 2) = -\frac{1}{2}x + 4$$



Option 1:

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

*(Red annotations: a diagonal line through the +2 on the left, a diagonal line through the +4 on the right, and a red circle under the +2 on the left.)*

$$\Rightarrow 2x = -\frac{1}{2}x + 2$$

$$\Rightarrow 2 \cdot 2x = 2 \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{2}x + 2\right)$$

*(Red annotation: a curved arrow pointing from the 2 in the second term to the -1/2 in the first term.)*

$$\Rightarrow 4x = -x + 4$$

*(Red annotations: a diagonal line through the -x on the right, and a red circle under the -x on the right.)*

$$\Rightarrow 5x = 4$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{x = \frac{4}{5}}$$

Option 2:

$$-(2x + 2) = -\frac{1}{2}x + 4$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{array}{r} -2x \\ -2 \\ +2 \end{array} = \begin{array}{r} -\frac{1}{2}x \\ +4 \\ +2 \end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{array}{r} -2x \\ +\frac{1}{2}x \end{array} = \begin{array}{r} -\frac{1}{2}x \\ +6 \\ +\frac{1}{2}x \end{array}$$

Note:

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

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

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

25

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{3}{2}x = 6$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{2} \cdot x = -\frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{6}{1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{x = -\frac{12}{3} = -4}$$