Example 1 Function g maps every number to a number that is six more than its double.

a. Express this fact using function notation.

b. Find the image of 7.

c. Find the preimage of 8.

Solution

a.
$$g:x \to 2x + 6$$
, or $g(x) = 2x + 6$

b. $g:7 \to 2 \cdot 7 + 6 = 20$. Thus the image of 7 is 20.

c. $g:x \to 2x + 6 = 8$. Therefore x = 1, so 1 is the preimage of 8.

Example 2 Mapping G maps each point (x, y) to the point (2x, y - 1).

a. Express this fact using mapping notation.

b. Find P' and Q', the images of P(3, 0) and Q(1, 4).

c. Decide whether G maps M, the midpoint of \overline{PQ} , to M', the midpoint of $\overline{P'Q'}$.

d. Decide whether PQ = P'Q'.

Solution

a.
$$G:(x, y) \to (2x, y - 1)$$

b.
$$G:(3, 0) \to (2 \cdot 3, 0 - 1) = (6, -1) = P'$$

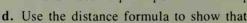
 $G:(1, 4) \to (2 \cdot 1, 4 - 1) = (2, 3) = Q'$

c.
$$M = \left(\frac{3+1}{2}, \frac{0+4}{2}\right) = (2, 2)$$

$$M' = \left(\frac{6+2}{2}, \frac{-1+3}{2}\right) = (4, 1)$$

$$G:(2, 2) \rightarrow (2 \cdot 2, 2 - 1) = (4, 1)$$

Thus G does map midpoint M to midpoint M'.



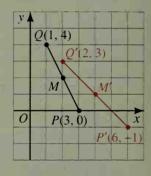
$$PQ = \sqrt{(1-3)^2 + (4-0)^2}$$

= $\sqrt{(-2)^2 + 4^2} = \sqrt{20} = 2\sqrt{5}$

$$P'Q' = \sqrt{(2-6)^2 + (3-(-1))^2}$$

= $\sqrt{(-4)^2 + 4^2} = \sqrt{32} = 4\sqrt{2}$

Thus $PQ \neq P'Q'$.



Although the diagram for Example 2 shows only points of \overline{PQ} and their image points, you should understand that mapping G maps every point of the plane to an image point. Also, every point of the plane has a preimage point. A one-to-one mapping from the whole plane to the whole plane is called a **transformation**. Moreover, if a transformation maps every segment to a congruent segment, it is called an **isometry**. The transformation in Example 2 is *not* an isometry because $PQ \neq P'Q'$.

By definition, an isometry maps any segment to a congruent segment, so we can say that an isometry *preserves* distance. The next theorem states that an isometry also maps any triangle to a congruent triangle. For this reason, an isometry is sometimes called a **congruence mapping**.