

The bottle problem

The water level in a bottle is related to the amount of water that's in the bottle.

- First, let's think about the **quantities** in this problem. A quantity is a thing that you can measure, with numbers and units. Quantities that *change* are called **variables**:

| letter | = | everyday words | (units) | ~ | dep or indep |
|--------|---|----------------|------------------------|---|-----------------|
| | = | | $\left(\quad \right)$ | ~ | |
| | = | | $\left(\quad \right)$ | ~ | |

- Now let's think about **function notation**. If volume is measured in cups and height is measured in inches, what does the equation $h(3) = 5$ mean?
- Explore the following claim: Steepness of the graph of the function $h(V)$ has something to do with the cross-sectional area of the bottle.
- What bottle shapes could correspond to a straight-line graph? Do the sides have to be straight?
- Draw the graph for a pint glass that gets **wider** as you go up, and draw the graph for a volcano vase that gets **narrower** as you go up.
- What's the deal with a bottle that changes from getting narrower to getting wider? Or one that changes from getting wider to getting narrower?