

Second example

In this activity we give a second example.

Here we have a multi-part question with free-response.

Question 1 Suppose you are standing on a bridge that is 60 meters above sea-level. You toss a ball up into the air with an initial velocity of 30 meters per second. If t is the time (in seconds) after we toss the ball, then the height at time t is approximately $f(t) = -5t^2 + 30t + 60$. What does $f(2)$ mean in our context?

Solution

Hint: We want an answer in the context of the problem.

The value $f(2)$ is the height of the ball after 2 seconds.

Now suppose t is such that $f(t) = 100$. What does this mean in our context?

Solution

Hint: We want an answer in the context of the problem.

These value of t are the times when the ball is at 100 meters above sea level.

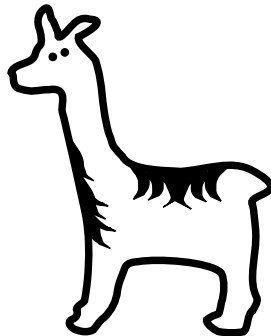
Finally, if h is a small positive value what is the meaning of $f(t + h)$? How does this compare to the meaning of $f(t) + h$?

Solution

Hint: We want an answer in the context of the problem.

The value $f(t + h)$ gives the height of the ball slightly after time t . On the other hand, the value $f(t) + h$ gives a height just higher than the ball at time t .

Here is a picture of a llama:



If you like, check out this video¹.

¹YouTube link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0aQpLSu2fMs>

Exploration 2 Write a Python script that will compute factorial for you.

Solution

```
_____ Python _____  
1 def honest_factorial(x):  
2     result = 1  
3     for i in range(1,x+1):  
4         result *= i  
5     return result  
6  
7 def verifier():  
8     for i in range(10,20):  
9         if factorial(i) != honest_factorial(i):  
10            raise "Your function failed for input " + str(i)  
11     return True  
_____
```