



If a relation is a function, the notation: f(x) may be used. If a function's inverse is also a function, the notation:  $f^{-1}(x)$  is used. Note that  $f^{-1}$  is not an exponent; therefore, it is not 1/f

g) Sometimes, the inverse of a function is not also a **function**. In these cases, we <u>restrict</u> the domain of the **original** function so that its reflection in the line y = x is also a function.

For  $y = x^2 + 3$  the domain would be:  $\{x \in R | x \ge 0\}$ . We are restricting the x values that are less than 0 so that the inverse function can pass the VLT test. In other words, when you graph the function, just draw the right arm of the parabola because it is where the x values are greater than or equal to 0.



## **Practice**

1. Find the inverse for each relation.

a)  $\{(1, -3), (-2, 3), (5, 1), (6, 4)\}$ b)  $\{(-5, 7), (-6, -8), (1, -2), (10, 3)\}$ inverse  $\{(-3_1), (3_1-2), (1, 7), (4_1, 6)\}$ inverse  $\{(7_1, -5), (-8_1, -2), (10, 3)\}$ 

2) Find an equation for the inverse for each of the following relations.

