

## Defining a Region using an Inequality

### Starter

1. Draw the line  $x = 2$ . Hence label the region R described by the inequality  $x \leq 2$ .

**Working:** See below

2. Draw the line  $y = -1$ . Hence label the region R described by the inequality  $y > -1$ .

**Working:** See below

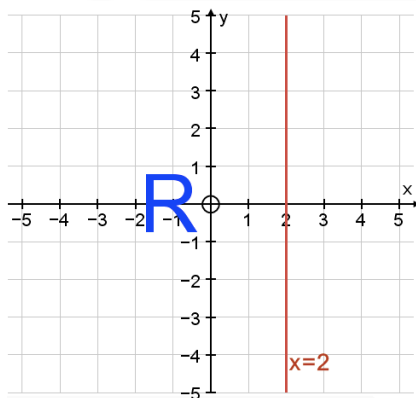
3. How will we be able to distinguish between  $<$  OR  $>$  and  $\leq$  OR  $\geq$  ?

**Working:** Solid line:  $\leq$  OR  $\geq$   
Dotted lines:  $<$  OR  $>$

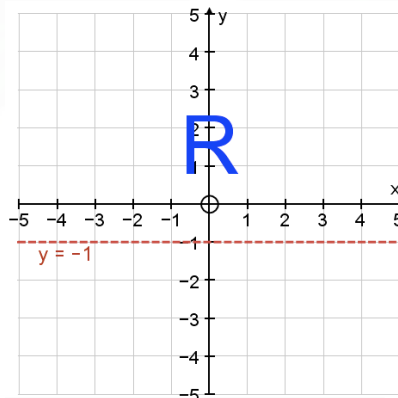
4. Draw the lines  $x = -3$  and  $x = 1$ . Hence label the region R described by the inequality  $-3 < x \leq 1$ .

**Working:** See below

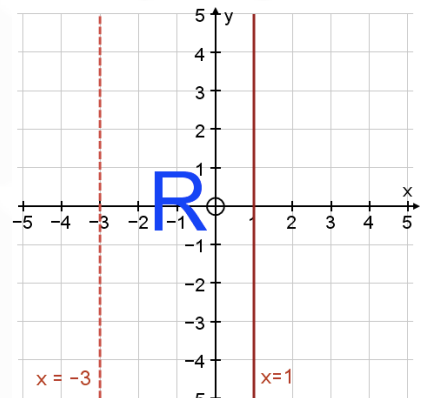
1.



2.

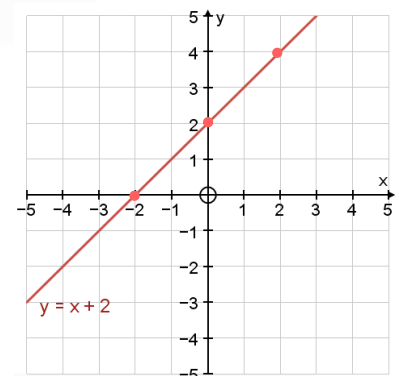


4.



**E.g. 1** Draw the line  $y = x + 2$ .

**Working:** Choose  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 0 + 2 = 2$ , plot  $(0, 2)$   
Choose  $x = 2$ ,  $y = 2 + 2 = 4$ , plot  $(2, 4)$   
Choose a 3rd point to check:  
Choose  $x = -2$ ,  $y = -2 + 2 = 0$ , plot  $(-2, 0)$   
Draw a line through the points.



**N.B.** The straight line  $x + y = k$  passes through  $(k, 0)$  and  $(0, k)$ . For example, the line  $x + y = 5$  passes through the points  $(5, 0)$  and  $(0, 5)$ .

**Success Criteria – deciding which side of a diagonal line should be labelled R**

1. Choose any point that is not on the line – usually (0, 0)
2. Substitute the coordinates into the inequality
3. Do the coordinates satisfy the inequality?
  - Yes  $\Rightarrow$  the point is in required region  $\Rightarrow$  write R in the region where the point is
  - No  $\Rightarrow$  the point is not in required region  $\Rightarrow$  write R on the opposite side of the line

**E.g. 2** Decide whether the given point satisfies the inequality:

- |     |         |                 |     |          |                 |
|-----|---------|-----------------|-----|----------|-----------------|
| (a) | (3, 2)  | $x + y < 6$     | (b) | (1, 5)   | $y < 3x - 1$    |
| (c) | (-4, 3) | $y \geq 1 - 2x$ | (d) | (2, 6)   | $x + y \leq 8$  |
| (e) | (0, 0)  | $2x - 5y > 7$   | (f) | (-1, -8) | $y \leq 3x - 5$ |

- Working:**
- (a) Substitute (3, 2) into  $x + y < 6$ :  $3 + 2 < 6$  True  
Yes, (3, 2) does satisfy the inequality.
  - (b) Substitute (1, 5) into  $y < 3x - 1$ :  $5 < 3 \times 1 - 1 = 2$  False  
No, (1, 5) does not satisfy the inequality.
  - (c) Substitute (-4, 3) into  $y \geq 1 - 2x$ :  $3 \geq 1 - 2 \times -4 = 9$  False  
No, (-4, 3) does not satisfy the inequality.
  - (d) Substitute (2, 6) into  $x + y \leq 8$ :  $2 + 6 \leq 8$  True  
Yes, (2, 6) does satisfy the inequality.
  - (e) Substitute (0, 0) into  $2x - 5y > 7$ :  $0 - 0 > 7$  False  
No, (0, 0) does not satisfy the inequality.
  - (f) Substitute (-1, -8) into  $y \leq 3x - 5$ :  $-8 \leq -3 - 5$  True  
Yes, (-1, -8) does satisfy the inequality.

**N.B.** It is usually easiest to choose the point (0, 0) as long as it is not on the line.

**E.g. 3** Using your graph from **E.g. 1**, label the region R described by the inequality  $y \geq x + 2$ .

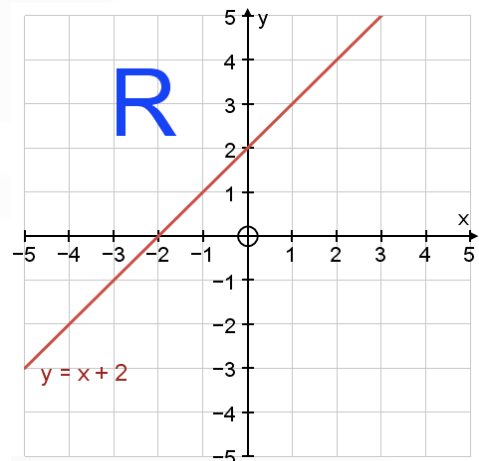
**Working:** Choose the point (0, 0) as it is not on the line.

Substitute into  $y \geq x + 2$ :  
 $0 \geq 0 + 2$  False

(0, 0) is not in the required region

Write an R on the other side of the line.

**N.B.** Notice that it is a solid line because the inequality is  $\geq$ .



**E.g. 4** Label the region R defined by the inequality:

(a)  $x + y \leq 3$

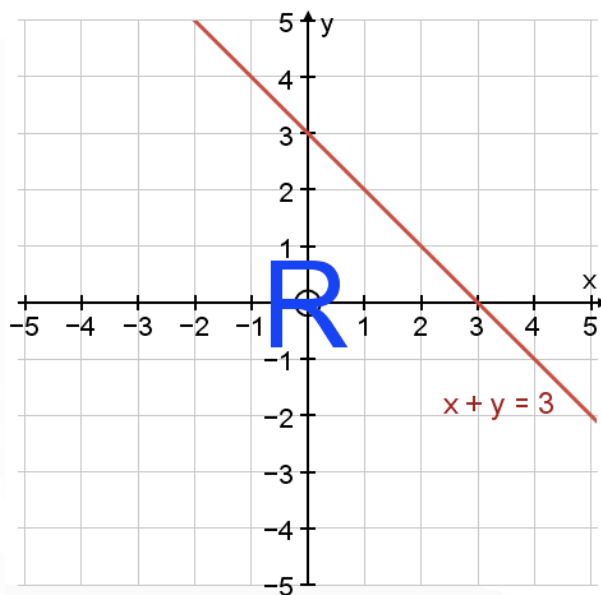
(b)  $y > 2x + 3$

**Working:**

- (a) Draw the line  $x + y = 3$   
Let  $x = 0, y = 3 \Rightarrow$  plot  $(0, 3)$   
Let  $y = 0, x = 3 \Rightarrow$  plot  $(3, 0)$   
To check: Let  $x = 1, y = 3 - 1 = 2 \Rightarrow$  plot  $(1, 2)$   
Draw a solid line because the inequality is  $\leq$ .

Choose the point  $(0, 0)$  as it is not on the line.  
Substitute into  $x + y \leq 3$ :  $0 + 0 \leq 3$  True  
 $(0, 0)$  is in the required region

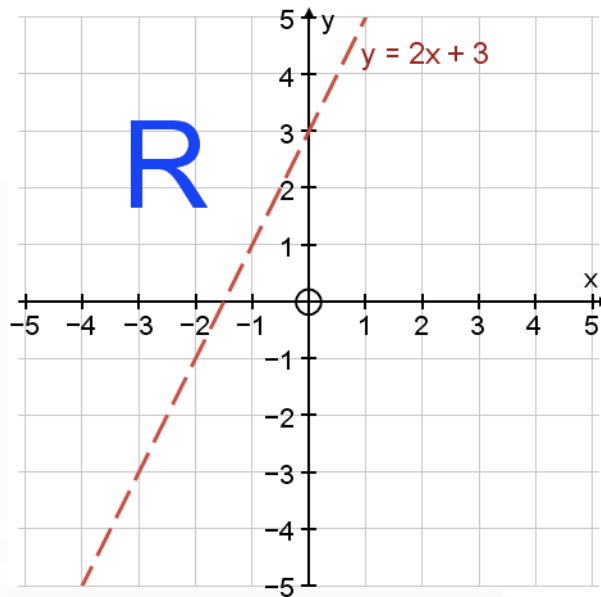
Write an R on the side of the line where  $(0, 0)$  is.



- (b) Draw the line  $y = 2x + 3$   
Let  $x = 0, y = 3 \Rightarrow$  plot  $(0, 3)$   
Let  $x = 1, y = 2 + 3 = 5 \Rightarrow$  plot  $(1, 5)$   
**To check:** Let  $x = -3, y = -6 + 3 = -3 \Rightarrow$  plot  $(-3, -3)$   
Draw a **dotted** line since the inequality is  $>$ .

Choose the point  $(0, 0)$  as it is not on the line.  
Substitute into  $y > 2x + 3$ :  $0 > 0 + 3$  False  
 $(0, 0)$  is not in the required region.

Write an R on the other side of the line to where  $(0, 0)$  is.



**Video:** [Regions and inequalities - horizontal and vertical lines](#)  
**Video:** [Regions and inequalities - diagonal lines](#)

[Solutions to Starter and E.g.s](#)

**Exercise**

- 9-1 class textbook: p512 E16.2 Qu 1, 2 (axes from  $-5$  to  $5$ ), 3 **Label the region R**  
A\*-G class textbook: p468 M16.3 Qu 1, 2 (axes from  $-5$  to  $5$ ), 3 **Label the region R**  
9-1 homework book: p173 E16.2 Qu 1, 3 **Label the region R**  
A\*-G homework book: p129 M16.3 Qu 1, 3 **Label the region R**

[Homework book answers \(only available during a lockdown\)](#)