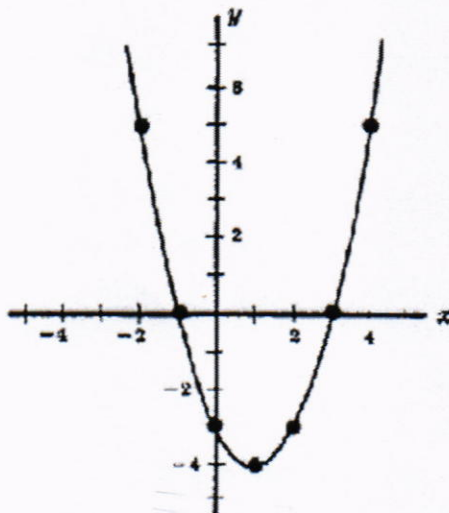


Example 2: let $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $f(x) = x^2 - 2x - 3$, find $f(x)$

x	$f(x)$
-2	5
-1	0
0	-3
1	-4
2	-3
3	0
4	5



Geometrical Characterization of One-to-One and Onto Functions

For the functions of the form $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ the graphs of such functions may be plotted in the Cartesian plane and functions may be identified with their graphs, so the concepts of being

one-to-one and onto have some geometrical meaning :

(1) $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is said to be

one-to-one if there are no 2 distinct pairs (a_1, b) and (a_2, b) in the graph one-to-

one or if each horizontal line intersects the graph of f in at most one point.