

Raft Writing

Role: Parts of a Graph

Audience: TV Audience

Format: Script

Topic: How to Read a Graph

Late night talk show host: ... and introducing our favorite schizophrenic guest, "parts of a graph." He continues to proclaim he is quadrants 1, 2, 3 and 4!

(applause)

Parts of a Graph: Hey, it's great to be here!

Late night talk show host: So tell us, how do you determine which quadrant you claim to be? It seems like you are always randomly changing what quadrant you are.

Parts of a Graph: Actually, it's not random at all! See, my two best buds, x and y , make up the horizontal and vertical axes to create the coordinate plane. The four sections they make are the quadrants, which is where I come in.

Late night talk show host: Okay, but you still haven't explained what determines when you are quadrant 1 versus being quadrant 2.

Parts of a Graph: I'm getting there. You see, X always comes first and Y second. For example, when plotting coordinates the pairing is (x, y) or when working with equations x is the independent variable and y is the dependent variable. Sometimes I'm positive and sometimes I'm negative, all depending on what X and Y are at the moment.

Late night talk show host: Alright. Say X and Y are both positive, what does that make you?

Parts of a Graph: See, positive and positive, easy. I'm quadrant 1.

Late night talk show host: How about a tricky one? What if X is positive, but Y is negative?

Parts of a Graph: Yep, totally possible. That's when I'm quadrant 4.

Late night talk show host: When do you decide to be quadrant 2? Or 3?

Parts of a Graph: I don't decide to be any particular quadrant. If x is negative and y is positive, that means I'm quadrant 2. If x and y are both negative that puts me at quadrant 3.

Late night talk show host: So you are saying there is a reason behind your schizophrenia? All this time we just thought you had multiple personalities. Thanks for being here!

Parts of a Graph: Thanks for having me. Don't forget to check out my new book *Dressing for Success, Choosing the Appropriate Grid*.