

CHALLENGE Determine the value(s) of k for which the expression is a perfect square trinomial.

40. $x^2 + kx + 36$

41. $4x^2 + kx + 9$

42. $16x^2 + kx + 4$

43. $25x^2 + 10x + k$

44. $49x^2 - 84x + k$

45. $4x^2 - 48x + k$

PROBLEM SOLVING

EXAMPLE 6

on p. 602
for Exs. 46–48

46. **FALLING BRUSH** While standing on a ladder, you drop a paintbrush from a height of 25 feet. After how many seconds does the paintbrush land on the ground?

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47. **FALLING OBJECT** A hickory nut falls from a branch that is 100 feet above the ground. After how many seconds does the hickory nut land on the ground?

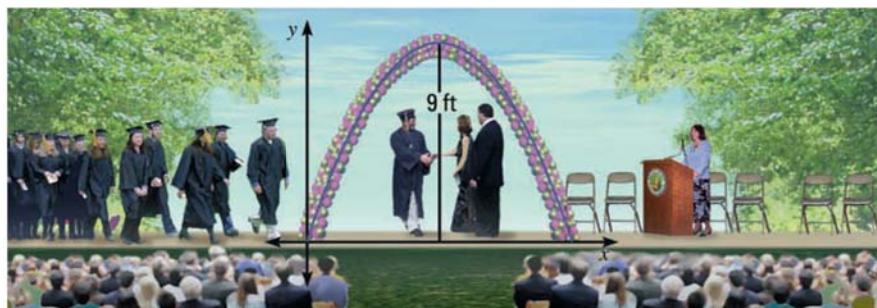
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48. **GRASSHOPPER** A grasshopper jumps straight up from the ground with an initial vertical velocity of 8 feet per second.

- Write an equation that gives the height (in feet) of the grasshopper as a function of the time (in seconds) since it leaves the ground.
- After how many seconds is the grasshopper 1 foot off the ground?

49. **TAKS REASONING** A ball is thrown up into the air from a height of 5 feet with an initial vertical velocity of 56 feet per second. How many times does the ball reach a height of 54 feet? *Explain* your answer.

50. **TAKS REASONING** An arch of balloons decorates the stage at a high school graduation. The balloons are tied to a frame. The shape of the frame can be modeled by the graph of the equation $y = -\frac{1}{4}x^2 + 3x$ where x and y are measured in feet.



- Make a table of values that shows the height of the balloon arch for $x = 0, 2, 5, 8,$ and 11 feet.
- For what additional values of x does the equation make sense? *Explain.*
- At approximately what distance from the left end does the arch reach a height of 9 feet? Check your answer algebraically.