Answer on Question #57313 – Math – Analytic Geometry

Question

1. The focus for this parabola is (3, 0)

$$x^2 = 12y$$

A: True

B: False

Solution

The standard form of the equation of a parabola with vertex at the origin and a vertical axis is

 $x^2 = 4py$

The focus is at point (0, p).

For parabola $x^2 = 12y$ the vertex is at (0,0), 4p = 12, hence p = 3. Then the focus is at

(0, p) = (0, 3).

Answer: B: False

Question

2. The equation of the directrix for this parabola is x = -2

$$x = -\frac{1}{8}y^2$$

- A. True
- B. False

Solution

The standard form of the equation of a parabola with vertex at the origin and a horizontal axis is $y^2 = 4px$

The focus is at point (p, 0), the equation of directrix is x = -p.

If $x = -\frac{1}{8}y^2$, then $y^2 = -8x$, 4p = -8, hence p = -2. For this parabola the vertex is at (0,0), the focus is at (-2,0), the equation of directrix is x = 2.

Answer: B: False.