

4.2 Analyzing Graphs of Motion With Numbers

READ

Speed can be calculated from position-time graphs and distance can be calculated from speed-time graphs. Both calculations rely on the familiar speed equation: $v = d/t$.

This graph shows position and time for a sailboat starting from its home port as it sailed to a distant island. By studying the line, you can see that the sailboat traveled 10 miles in 2 hours.

EXAMPLES

• Calculating speed from a position-time graph

The speed equation allows us to calculate that the boat's speed during this time was 5 miles per hour.

$$v = d/t$$

$$v = 10 \text{ miles} / 2 \text{ hours}$$

$$v = 5 \text{ miles/hour, read as 5 miles per hour}$$

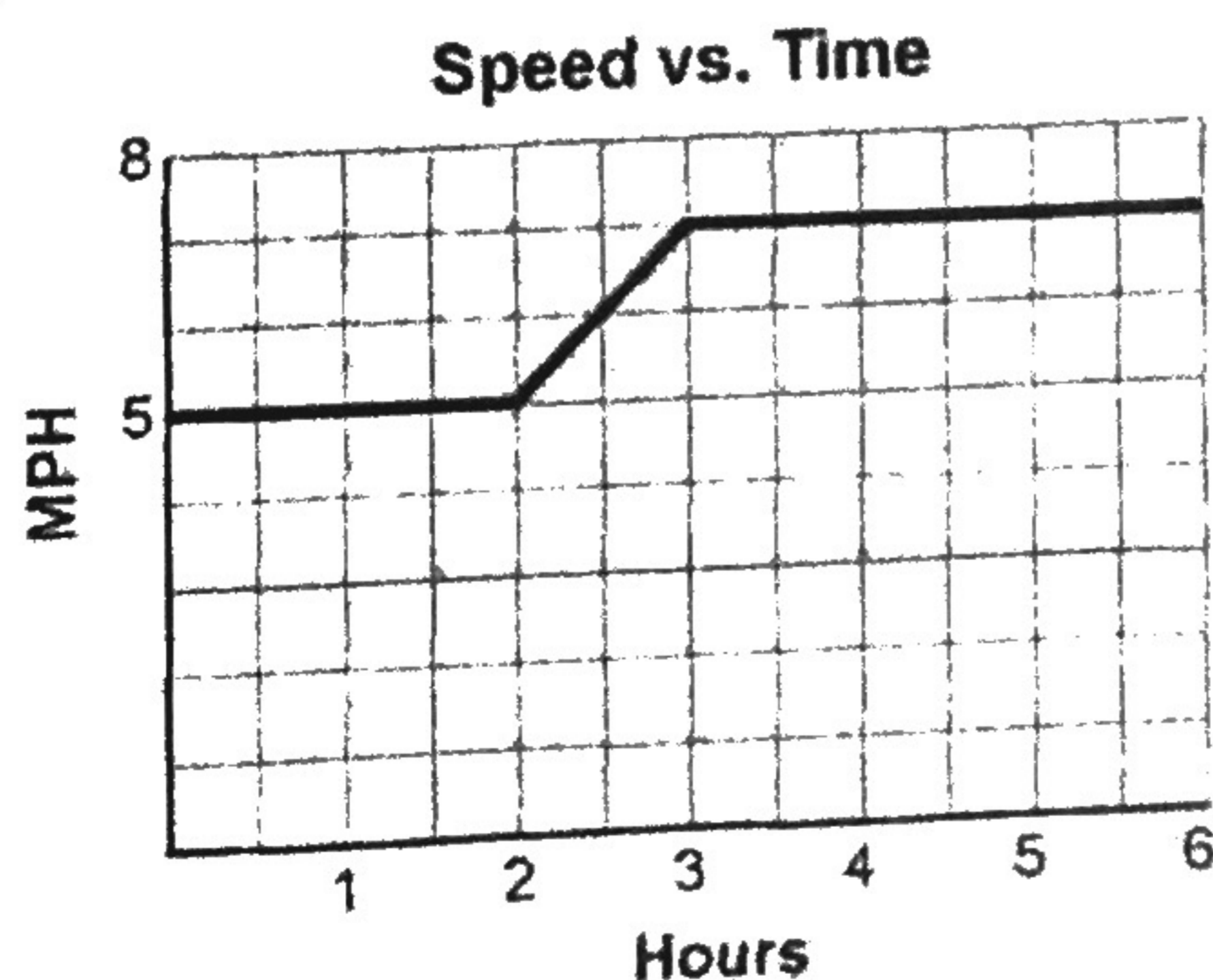
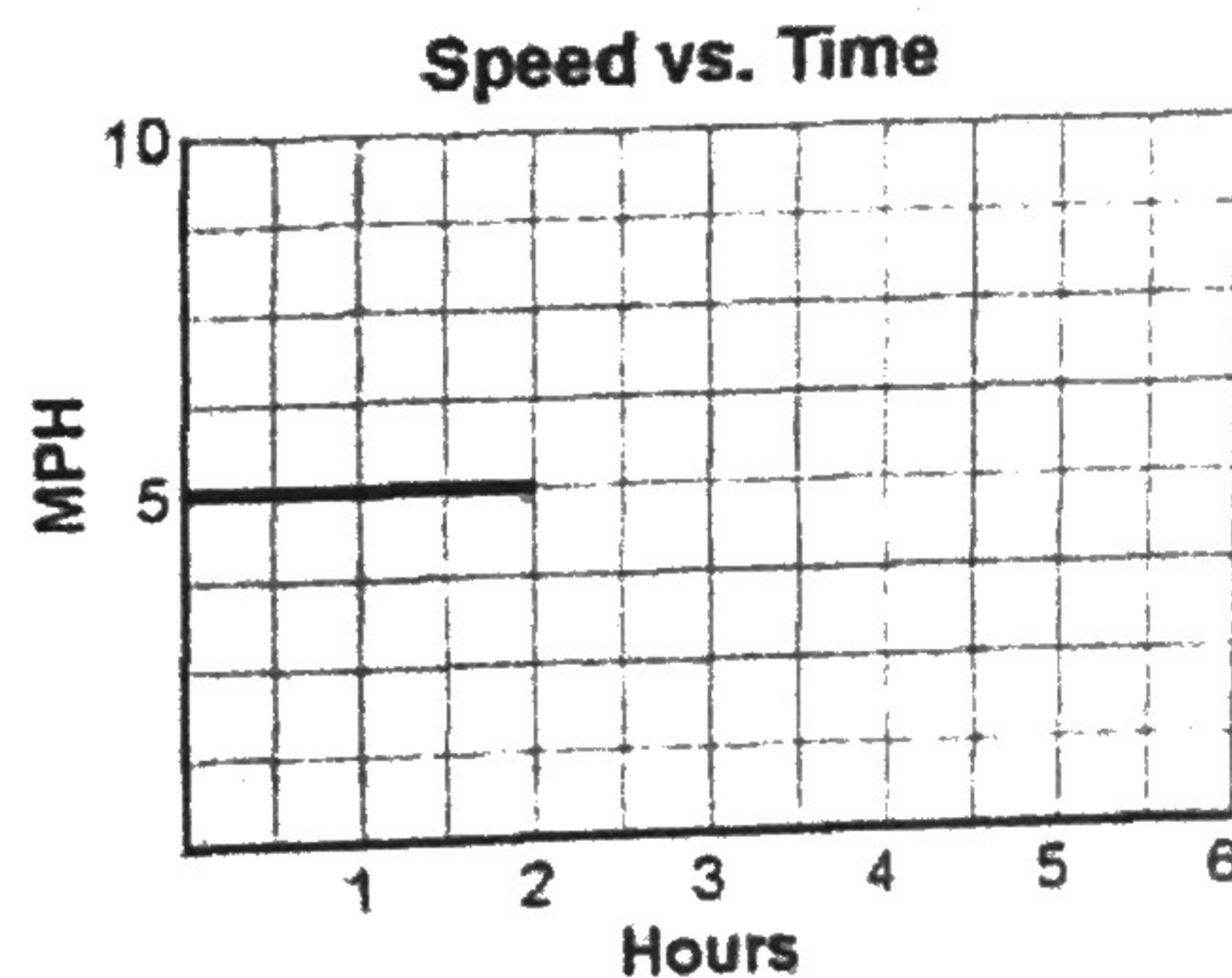
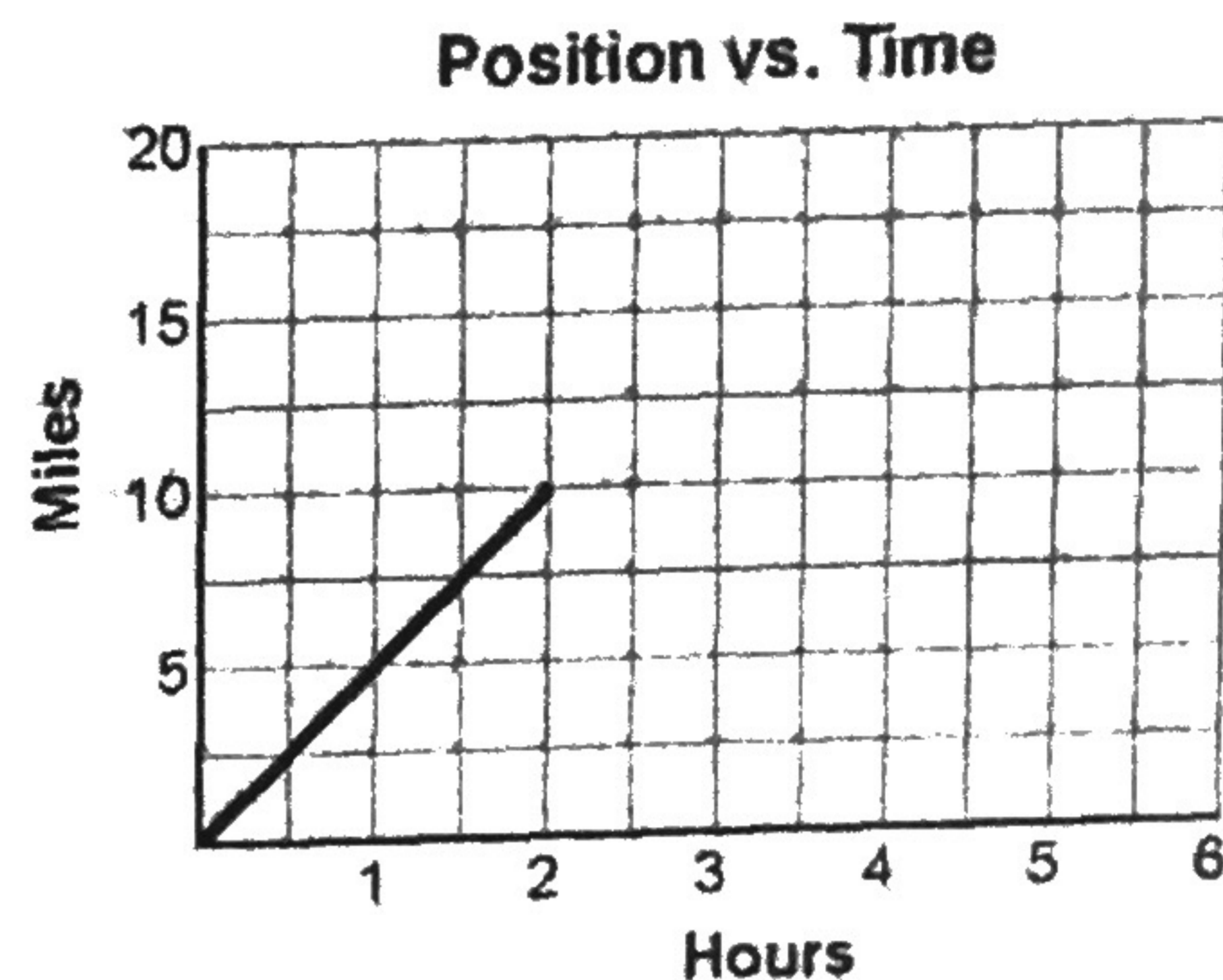
This result can now be transferred to a speed-time graph. Remember that this speed was measured during the first two hours.

The line showing the boat's speed is horizontal because the speed was constant during the two-hour period.

• Calculating distance from a speed-time graph

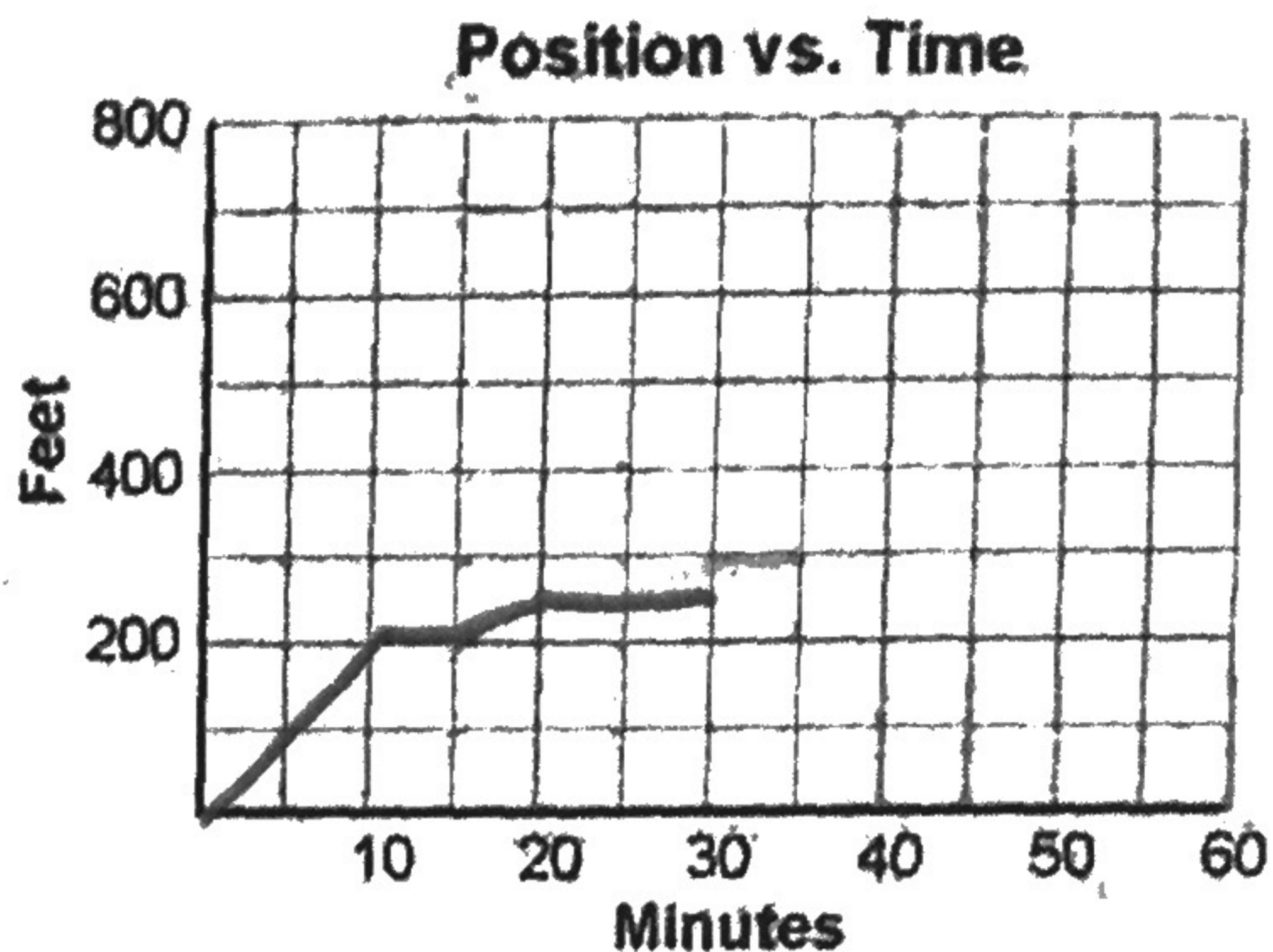
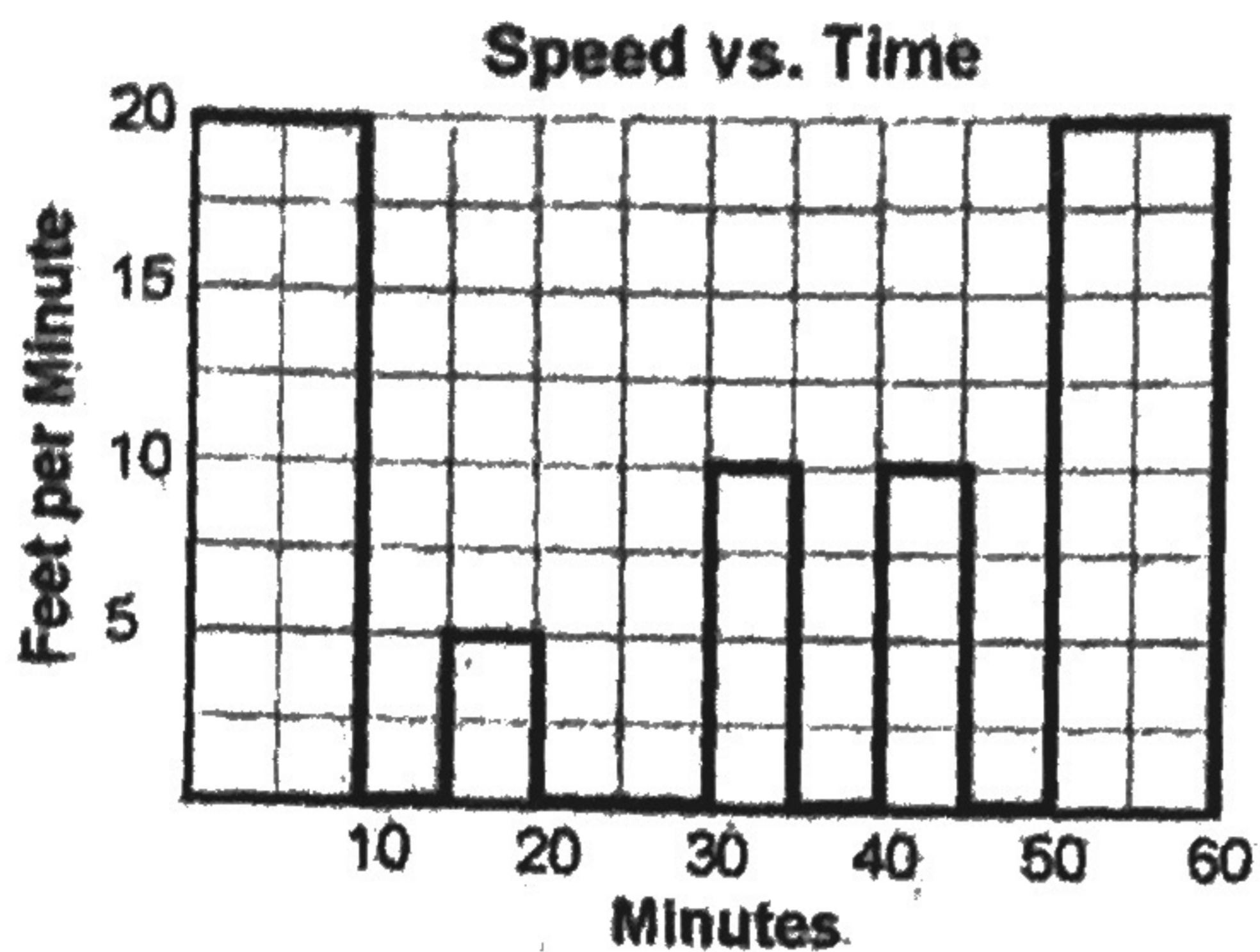
Here is the speed-time graph of the same sailboat later in the voyage. Between the second and third hours, the wind freshened and the sailboat gradually increased its speed to 7 miles per hour. The speed remained 7 miles per hour to the end of the voyage.

How far did the sailboat go during the six-hour trip? We will first calculate the distance traveled during the fourth, fifth, and sixth hours.

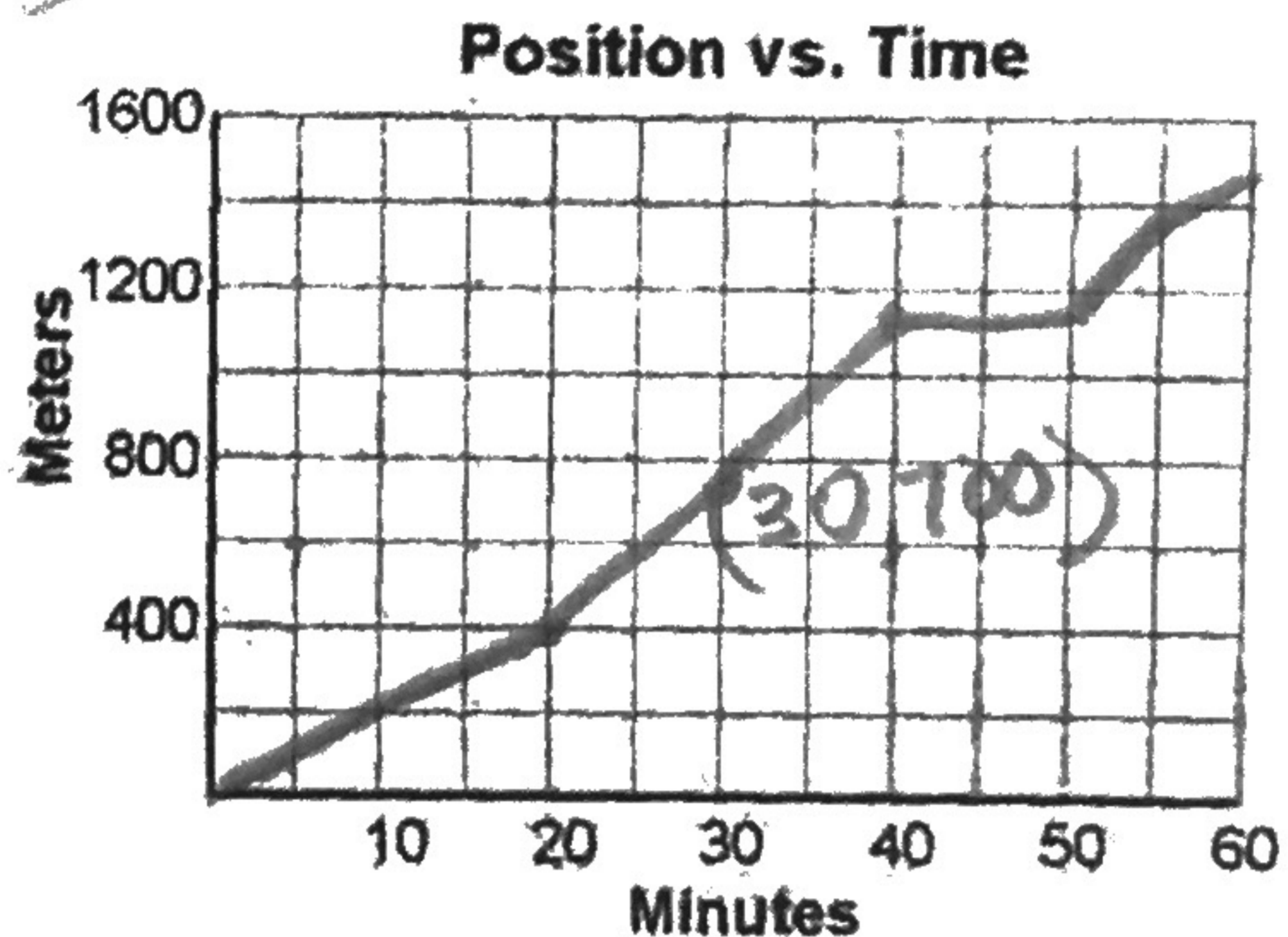
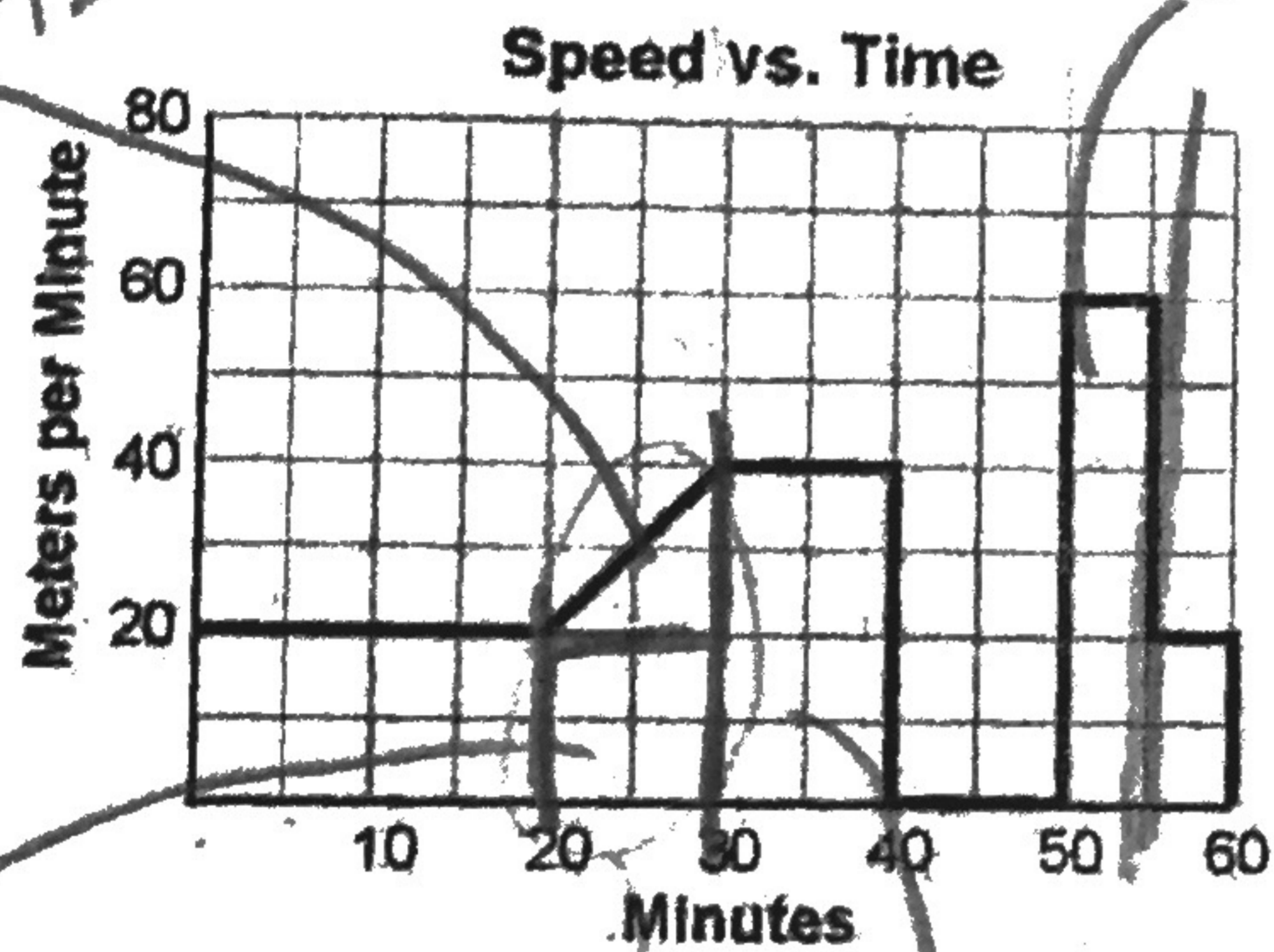


2. For each speed-time graph, calculate and plot the distance on the position-time graph to the right. For this practice, assume that movement is always away from the starting position.

a. The honey bee among the flowers



b. Rover runs the street
 of triangle
 $\frac{b \times h}{2}$
 area = $\frac{10 \times 20}{2} = 100$



area = $10 \times 20 = 200$

300
 $10 \times 40 = 400$
 $5 \times 60 = 300$

c. The amoeba

