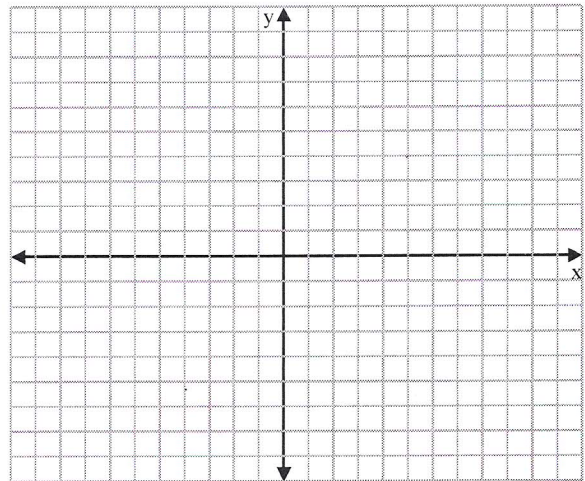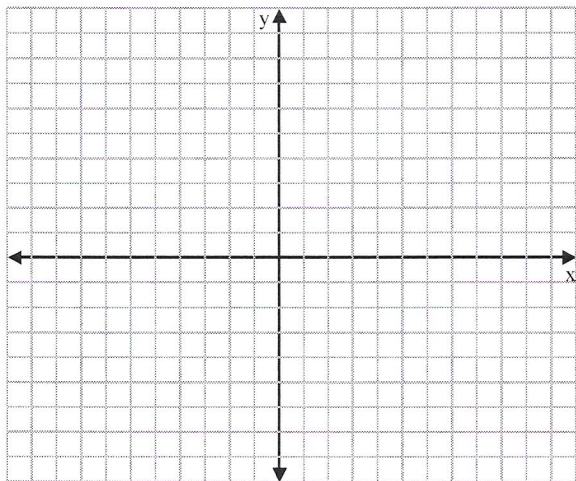**To graph a greatest integer function:**
1.   Write the function in standard form.
2.   Locate the starting point. Put a solid dot.
3.   Draw the step (length is $|\frac{1}{b}|$) to the left (b < 0) or to the right (b > 0).
4.   Draw the "staircase". Distance between steps is $|a|$.
      If ab > 0, steps go up to the right, if ab < 0, steps go down to the right.

Examples: Graph the functions on the grid supplied.
1.   f(x) = -2 [x – 3] + 1   2.   f(x) = 3 [-0.5x + 2] – 1

To write the function given the graph:
      There are many functions that can describe the same graph, depending on the "starting point" of the function. As a guideline, take the first solid dot in the first quadrant.
1.   Choose the starting point (h, k)
2.   Find the length of a step to calculate b: $b = \pm \frac{1}{length\ of\ a\ step}$

      b is negative if the solid dot is on the right of the step.
3.   Find the distance between the steps to determine a.
      To find the sign of a: slope is positive, then ab must be positive.
                              slope is negative, then ab must be negative.

Examples: Determine the function for each of the graphs shown below.

1.

2.