Exercise 7

For the following exercises, rewrite the quadratic functions in standard form and give the vertex.

$$g(x) = x^2 + 2x - 3$$

Solution

In order to write this quadratic function in vertex form, it's necessary to complete the square, which makes use of the following algebraic identity.

$$(x+B)^2 = x^2 + 2xB + B^2$$

Notice that 2B = 2, which means B = 1 and $B^2 = 1$. Add and subtract 1 on the right side and use the identity so that x appears in only one place.

$$g(x) = x^{2} + 2x - 3$$
$$= (x^{2} + 2x + 1) - 3 - 1$$
$$= (x + 1)^{2} - 4$$

Therefore, the vertex of the parabola is (-1, -4).

