

Challenge

LESSON 2

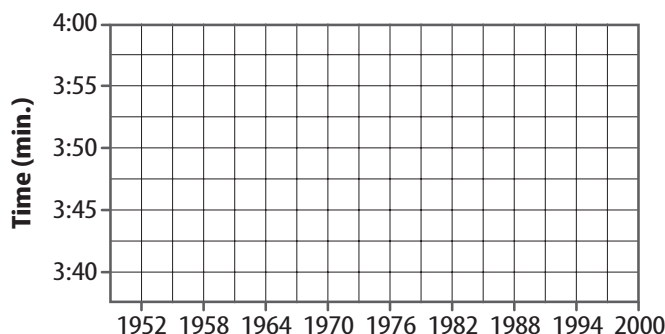
Breaking the Record

Before 1950, few people thought that a human could run a mile in under 4 minutes. Today, however, world-class runners routinely break the 4-minute-mile mark.

The table shows the dates and the winning times for world-record mile runners. Dr. Trevor Kitson of Massey University in New Zealand studied data similar to these. He observed that the graph of the data was a straight line. From the graph, he predicted that the mile might be run in 3 minutes, 30 seconds, by the year 2033.

Use the information in the table to create a graph similar to the one constructed by Kitson. Then extrapolate the data. Predict what will happen to the shape of the graph as time goes on.

Year	Runner	Mile Run Time (minutes:seconds)
1954	Roger Bannister	3:59.4
1967	Jim Ryan	3:51.1
1985	Steve Cram	3:46.32
1999	Hicham El Guerrouj	3:43.13



Copyright © Glencoe/McGraw-Hill, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.