Math 3 - Equation of a Circle (HN)

To the right is a circle graphed on a coordinate grid. Through the next series of questions, we will develop the **equation of circle** used to graph a circle on a coordinate grid.

The definition of a **circle** is a set of points equidistant from a fixed point.

(1) The fixed point is called the \_\_\_\_\_\_ of the circle. In the figure to the right, label this point C(h, k).

(2) Pick a point anywhere on the boundary of the circle and label it P(x, y).

(3) The distance between the center and any point on the circle is called the \_\_\_\_\_\_. Draw a segment from the point C to point P and label it *r*.

(4) Use the Pythagorean Theorem to solve for  $r^2$ .



The equation in question 4 is the equation of a circle with center \_\_\_\_\_\_ and radius \_\_\_\_\_\_. **EXAMPLES** 

(A) Identify the center and radius of the circle and then graph on the coordinate grid provided.



(B) Determine the center and radius of the circle graphed to the right and write the equation.

$$x^2 + (y + 3)^2 = 4$$





- 1. Write an equation for:
  - a. A circle with center at the origin and r = 8.
  - b. A circle with center (3,-5) and r = 6.



circumference of a circle is  $C = 2\pi r$  and the formula for the area of a circle is  $A = \pi r^2$ .

- 2. Circle P is represented by the equation  $(x 4)^2 + (y + 1)^2 = 36$ .
  - a. Determine the equation of a circle that has the same center as circle P but whose circumference is twice that of circle P.
  - b. Determine the equation of a circle that has the same center as circle P but whose circumference is three times that of circle P.
  - c. Determine the equation of a circle that has the same center as circle P but whose area is twice that of circle P.
  - d. Determine the equation of a circle that has the same center as circle P but whose area is three times that of circle P.