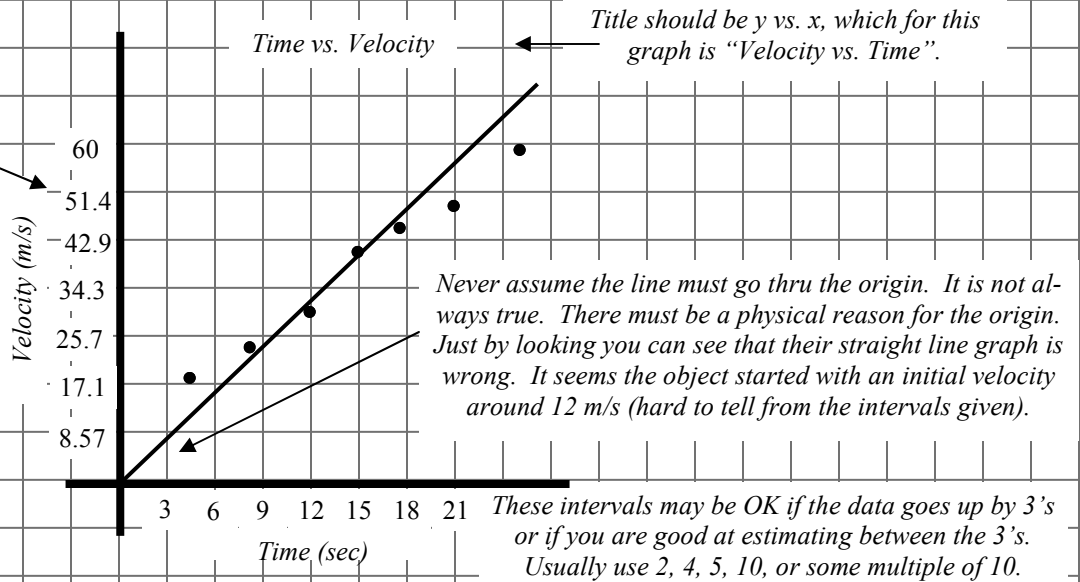


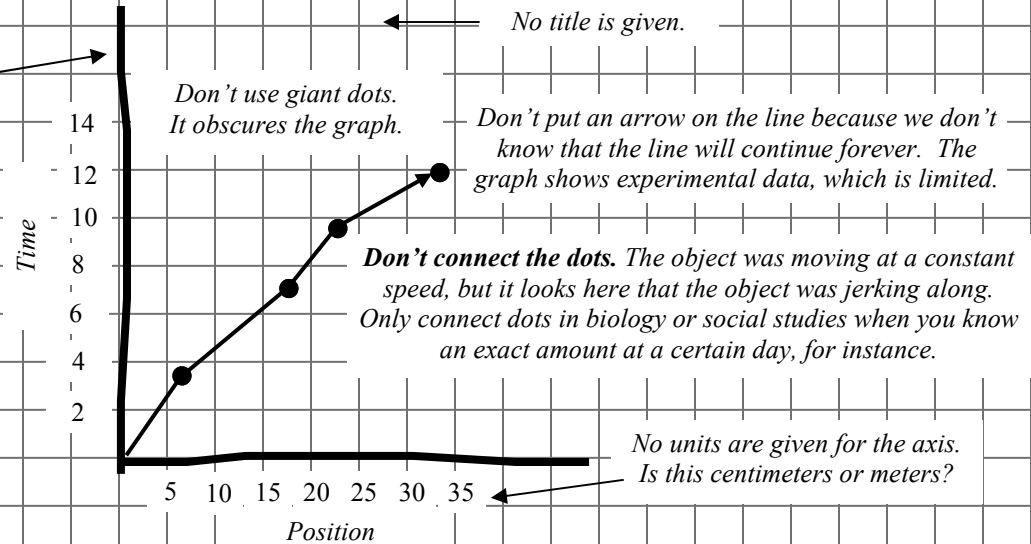
Common Graphing Mistakes

Don't use weird intervals. The student took the number of squares and just divided ($60 \div 7$). You are supposed to make the graph as large as possible, but not at the cost of readable intervals. A smaller graph with reasonable intervals is more useful. On this graph no one can tell where 15 m/s is, for example. Also, **never use data points as the intervals.**



Use a ruler to draw your axis. This looks rushed and sloppy.

Always put the independent variable on the x-axis. Time is independent of position..



Best Fit Lines

The best fit line is a graphical average of the data. The line is better than the individual data points, because it is an average. So, once you've found the best fit line, ignore the data points

To draw the best fit line give equal weight to every point. There should be an equal number of points above and below the line. A clear ruler will make this job easier.

For curved graphs, make it as smooth as you can. It will always be a guess.

