**My response to a challenge by a tutor at teacher's training college
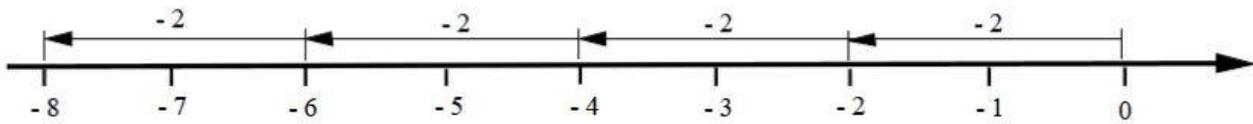was to show that products of negative numbers are positive**

Products of Negative Numbers

Before looking at products of two negative numbers, we note that products of positive and negative numbers are negative. For example here is how 4×-2 is shown (by repeated addition along the number line) to be equal to -8:


There are of course an infinite number of positive multiples of -2. We plot a graph below showing some of these:

Multiples	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Products	-2	-4	-6	-8	-10	-12	-14	-16
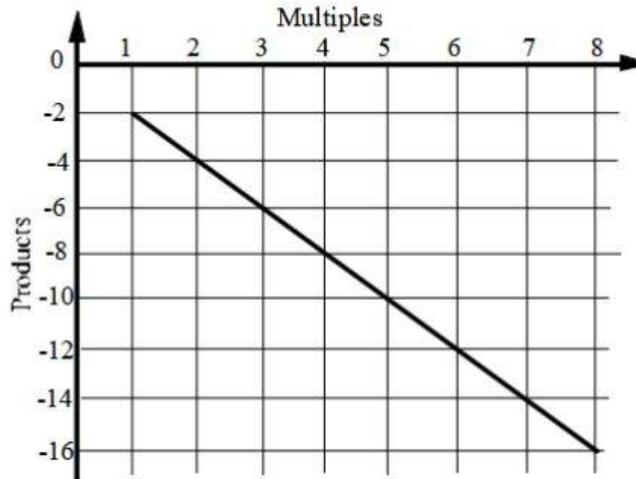
Since there are an infinite number of multiples of -2, this graph line can be extended as far as we like as shown below. We then find that -5 on the M-axis corresponds with 10 on the P-axis. This means that the product of -5 and -2 is 10. In fact any negative multiple of -2 corresponds to a positive number. We have used multiples of -2 to demonstrate (not prove!) the rule:
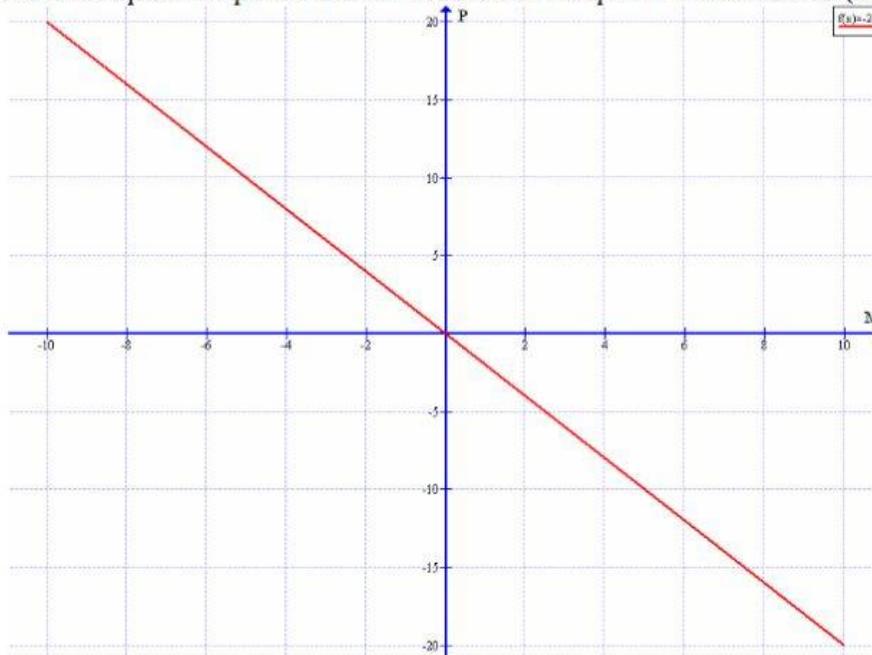
Graph of $f(x) = -2x$
Showing that the product of two negative numbers is a positive number

by Sidney Schuman