Source: Hughes-Hallett, Gleason, McCallum, et al., Calculus, 2nd ed..

The Montgolfier brothers (Ioseph and Etienne) were eighteenth-century pioneers in the field of hot-air ballooning. Had they had the appropriate instruments, they might have left us a record of one of their early experiments, like that shown in Figure 3.55. The graph shows their vertical velocity, $v$, with upward as positive.
(a) Over what intervals was the acceleration positive? Negative?
(b) What was the greatest altitude achieved, and at what time?
(c) At what time was the upward acceleration greatest?
(d) At what time was the deceleration greatest?
(e) What might have happened during this flight to explain the answer to part (d)?
(f) This particular flight ended on top of a hill. How do you know that it did, and what was the height of the hill above the starting point?


Figure 3.55

