C · Coordinate geometry

AQA · A-Level · Mathematics · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
circle /'sɜ:kl/	Every point on a **circle** is equally far from its centre.
coordinate geometry /kəʊ'ɔ:dɪnət dʒi'ɒmətri/	**Coordinate geometry** uses x and y to study lines and circles. x y
gradient /'greɪdɪənt/	The **gradient** of a distance-time graph gives the speed. –
perpendicular /ˌpɜ:pən'dɪkjʊlə/	The wall is **perpendicular** to the floor.
midpoint /'mɪdpɔɪnt/	The **midpoint** of (0, 0) and (4, 6) is (2, 3). (0, 0) (4, 6) (2, 3)
radius /'reɪdɪəs/	The **radius** of a circle is the distance from the centre to the edge.
parallel /'pærəlel/	**Parallel** lines have equal gradients and never meet.
negative reciprocal /'negətɪv rɪ'sɪprəkl/	The gradient of a perpendicular line is the **negative reciprocal** of the original gradient, so 2 becomes $-1/2$. 2 $-1/2$。
perpendicular bisector /ˌpɜ:pən'dɪkjʊlə baɪ'sektə/	Every point on the **perpendicular bisector** is the same distance from both ends.
chord /kɔ:d/	A **chord** is a straight line joining two points on a circle.
diameter /daɪ'æmɪtə/	Measure the **diameter** of the wire with a micrometer.
tangent /'tændʒənt/	Draw a **tangent** to the curve to find the gradient at one point.

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parametric equations /ˌpærə'metrɪk ɪ'kweɪʒnz/	In **parametric equations**, x and y are both written in terms of t. x y t
parameter /pə'ræmɪtə/	In $x = 2t$ and $y = t^2$, t is the **parameter**. $x = 2t$ $y = t^2$ t
Cartesian equation /kɑ:'ti:zɪən ɪ'kweɪʒn/	The **Cartesian equation** links x and y directly, with no parameter. x y
eliminate /ɪ'lɪmɪneɪt/	To find the Cartesian equation, **eliminate** t. t