

4.3.2 Trig Basic

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

KEY WORDS hypotenuse

<!-- Session 2 native-skill companion -->

Objective

Practise trig basic within the labelled native lessons. Public original tasks; locally authored answer guidance.

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

■ Right-angled triangles in two dimensions · Foundation

Use Pythagoras in a right triangle and use sine, cosine or tangent with the sides labelled relative to the chosen angle.

$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2, \quad \tan \theta = \frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{adjacent}}$$

The ladder length is $c=\sqrt{(3^2+4^2)}=5$ m. Its angle to the ground satisfies $\tan\theta=4/3$, so $\theta\approx53.1^\circ$. A right triangle with legs 6 and 8 has area $6\times8/2=24$.

Label sides relative to the chosen angle. Pythagoras needs a right angle. A calculator angle mode error can produce a plausible but wrong result. Keep unrounded values for later steps.

This Foundation/Core lesson uses right-angled triangles only. Sine and cosine rules for non-right triangles belong to the advanced-tier lesson.

■ Right triangles and non-right triangles · Higher

In a right triangle $a^2+b^2=c^2$; $\sin\theta=\text{opposite}/\text{hypotenuse}$, $\cos\theta=\text{adjacent}/\text{hypotenuse}$ and $\tan\theta=\text{opposite}/\text{adjacent}$. For other triangles, use the sine or cosine rule, or $\text{area}=ab \sin C/2$.

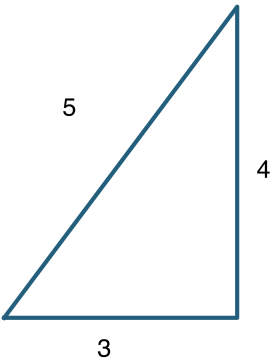
$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2, \quad \tan \theta = \frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{adjacent}}$$

The ladder length is $c=\sqrt{(3^2+4^2)}=5$ m. Its angle to the ground satisfies $\tan\theta=4/3$, so $\theta\approx53.1^\circ$. With two sides 6 and 8 enclosing 60° , $c^2=6^2+8^2-2\times6\times8 \cos60^\circ=52$.

Label sides relative to the chosen angle. Pythagoras needs a right angle. A calculator angle mode error can produce a plausible but wrong result. Keep unrounded values for later steps.

Use a plan or elevation for a three-dimensional problem before applying a triangle rule. Explain why the chosen triangle contains the required length or angle.

Label the known sides before choosing a rule



Original native-lesson illustration; labels belong to its worked example.

2 Practice

2.1 (Foundation) Find the hypotenuse when the legs are 3 and 4.

2.2 (Foundation) Find $\sin\theta$ when opposite=3 and hypotenuse=5.

2.3 (Foundation) Two sides 6 and 8 enclose 90° . Find their area.

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Decide whether this claim is true. Justify with a concrete calculation or counterexample: Pythagoras applies to every triangle, including triangles without a right angle.
