

Geometry and trigonometry – supported focus

Pearson Edexcel · International GCSE · Mathematics A

Supported teaching and tier boundary

4MA1: Geometry and trigonometry. Version: Issue 2, November 2017; first assessment June 2018; linear Mathematics A.

Foundation teaching and Higher additions are labelled below. This reference packages the existing native-lesson crosswalk. It does not certify unreviewed specification rows or a whole qualification. Original diagnostics are separate and are not reproduced.

■ Angles, lengths and area · Foundation

Use angle facts with a stated reason. Similar shapes have equal corresponding angles and proportional corresponding lengths. Areas of rectangles and triangles come from their dimensions; compound shapes can be split into simpler parts.

$$A_{\text{rectangle}} = LW, \quad A_{\text{triangle}} = \frac{1}{2}bh$$

A rectangle of length 8 cm and width 5 cm has area $A=LW=40 \text{ cm}^2$. A triangle on the same base and height has area $A=bh/2=20 \text{ cm}^2$. For a pentagon, the interior-angle sum is $(5-2) \times 180 = 540^\circ$.

Equal angles alone establish similarity, not equal size. Use corresponding lengths in the same order. Convert linear units before calculating area or volume, or square/cube the conversion factor correctly.

Use a labelled sketch and appropriate units. This Foundation/Core lesson does not test area/volume scale factors or advanced circle-theorem proofs.

■ Angle reasoning, similarity and mensuration · Higher

For similar shapes with length scale factor k , areas scale by k^2 and volumes by k^3 . State angle reasons explicitly. A circle's tangent is perpendicular to the radius at the contact point.

$$\frac{A_2}{A_1} = k^2, \quad \frac{V_2}{V_1} = k^3$$

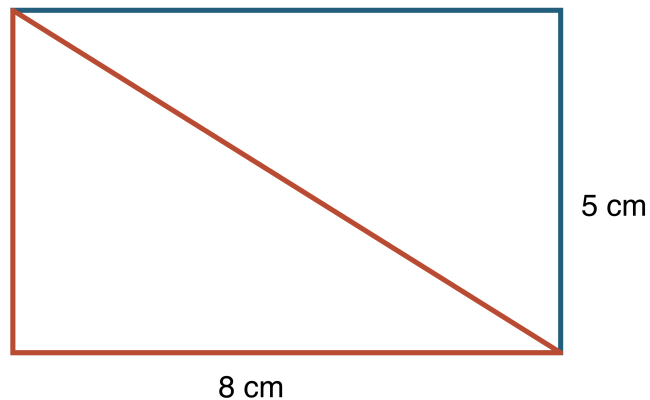
If model-to-real length factor is 3, a model area of 12 cm^2 gives $12 \times 3^2 = 108 \text{ cm}^2$ and a model volume of 8 cm^3 gives $8 \times 3^3 = 216 \text{ cm}^3$. A cylinder with $r=3, h=5$ has volume $\pi r^2 h = 45\pi$.

Equal angles alone establish similarity, not equal size. Use corresponding lengths in the same order. Convert linear units before calculating area or volume, or square/cube the conversion factor correctly.

A geometric proof should name the relevant theorem, identify the equal angle or ratio, and draw the conclusion. A scale drawing is evidence only when the task permits measurement.

Same base and height, half the area

Rectangle: 40 cm^2 ; triangle: 20 cm^2



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

A length scale factor is squared for area



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

■ Right triangles and non-right triangles · 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 $\theta \approx 53.1^\circ$. A right triangle with legs 6 and 8 has area $6 \times 8 / 2 = 24$.

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 $\text{area} = ab \sin C / 2$.

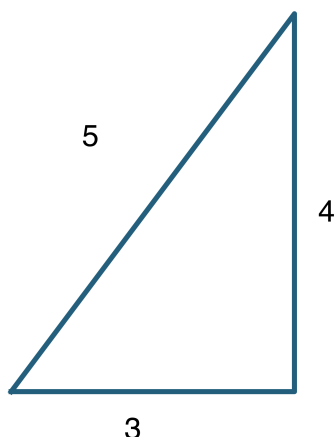
$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2, \quad \tan \theta = \frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{adjacent}}$$

The ladder length is $c = \sqrt{3^2 + 4^2} = 5$ m. Its angle to the ground satisfies $\tan \theta = 4/3$, so $\theta \approx 53.1^\circ$. With two sides 6 and 8 enclosing 60° , $c^2 = 6^2 + 8^2 - 2 \times 6 \times 8 \cos 60^\circ = 52$.

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.

■ Circle theorems and reasoned proofs · Higher

The angle at the centre is twice the angle at the circumference on the same arc. Angles in the same segment are equal. Opposite angles of a cyclic quadrilateral sum to 180° . A radius is perpendicular to a tangent at contact.

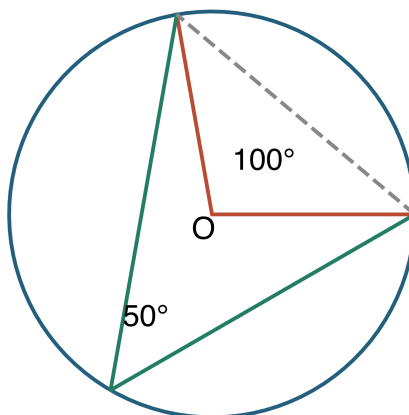
$$\theta_{\text{centre}} = 2\theta_{\text{circumference}}$$

If a central angle is 100° , the corresponding angle at the circumference is 50° . In a cyclic quadrilateral with one angle 112° , its opposite angle is $180-112=68^\circ$. A radius meeting a tangent gives 90° , even if the drawing looks oblique.

Identify the same chord and the correct arc before using a theorem. Two visible right angles do not prove a quadrilateral cyclic without a valid converse argument. A diagram need not be to scale.

Write one reason alongside each angle calculation. For the alternate-segment theorem, name the tangent and chord, then identify the angle in the opposite segment. Use auxiliary radii only when they help the proof.

The centre angle is twice the circumference angle



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

■ Constructions, loci and geometric conditions · Foundation

Points equally distant from A and B lie on the perpendicular bisector of AB. Points at fixed distance r from C lie on a circle. Points equally distant from two intersecting lines lie on their angle bisectors.

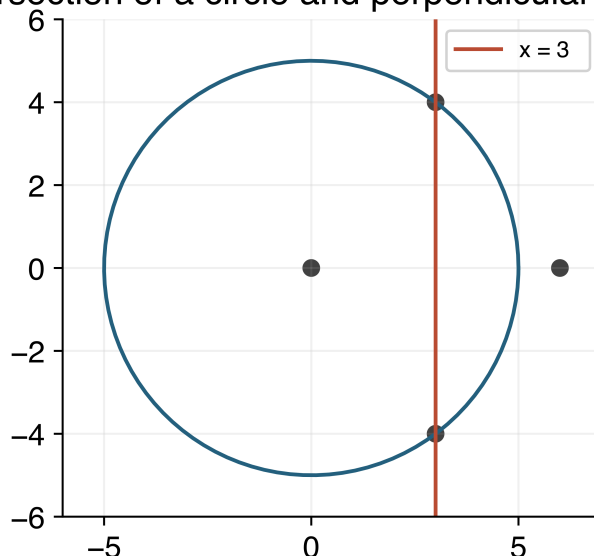
$$x = 3, \quad x^2 + y^2 = 25$$

For $A=(0,0)$ and $B=(6,0)$, the perpendicular bisector is $x=3$. Points also 5 units from A satisfy $x^2+y^2=25$. Substituting $x=3$ gives $y^2=16$, so $(3,4)$ and $(3,-4)$ satisfy both conditions.

The perpendicular bisector concerns distance to two points; the angle bisector concerns distance to two lines. A sketch is not a ruler-and-compass construction: preserve arcs as evidence of the method.

Translate each condition into a locus before finding intersections. For a region closer to A than B, choose the correct side of the perpendicular bisector and show whether a boundary is allowed.

Intersection of a circle and perpendicular bisector



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

Remaining qualification limits

Official question-bank boundaries, scheme alignment and all objective-level teaching coverage require the recorded review; no practice registry promotion.

The authored diagnostic assessments are not full-length qualification mocks.

Only the mapped native skills are supplied here. Objective rows marked formula-review-required are not promoted to complete coverage by these print companions.

Terms

scale factor .

hypotenuse .

cyclic quadrilateral .

locus .