

Geometry - 7.4 - Trigonometry

- The study of trigonometry involves Triangle measurement. A ratio of the lengths of sides of a right triangle is called a trigonometric ratio. The three most common trigonometric ratios are sine, cosine, and tangent.
- The acronym SOHCAHTOA helps in remembering trigonometric ratios:

$$\sin = \frac{\text{Opp. leg}}{\text{Hypotenuse}} \quad \cos = \frac{\text{Adj. leg}}{\text{Hypotenuse}} \quad \tan = \frac{\text{Opp. leg}}{\text{Adj. leg}}$$

Ex 1 - Find sin A, cos A, tan A, sin B, cos B, and tan B. Express each ratio as a fraction and a decimal.

simplified fraction.

Labels: hyp (26), opp LB (10), adj LA (10), opp LA (24), adj LB (24)

$$\sin A = \frac{\text{opp}}{\text{hyp}} = \frac{24}{26} = \frac{12}{13}$$

$$\sin B = \frac{\text{opp}}{\text{hyp}} = \frac{10}{26} = \frac{5}{13}$$

$$\cos A = \frac{\text{adj}}{\text{hyp}} = \frac{10}{26} = \frac{5}{13}$$

$$\cos B = \frac{\text{adj}}{\text{hyp}} = \frac{24}{26} = \frac{12}{13}$$

$$\tan A = \frac{\text{opp}}{\text{adj}} = \frac{24}{10} = \frac{12}{5}$$

$$\tan B = \frac{\text{opp}}{\text{adj}} = \frac{10}{24} = \frac{5}{12}$$

Ex 2 - Use trigonometry to find the value of x, rounding to the nearest hundredth.

a)

Labels: hyp (x), opp 32° (16)

$$\sin 32^\circ = \frac{16}{x}$$

$$x \cdot \sin 32^\circ = 16$$

$$x = \frac{16}{\sin 32^\circ}$$

$$x \approx 30.19$$

b)

Labels: opp 44° (x), adj 44° (24)

$$\tan 44^\circ = \frac{x}{24}$$

$$24 \cdot \tan 44^\circ = x$$

$$23.17 \approx x$$

Talk about radians here!

Ex 3 - Use trigonometry to find the angle measures, rounding to the nearest tenth.

a) $m\angle R$

Labels: opp LR (7), adj LR (3)

$$\tan R = \frac{7}{3}$$

$$\tan^{-1}(\tan R) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{7}{3}\right)$$

$$m\angle R = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{7}{3}\right)$$

$$m\angle R \approx 66.8^\circ$$

b) $m\angle D$

Labels: opp LD (8), hyp (16)

$$\sin D = \frac{8}{16}$$

$$\sin^{-1}(\sin D) = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{8}{16}\right)$$

$$m\angle D = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$m\angle D = 30^\circ$$