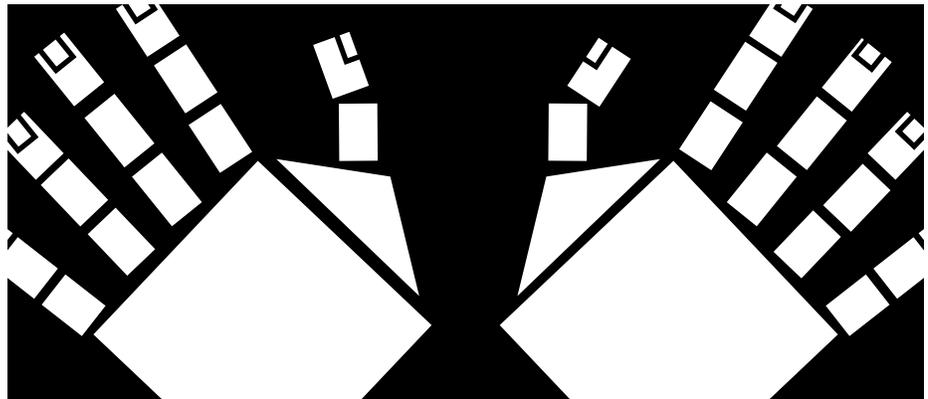


# Hands-On Geometry:

Using Manipulatives in Math 10  
Lines and Line Segments  
Angles and Polygons



by:  
Kathleen Bracken

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TEACHING MATERIALS  
*from the*  
STEWART RESOURCES CENTRE  
PAGE 1



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# **HANDS-ON GEOMETRY: Using Manipulatives in Math 10 Core Lines and Line Segments Angles and Polygons**

by Kathleen Bracken  
1994  
CELs  
S105.14

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# SECTION 1: MIRA CONSTRUCTIONS

## Lines and Line Segments

### Foundational Objectives:

To develop an informal understanding of the relationships between lines. (10 04 01)

### Specific Objective:

Students will use a Mira to construct:

D.4, D.5, D.6, D.7 (Page 138, Math 10 Curriculum Guide)

- a) congruent segments
- b) the perpendicular bisector of a line segment
- c) a line perpendicular to a given line from a point not on the line
- d) a line perpendicular to a given line from a point on the line
- e) a line parallel to a given line through a given point not on the line
- f) quadrilaterals: parallelogram, rectangle, square, rhombus

### Enrichment: (but highly recommended as a concluding exercise)

- g) circumscribe a circle about a triangle
- h) bisect an angle
- i) inscribe a circle in a triangle

### Time:

3 hours of work, 1/2 hour assessment

### Instructional Strategies:

Independent Learning, Interactive Instruction, Instructional Methods and Activities:

#### 1. Learning Activity Package:

Students may use the following activity sheets to informally construct the required segments and lines. The final three (optional) activities require the students to use the basic constructions to construct special circles.

#### 2. Peer Practice:

Students work in groups of 2. Each pair of students requires a Mira and a compass. Partnerships made up of one strong and one weak student are very effective here.

\* If students have not previously used the Mira, it is suggested they be given an introductory lesson on its use. (Recommended: pages 3-6 in *Geometric Constructions and Investigations with a Mira*).

## Equipment:

Mira  
sharp pencil or mechanical pencil  
compass (for optional constructions)  
duplicated copies of activity package

## References

*Geometric Constructions and Investigations with a Mira*, Ernest Woodward and Thomas Hamel, J. Weston Walch, Publisher, Portland, Maine, 1992.

## Assessment Technique:

1. **Formative:** examination of learning activity booklet throughout the 3 days of work.
2. **Summative:** Contract and Peer Evaluation (see template)
  - a) Each student selects and records the names of 6 constructions he/she would like to be evaluated on. (Suggestion: 4 basic ones and 2 more complex ones).
  - b) One student acts as the examiner, one as the test taker. (If the stronger student starts as the test taker, then the exercise can be a learning exercise for the weaker student as well).
  - c) The test taker is given fifteen minutes to complete his/her chosen constructions. The examiner initials each item and records a mark of 5 for each completed construction. Then the examiner assigns a mark out of ten for the other criteria. A mark out of sixty is then assigned.
  - d) Roles are reversed for the remaining fifteen minutes.

## Adaptive Dimension:

Students may complete this exercise individually as materials allow. This allows for teacher and small group sessions where more direct teaching is required.

## Class - Management Tip:

This package works well with the teacher working on the overhead and a more teacher-guided approach to introduce each construction.

## List of Constructions:

- Activity 1: Construct Congruent Segments - Sheet 1  
Activity 2: Construct the Perpendicular Bisector of a Line Segment - Sheets, 2, 3, and 4  
Activity 3: Construct a Line Perpendicular to a given line from a point not on the line - Sheet 5  
Activity 4: Construct a line perpendicular to a given line from a point on the line - Sheet 6  
Activity 5: Construct a line parallel to a given line through a given point. Sheet 7 and 8  
Activity 6: Construct Quadrilaterals - Sheets 9, 10, and 11  
Activity 7: Circumscribe a Circle about a Triangle - Sheets 12, 13, 14, and 15  
Activity 8: a) Bisect Angles - Sheets 16 and 17  
b) Inscribe a Circle in a Triangle - Sheets 18, 19, and 20

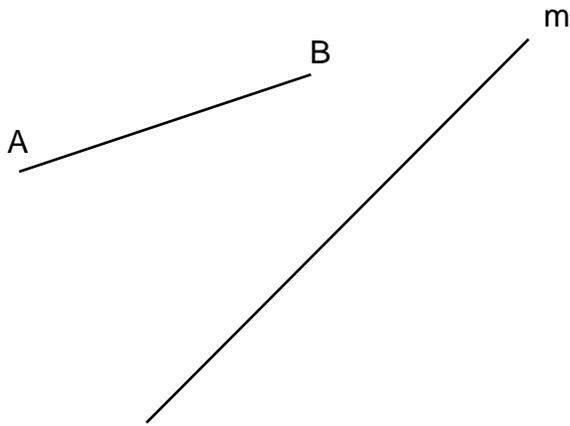
Evaluation Template: Sheet 21



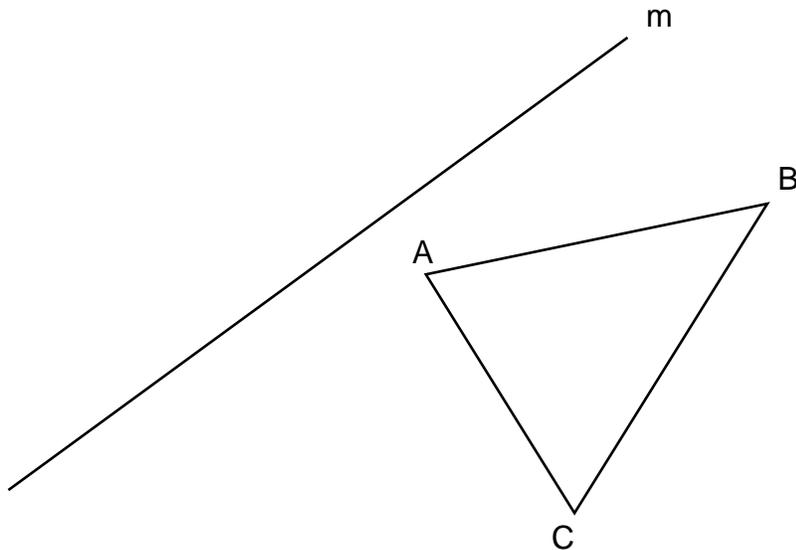
# Activity 1: Construct Congruent Segments - Sheet 1

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Place the Mira on the mirror line  $m$  and draw a congruent figure to the one you see on the sheet.

a)



b)



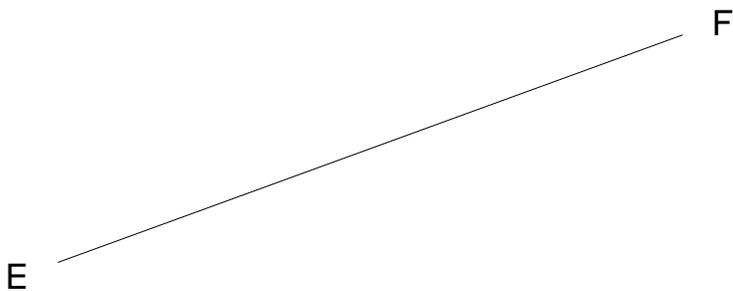
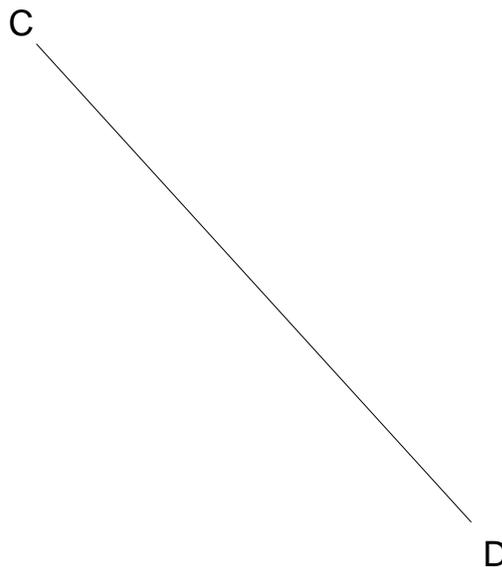
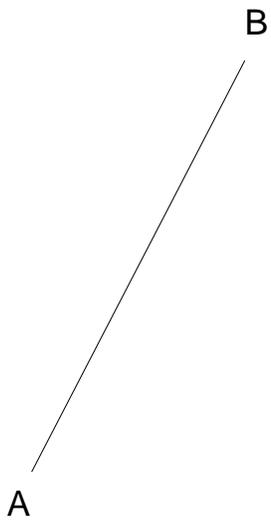
c)





## Activity 2: Construct the Perpendicular Bisector of a Line Segment - Sheet 2

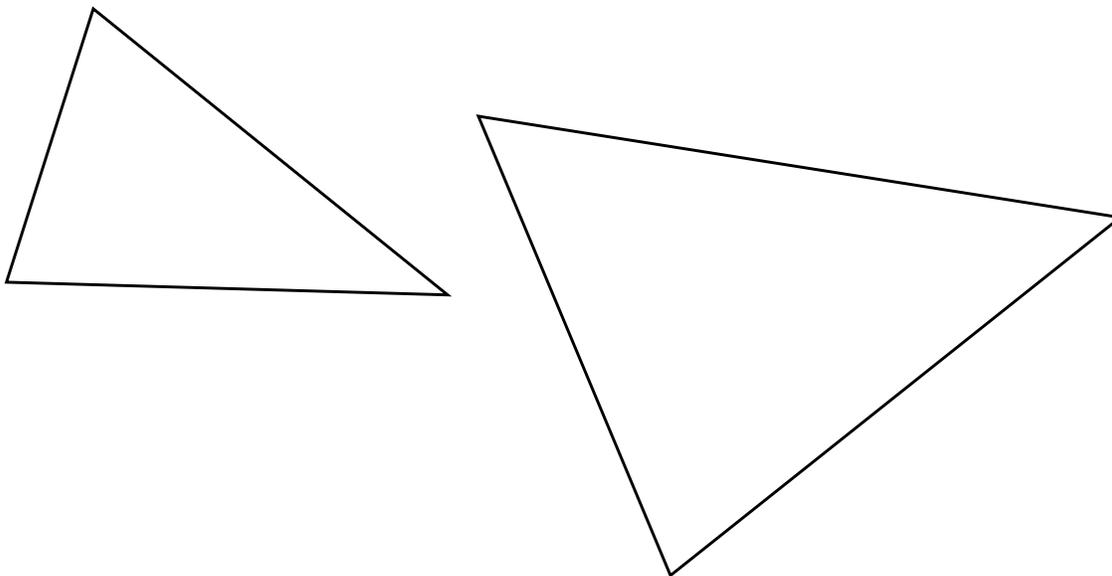
INSTRUCTIONS: Construct the perpendicular bisector of each segment pictured.





## Activity 2: Continued - Sheet 3

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Construct the perpendicular bisectors of all the sides of the triangles pictured.

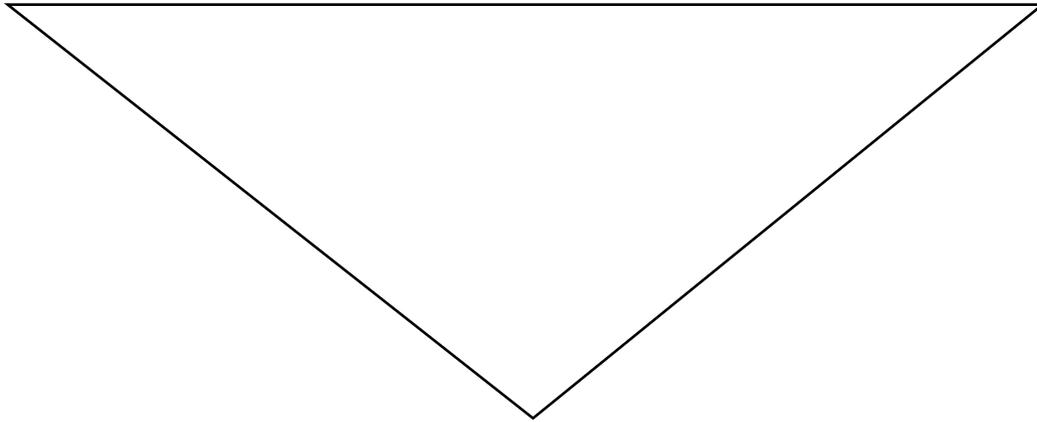


*What do you notice about these perpendicular bisectors?*



## Activity 2: Continued - Sheet 4

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Construct the perpendicular bisectors of all the sides of the triangle pictured.

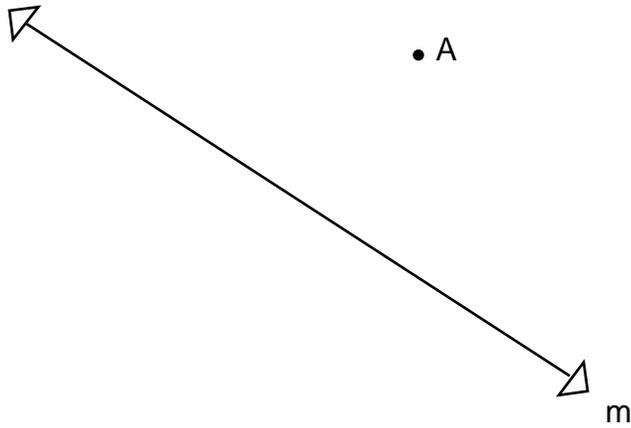


*What do you notice about these perpendicular bisectors?*

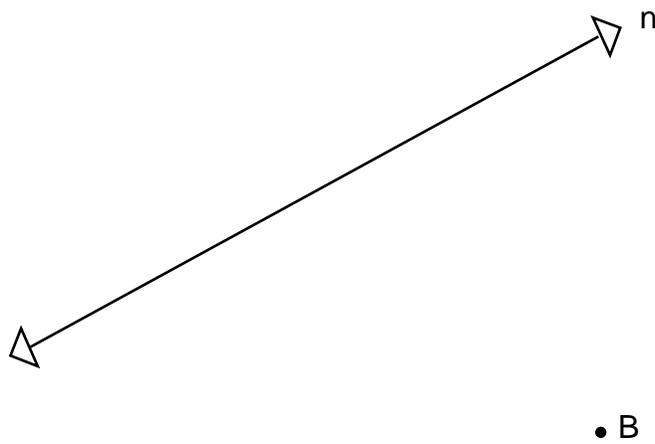


### Activity 3: Construct a Line Perpendicular to a given line from a point not on the line - Sheet 5

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Construct a line through point A and perpendicular to line m.



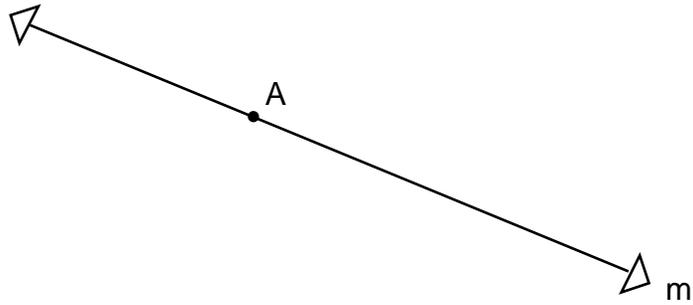
*Construct a line through point B and perpendicular to line n.*



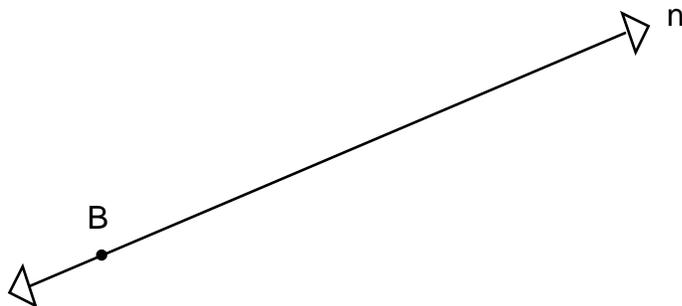


## Activity 4: Construct a line perpendicular to a given line from a point on the line - Sheet 6

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Construct a line through point A and perpendicular to line m.

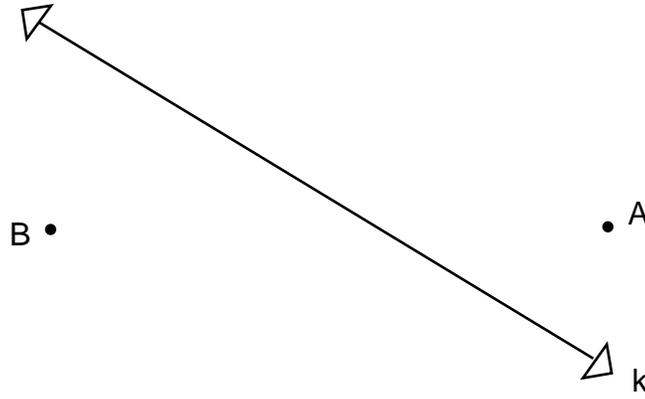


*Construct a line through point B and perpendicular to line n.*



## Activity 5: Construct a line parallel to a given line through a given point - Sheet 7

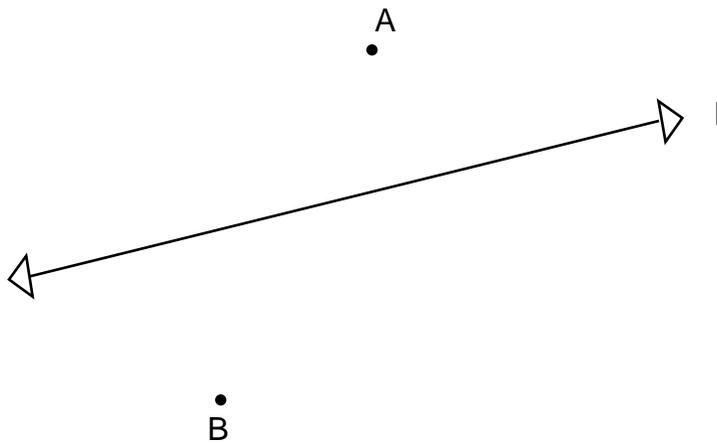
**INSTRUCTIONS:** Construct a line  $l$  through  $A$  that is perpendicular to line  $k$ . Construct a line  $m$  through point  $B$  that is perpendicular to line  $k$ . What statement can be made about lines  $l$  and  $m$ ?



### IMPORTANT IDEA

If two lines in the same plane are perpendicular to the same line, they are parallel.

Construct a line  $m$  through point  $A$  and a line  $l$  through point  $B$  that are PARALLEL to line  $k$ . (*Hint: construct a perpendicular from point  $A$  to line  $l$  first*).





## Activity 5: Continued - Sheet 8

Construct a line through A, a line through B, a line through C, and a line through D, so that the four lines are parallel to each other. (*Hint: draw any line through A*).

A  
•

C  
•

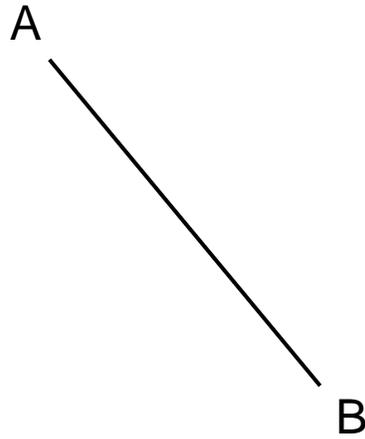
B  
•

D  
•



## Activity 6: Construct Quadrilaterals - Sheet 9

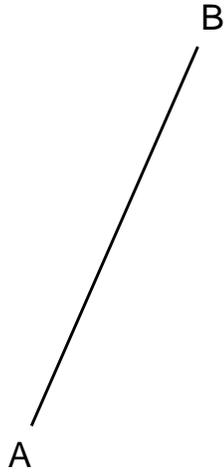
**INSTRUCTIONS:** Use the Mira to construct a trapezoid that has  $\overline{AB}$  as one of the parallel sides.



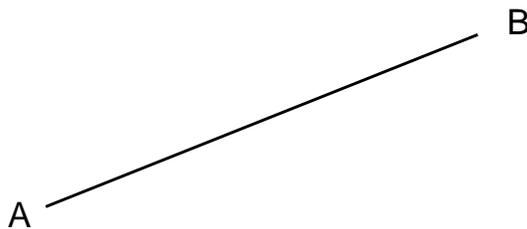


## Activity 6: Continued - Sheet 10

Use the Mira to construct a parallelogram that is not a rectangle and that has  $\overline{AB}$  as one side.



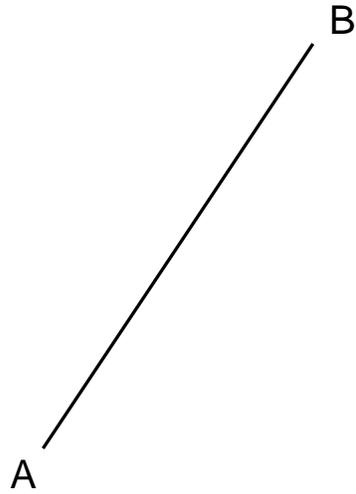
Use the Mira to construct a rectangle that is not a square and that has  $\overline{AB}$  as one side.



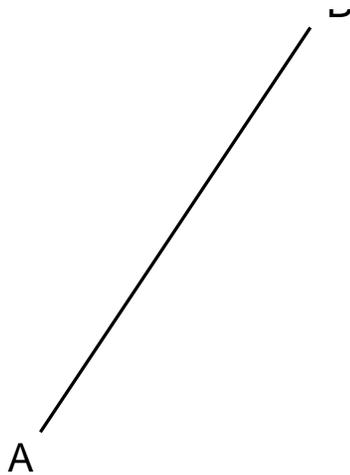


## Activity 6: Continued - Sheet 11

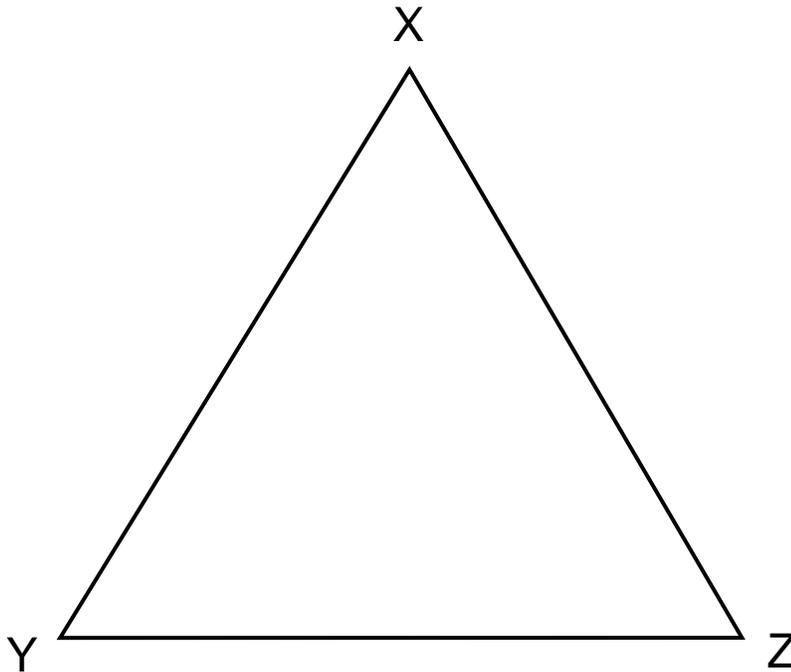
Use the Mira to construct a square that has  $\overline{AB}$  as one side.



Use the Mira to construct a rhombus that has  $\overline{AB}$  as one side.



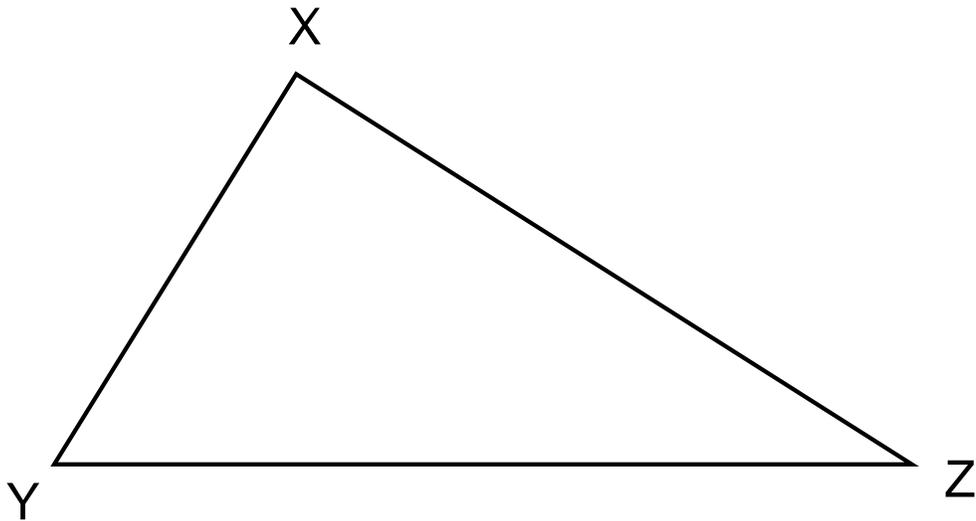
## Activity 7: Circumscribe a Circle about a Triangle - Sheet 12



### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Construct the perpendicular bisector of side  $\overline{YZ}$ .
2. Construct the perpendicular bisector of side  $\overline{XZ}$ .
3. Construct the perpendicular bisector of side  $\overline{XY}$ .
4. Label as P the point where the perpendicular bisectors intersect.
5. Draw the circle with center P which passes through X.
6. Does the circle pass through Y and Z? \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
7. If the circle passes through all three points X, Y, and Z, it is the circumscribed circle of triangle XYZ.

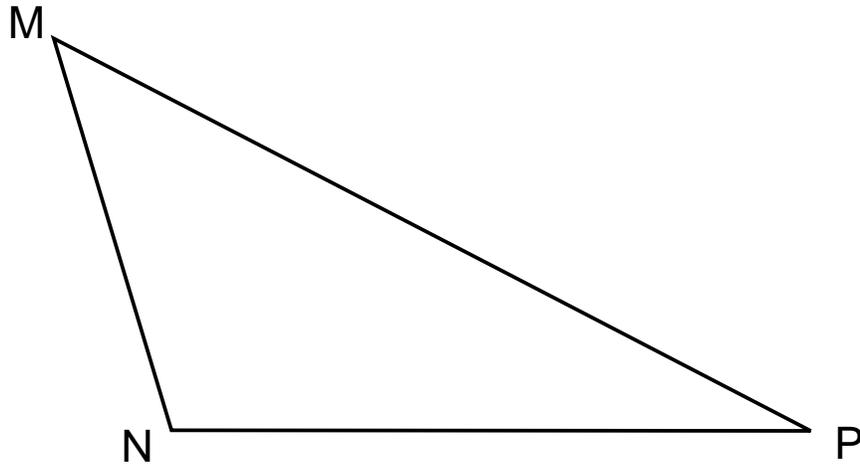
Activity 7: (Continued) - Sheet 13



**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Construct the perpendicular bisector of each side of triangle XYZ.
2. Label as Q the point where the perpendicular bisectors intersect.
3. Do you think the circle with center Q which passes through X will pass through Y and Z? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Draw the circle with center Q passing through X.
5. Is this circle the circumscribed circle of triangle XYZ? \_\_\_\_\_

Activity 7: (Continued) - Sheet 14



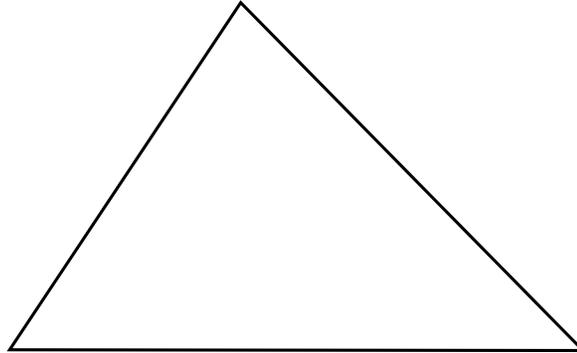
**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Construct the perpendicular bisector of each side of triangle MNP.
2. Label as O the point where the perpendicular bisectors intersect.
3. Draw the circle with center O passing through M.

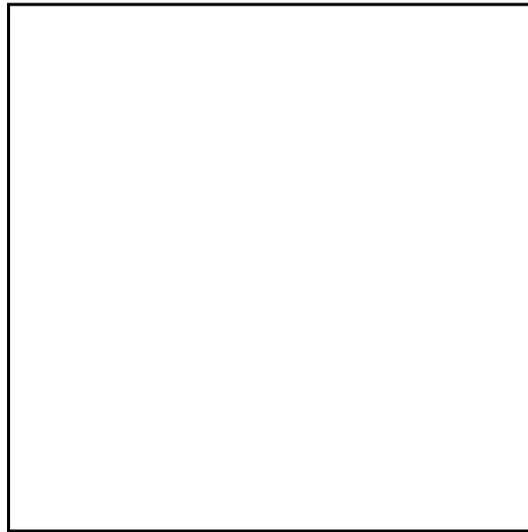


## Activity 7: (Continued) - Sheet 15

1. Circumscribe a circle about the triangle.



2. Circumscribe a circle about the square.

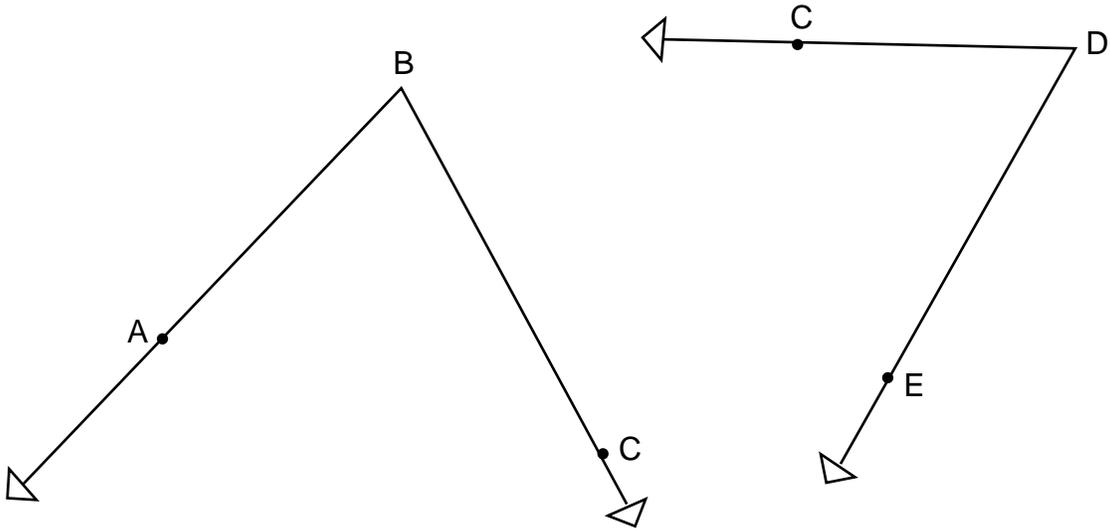




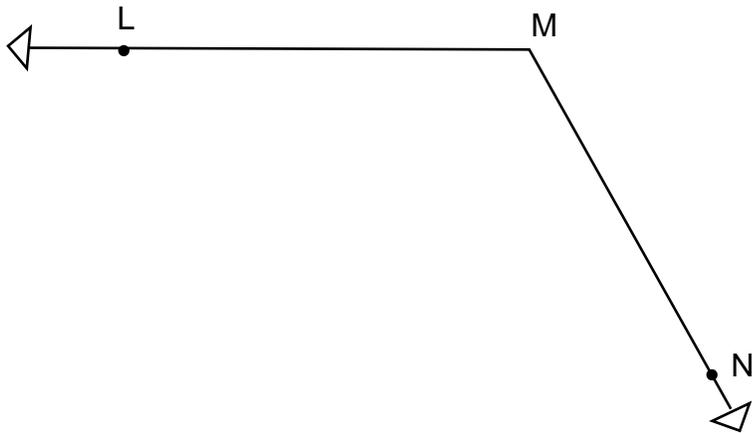
# Activity 8: (a) Bisect Angles - Sheet 16

Use a Mira to bisect the angles.

a.



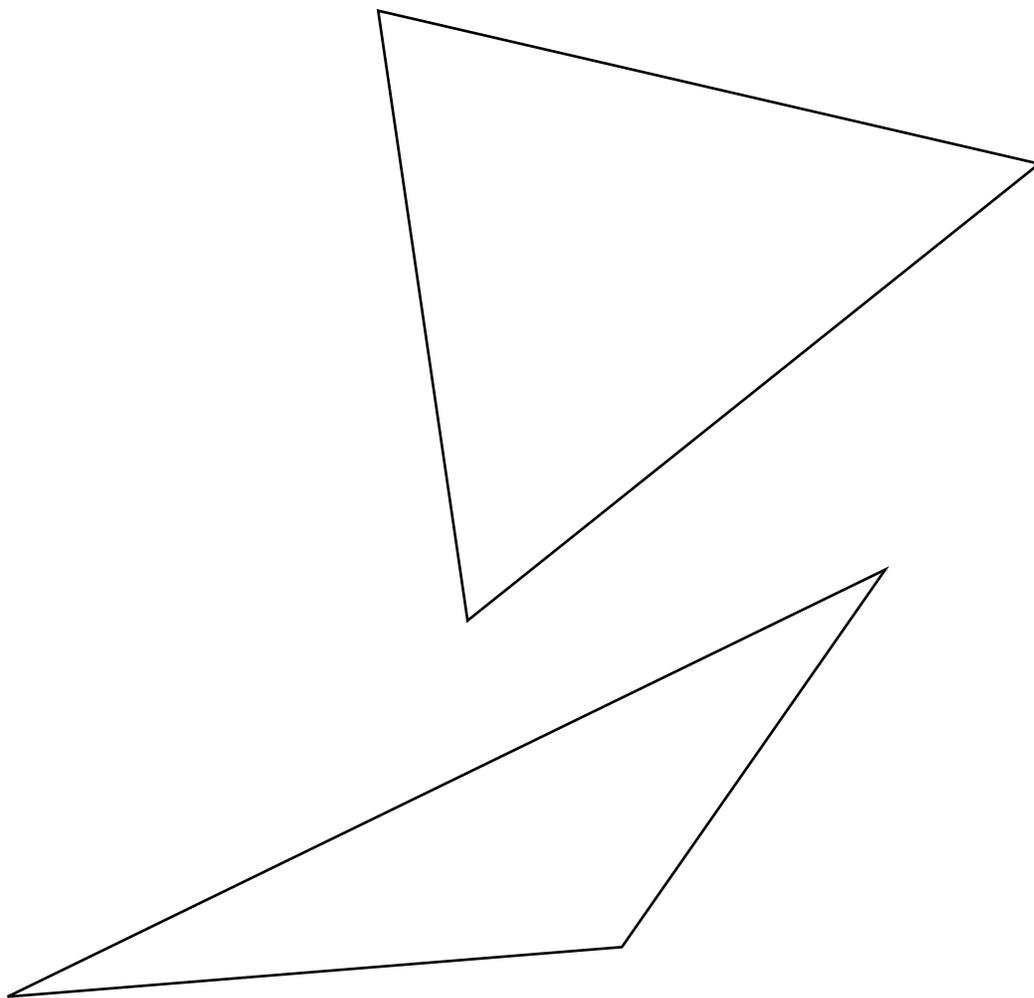
b.





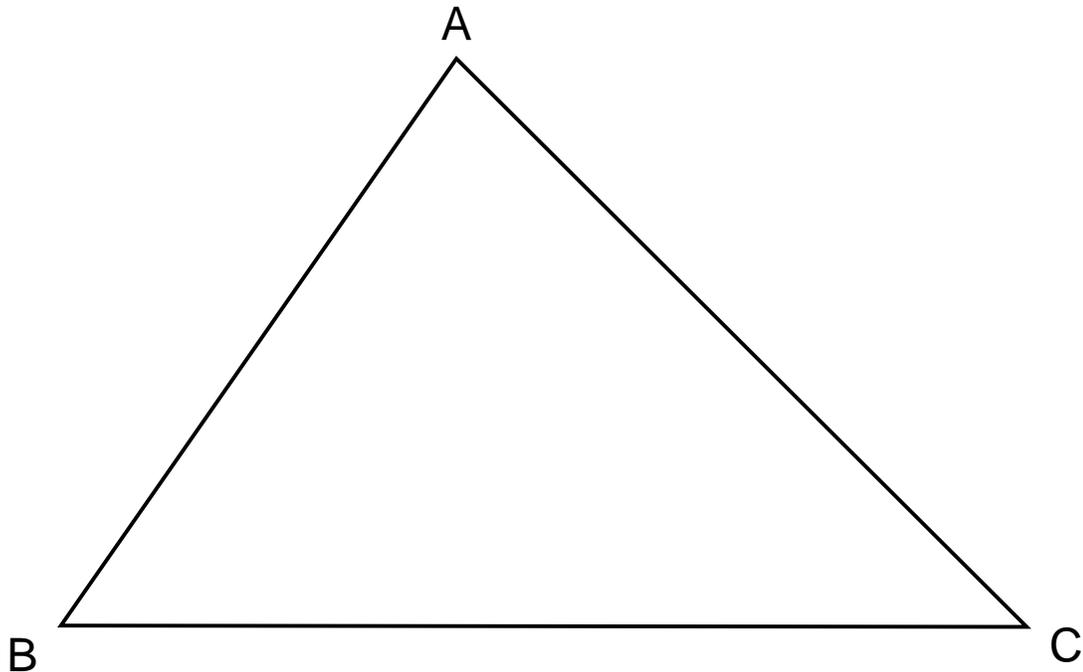
## Activity 8: (Continued) - Sheet 17

Use a Mira to bisect all of the angles of the triangles pictured below.



*What do you notice about the angle bisectors within each triangle?*

Activity 8: (b) Inscribe a Circle in a Triangle - Sheet 18



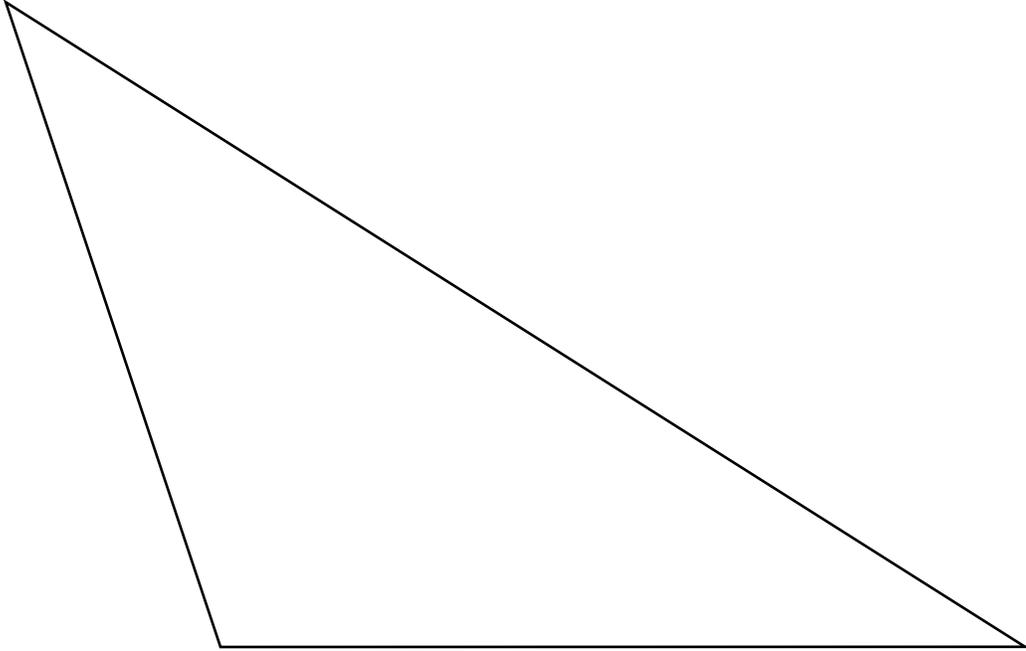
**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Bisect angle ABC, angle ACB, and angle BAC of the triangle.
2. Do the bisectors meet in one point? \_\_\_\_\_ Label the point of intersection Q.
3. Construct the perpendicular from Q to line  $\overline{BC}$ .
4. Label as R the point where the perpendicular intersects BC.
5. Draw the circle with center Q passing through R.
6. If the circle touches but does not cross all three sides of triangle ABC, it is the inscribed circle of triangle ABC.

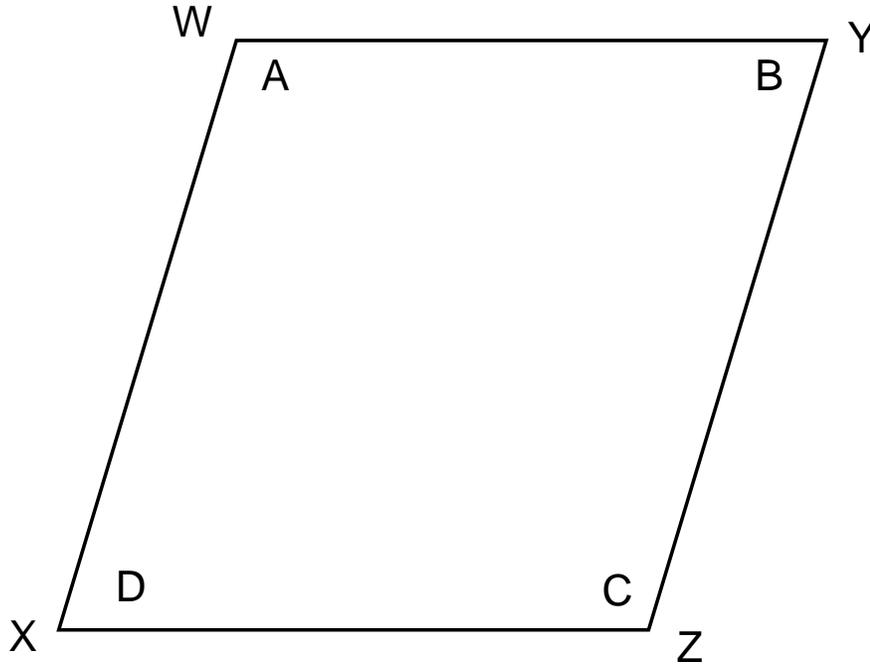


# Activity 8: (b) - Continued - Sheet 19

Inscribe a circle in the triangle.



**Bonus: Inscribing a Circle in a Regular Polygon - Sheet 20**



**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Bisect each angle  $WXZ$ ,  $XZY$ ,  $ZYW$ , and  $YWX$  of the rhombus.
2. Do the bisectors meet in a point? \_\_\_\_\_ Label the point of intersection O.
3. Construct the perpendicular from O to XZ.
4. Label as P the point where the perpendicular intersects  $\overline{XZ}$ .
5. Draw the circle with center O passing through P.
6. Is the circle inscribed in rhombus WXYZ? \_\_\_\_\_

# Contract for Mira Work

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Partner: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTRACT QUESTIONS**

**INITIALS**

**MARKS (5 EACH)**

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

**EVALUATION CRITERIA**

**RATING**

A. Understanding

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

B. Correct Labels

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

C. Neatness

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Overall Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

/60

## SECTION 2: PYTHAGOREAN PUZZLES

### Foundational Objective:\

To develop an understanding of Pythagoras' Theorem. (10 05 03)

### Specific Objectives:

Students will assemble puzzles that demonstrate the Pythagorean Theorem.

### Time:

1 Hour

### Instructional Strategies:

Interactive Instruction

### Instructional Methods and Activities:

- a) Laboratory Groups
  - b) Problem Solving
1. These puzzles could be used over a few days as supplemental activities or they could be an integral part of the content development. For students and teachers who are familiar with the Pythagorean Theorem, the following activities are designed so that they can review and extend the mathematical processes already learned.
  2. Students may work individually, in pairs or in small groups. Group work tends to stimulate communication and problem-solving skills and therefore these activities serve as excellent co-operative group activities. Encourage students to take them home and complete them with them with their families.
  3. Distribute one puzzle at a time. It is recommended that each student have a copy even if working in a group. Each puzzle should be completed and the results shared and discussed in a whole-class setting before continuing on to the next.

### Equipment:

scissors  
duplicated copies of puzzles  
optional: overhead transparencies of puzzles

### Resources:

"Pythagorean Puzzles" by Raymond E. Spaulding in *Activities from the Mathematics Teacher*, edited by E. M. Maletsky and C. R. Hirsch, NCTM, February, 1974.

"Pythagorean Dissection Puzzles" by William A. Milner and Linda Wagner in *Mathematics Teacher*, April, 1993, pages 302-314.

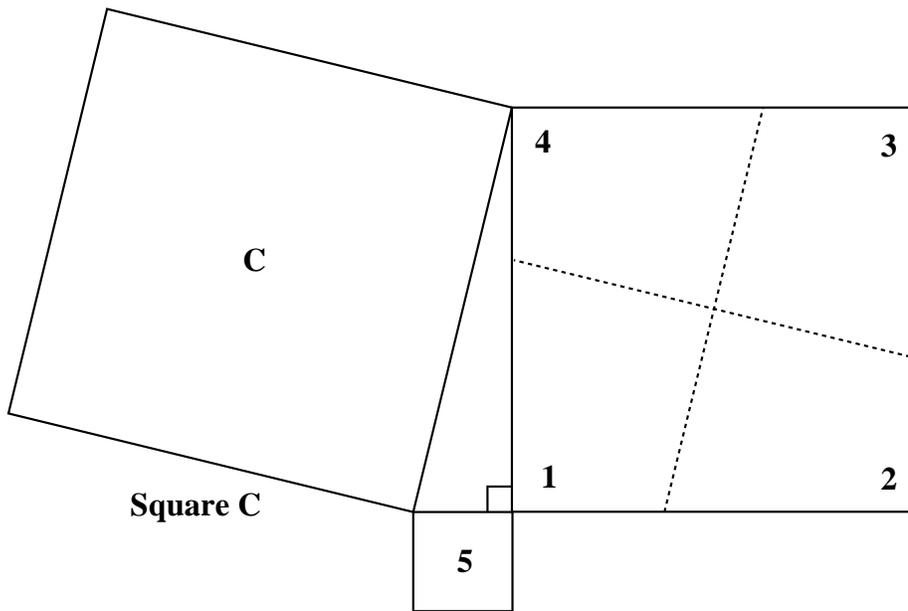
This resource contains enrichment and extension puzzles: see Perigal's Pythagorean Puzzle (sheet 2) and Loomis's Pythagorean Puzzle (sheet 3).

# PUZZLE #1

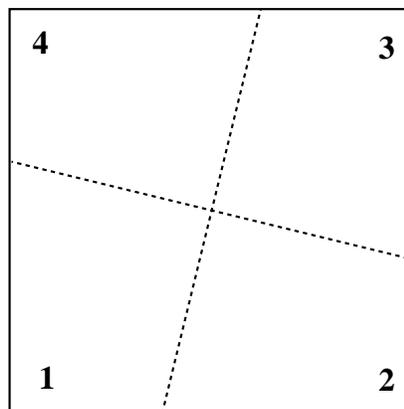
## INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Cut out the two squares A and B. Do not separate B.
2. Check that the two squares fit exactly as “the squares on the other two sides” on the right-angled triangle on the top portion of the page.
3. Now separate square B into four pieces.
4. Use the 5 pieces from squares A and B to cover square C exactly.

What relationship appears to be true? Explain.



**Square A**

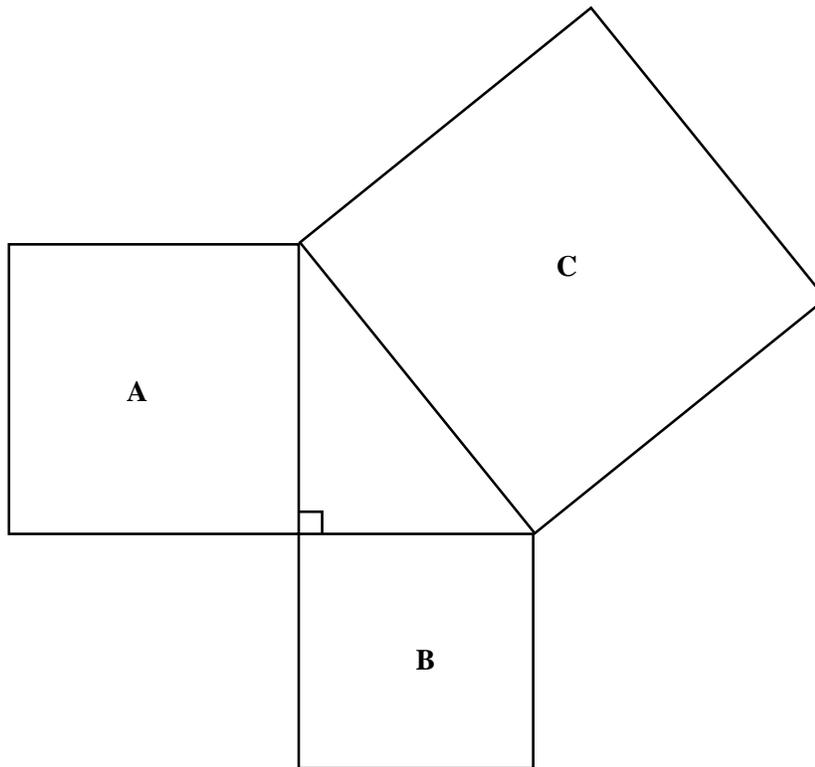


**Square B**

## PUZZLE #2

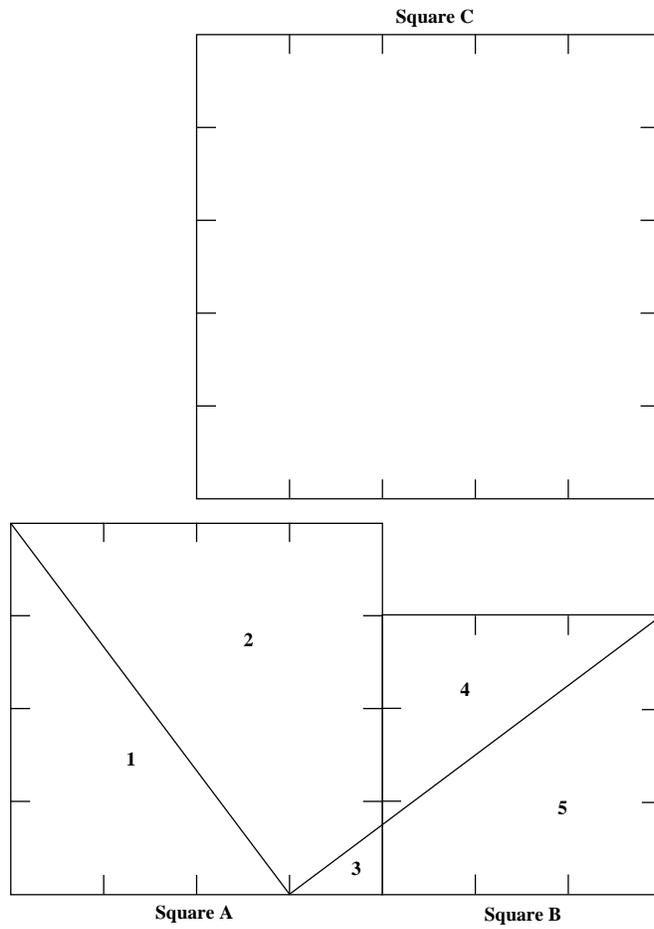
### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Cut out the squares marked A, B, and C. Do not separate A and B into pieces just yet.
2. Place A, B, and C vertex to vertex so that the right-angled triangle is visible between them as shown below.



This can be demonstrated very effectively on the overhead.

3. Now separate the pieces in squares A and B.



4. Use the five pieces from squares A and B to completely cover square C. What relationship appears to be true? Explain.

## Assessment Technique:

- informal questioning
- written assignment: Paragraph summing up the relationships demonstrated in the puzzles
- suggested \* Group evaluation form (see template)

## Adaptive Dimension:

Students could try the same puzzles again using other right triangles of their own choice along with the corresponding squares. Students who are interested in these activities can experiment with other dissections of square regions A and B to cover square C. For excellent extension activities, see *Mathematics Teacher*, April 1993, pages 305-5. (See resources).

## Classroom Management Tip:

There is a tremendous difference in how fast groups will solve these. Have the early ones cover up their solutions and go on with other work (homework) to enable everyone to try.

### Group Evaluation Form: Pythagorean Puzzles

Please meet with your group and use the checklist below as a basis for discussing how effectively your group is working. Complete the checklist. This form will be returned to your group at the beginning of the next work session.

Use this scale. **STRONGLY AGREE** 1 2 3 4 5 **STRONGLY DISAGREE**

Our group:

a) identified clear goals;	1	2	3	4	5
b) made progress toward the goals;	1	2	3	4	5
c) shared information and ideas;	1	2	3	4	5
d) made decisions based on the views of all;	1	2	3	4	5
e) listened well to each other;	1	2	3	4	5
f) encouraged each other to participate.	1	2	3	4	5

One way we might improve our work is by:

---

---

---

---

GROUP MEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Pythagorean Dissection Puzzles

## TEACHER'S GUIDE

The Pythagorean theorem is one of the most familiar mathematical formulations, quoted in movies, television, and cartoons. Yet, as familiar as it may be to many people, it is often not completely understood. In the NCTM's *Curriculum and Evaluation Standards* (1989, 113-14), Standard 12: Geometry for grades 5-8 states, "One of the most important properties in geometry, the Pythagorean theorem, is introduced in the middle grades. Students can discover this relationship through explorations..." (see **figure 1**).

Standard 1: Mathematics as Problem Solving for grades 9-12 recommends that "[p]roblems and applications should be used to introduce new mathematical content, to help students develop both understanding of concepts and facility with procedures, and to apply and review processes they have already learned" (p. 137). Standard 7: Geometry from a Synthetic Perspective recommends that "[p]hysical models and other real-world objects should be used to provide a strong base for the development of student's geometric intuition so that they can draw on these experiences in their work with abstract ideas" (p. 157).

For those students who are not familiar with the Pythagorean theorem, the following activities are designed to help discover it. For both students and teachers who are familiar with it, the activities are developed so that they can review and extend the mathematical processes already learned. In the teacher commentary, we explain how these activities are related to some specialized problems, which have recently appeared in the *Mathematics Teacher*. In the extension activities, teachers and their students will discover various Loomis dissection proofs of the Pythagorean theorem.

*Grade levels:* 7-12

*Materials:* Scissors, duplicate copies of the four activity sheets.

*Objectives:* To help students explore the Pythagorean theorem in various formats; to encourage some students to explore and discover various dissection proofs of the Pythagorean theorem. The activities also develop communication and problem-solving skills.

*Directions:* These activities should be used over a few days as supplemental activities, or they could be an integral part of the content development. Student may work individually, in pairs, or in small groups. Group work tends to stimulate communication and problem-solving skills. Consequently, these materials may serve as excellent cooperative-group activities. In addition, encourage students to take them home to complete with their families.

Distribute one copy of sheet 1 to each student. (We suggest that each student have a copy even if working in a group.) Sheet 1 should be completed and the results shared and discussed in a whole-class setting before sheets 2, 3, and 4 are distributed. You may want to distribute sheets 2 and 3 separately and only the relevant parts of sheet 4, or you can distribute them together.

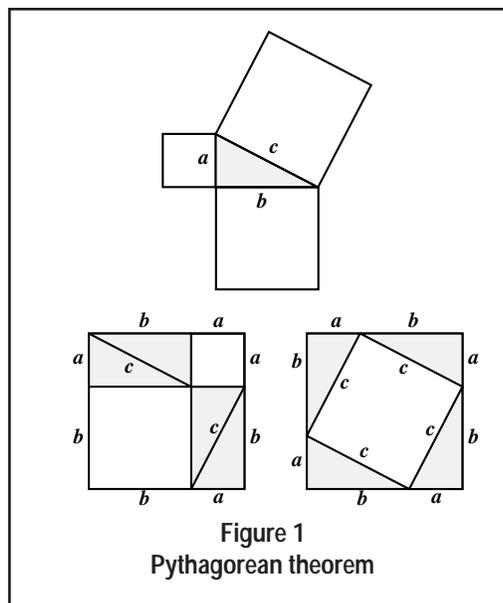


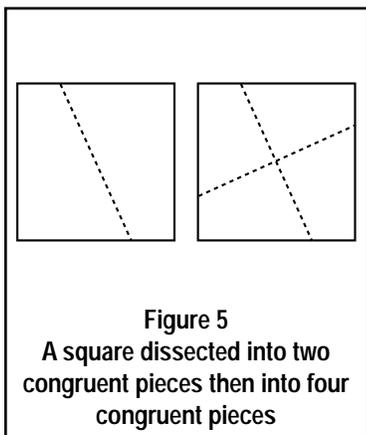
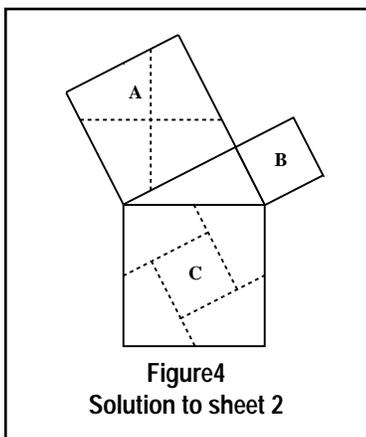
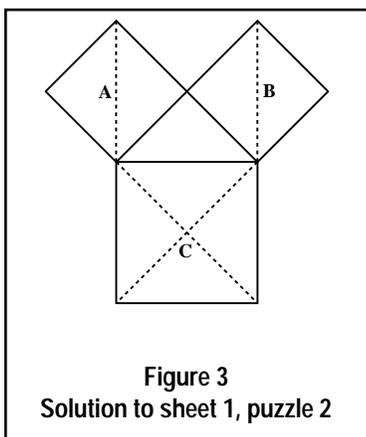
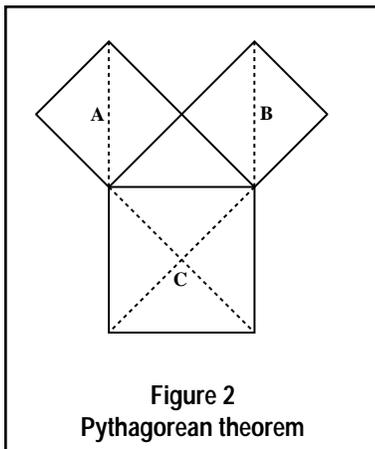
Figure 1  
Pythagorean theorem

The size of the puzzles on the sheets is adequate for class use, however, you may want to enlarge the figures on a copy machine. Beware of distortion from enlargement. Good results can be obtained using paper, but if squares at the bottom of sheet 1 and on sheet 4 are cut from heavier material, such as manila folders, they will be easier to pick up and place. Some school copying machines can photocopy on heavier material, such as 67-pound vellum bristol, which comes in a variety of colors. Squares made in various colors are attractive to students and help distinguish one set of pieces from another.

Permanent pieces can be made from 2-millimeter vinyl, which is usually available as inexpensive placemats in department stores. To cut, use sharp scissors or a good paper cutter. Another option is to laminate colored squares of heavier material. A display set for the overhead projector can be made from various colors of clear acetate. The teacher or students can display their solutions on the overhead projector to further class discussion.

*Sheet 1:* Squares 1 and 2 should be cut out and placed over squares A and B to verify that all four squares are congruent. Do the same for squares 3 and 4. After the students have solved the puzzle, we like to make sure that they see the arrangements as they are presented in **figures 2** and **3**. These arrangements show how the cuts are made by extending the sides of square C, which is a key to determining the dissection of the general non-isosceles right triangle.

Review the concept of similar triangles. Ask your students if it is possible to construct a pair of non-similar isosceles right triangles. It is



important that students recognize that all isosceles right triangles are similar. Sometimes tile layers cut square tiles along a diagonal to form isosceles right triangles and include this shape in the floor design.

The puzzles on sheets 2 and 3 are each generalizations of these two isosceles-right-triangle dissections. This fact is not mentioned in the student material but can be shared with students by looking at, and comparing their solutions to, each dissection.

*Sheet 2 (and part of sheet 4):* This puzzle is a generalization of the isosceles-right-triangle puzzle using squares 3 and 4 from sheet 1. It was discovered in the 1800s by Henry Perigal, a London stockbroker and amateur mathematician, and is now named for him. This puzzle is constructed by locating the center of the square region on the longer leg. Two line segments are drawn through this center, one on a line perpendicular to the hypotenuse and the other parallel to the hypotenuse. Both segments are congruent to side  $c$ . See **figure 4** for the solution.

This construction is closely related to another pair of interesting mathematical puzzles, which teachers can share with their students. The first puzzle involves dissecting a square region into two congruent pieces and then into four congruent pieces. Few people realize that any line through the center of a square region divides it into two congruent regions and that when a line is perpendicular to the first line through the center they divide the square region into four congruent pieces (see **figure 5**).

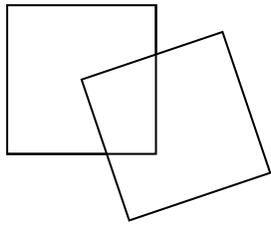
The second puzzle involves overlapping two square regions with a vertex of one placed over the center of the other (see **figure 6**). The squares' dimensions are given, and one is asked to compute the area of the overlapped region. It is not obvious that the area of the overlapped region is one-fourth of the area of the bottom square. The square whose vertex is placed at the center must have a side greater than or equal to one-half of the diagonal of the other square. A form of this puzzle appeared in the *Mathematics Teacher* as problem 24 in the 1991 "April Calendar" and problems 8 and 22 in the 1991 "May Calendar."

*Sheet 3 (and part of Sheet 4):* This puzzle is a generalization of the isosceles-right-triangle puzzle using squares 1 and 2 from sheet 1. A form of it was discovered in 1926 by the American mathematician Elisha Loomis of Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio. We have named this puzzle for Loomis. The authors strongly believe that to recognize Loomis's prodigious work with the Pythagorean theorem, a Pythagorean proof should be named for him. This one seems to be the most appropriate.

The puzzle is constructed by extending the sides of the square on the hypotenuse across the squares on the legs. A perpendicular is then constructed to the line on the larger square where it intersects the opposite side. The appropriate cuts may be determined by reflecting square C over the hypotenuse. Note that all triangles formed are similar to the original right triangle and that the smaller triangle from square A can be matched to the trapezoid from square B to form a triangle congruent to the original right triangle. See **figure 7** for the solution.

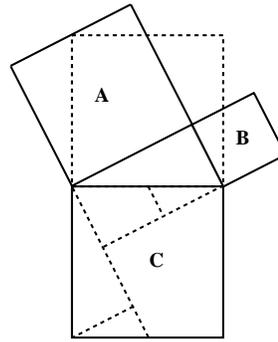
*Extension activities:* Students who are interested in these activities can experiment with other dissections of square regions A and B to cover square region C. Squares 8, 9, and 10 on sheet 4 are included so that students have squares available to make various cuts. Puzzles similar to Perigal's can be made by making a dissection along any segment inside parallelogram  $PWRS$ , parallel to  $PQ$  (see **figure 8**). The other cut is made inside parallelogram  $TUVW$ , parallel to  $TU$ . Square A is identified as square  $PWRU$ . Extend the side of square C through  $P$  to get  $PQ$ ;  $PW$  is parallel to  $RS$ .  $WV$  and  $TU$  are parallel to two sides of square C.

These four pieces of square region A together with square region B can be arranged to cover square region C. **Figure 9** illustrates three solutions to Perigal-like puzzles where a cut is consistently made at  $PQ$  and the other cut, made in three different positions, moves from  $TU$  to  $WV$ . The corresponding pieces from square region A are arranged in the same corners in square region C. Square region B appears to move from the bottom of square region C to the top of square region C. Students will find other interesting results if other lines are fixed or if they vary together in some pattern.



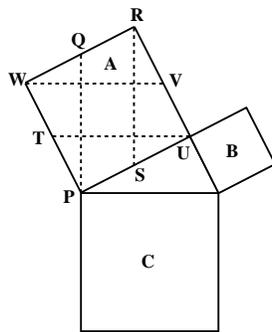
**Figure 6**

A square region is placed on top of another so that a vertex on the top one is at the center of the bottom one. The overlap is one-fourth of the area of the bottom square region.



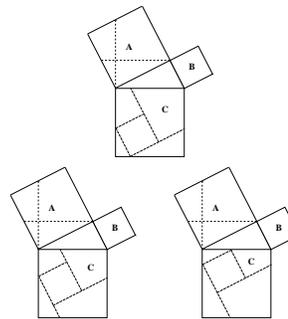
**Figure 7**

Solution to sheet 3



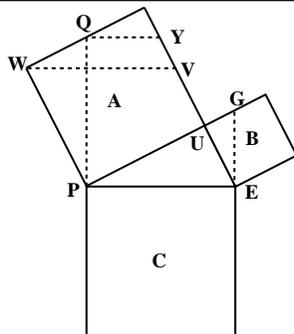
**Figure 8**

Creating puzzles similar to Perigal's puzzle



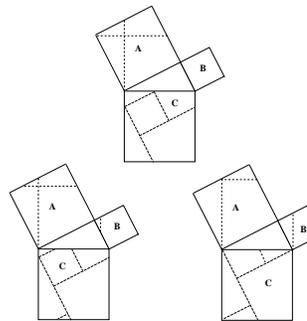
**Figure 9**

Solutions to Perigal-like puzzles



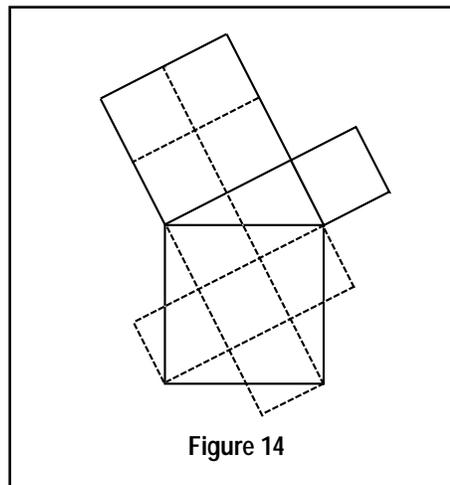
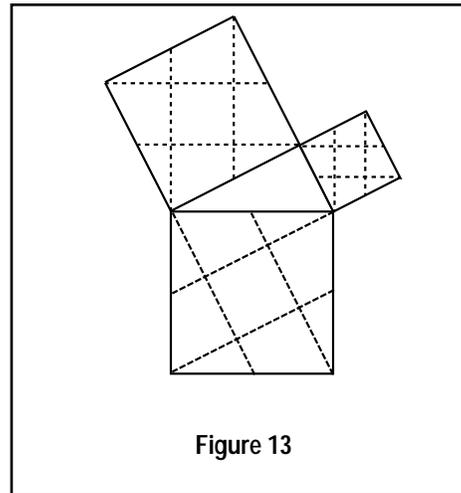
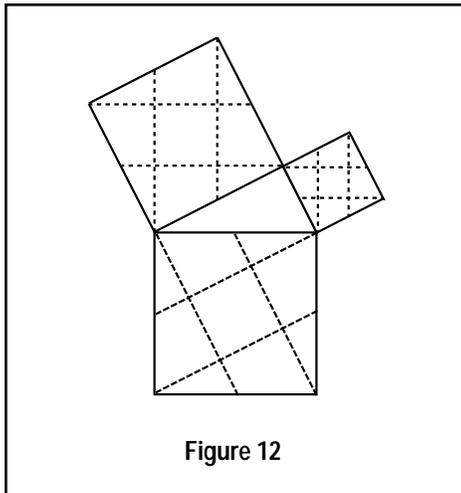
**Figure 10**

Creating more puzzles similar to Perigal's and Loomis's puzzles



**Figure 11**

Solutions to Perigal- and Loomis-like puzzles



If the cut is made in trapezoid  $WQYV$  (see **figure 10**) parallel to  $\overline{WV}$ , the square on the shorter leg must also be dissected with a cut in triangle  $EUG$  parallel to  $\overline{EG}$ . Extend the sides of square C through  $P$  to get  $\overline{PQ}$  and through  $E$  to get  $\overline{EG}$ .  $\overline{WV}$  and  $\overline{QY}$  are parallel to two sides of square C. Loomis's puzzle results when the cuts are made along  $\overline{EG}$  and  $\overline{QY}$ . Except when cuts are made on the edge of trapezoid  $WQYV$ , six pieces will always result. **Figure 11** illustrates varying cuts. The cuts in square A move from  $\overline{WV}$  to  $\overline{QY}$ . Note that the left-hand puzzle is identical to the right-hand puzzle in **figure 9**.

Some students may construct right triangles of different dimensions and complete the corresponding puzzles. If a right triangle is constructed so that the longer leg is twice as long as the shorter leg, some other puzzles may be developed. One puzzle is the square that is related to the triangle dissection on the cover of the February 1992 *Mathematics Teacher* (see p. 92). When working with a Pythagorean configuration, the triangle formed by extending any side of one square into another square always forms a triangle that is similar to the original right triangle. Therefore, in a  $1, 2, \sqrt{5}$  Pythagorean configuration, a line extending from one side of a square through the vertex of the triangle into another square always intersects the opposite side of that square at a midpoint (**figure 12**). This diagram also leads one to another puzzles where the square on the larger leg is divided into four congruent squares (**figure 13**) or divided into four congruent right triangles (**figure 14**).

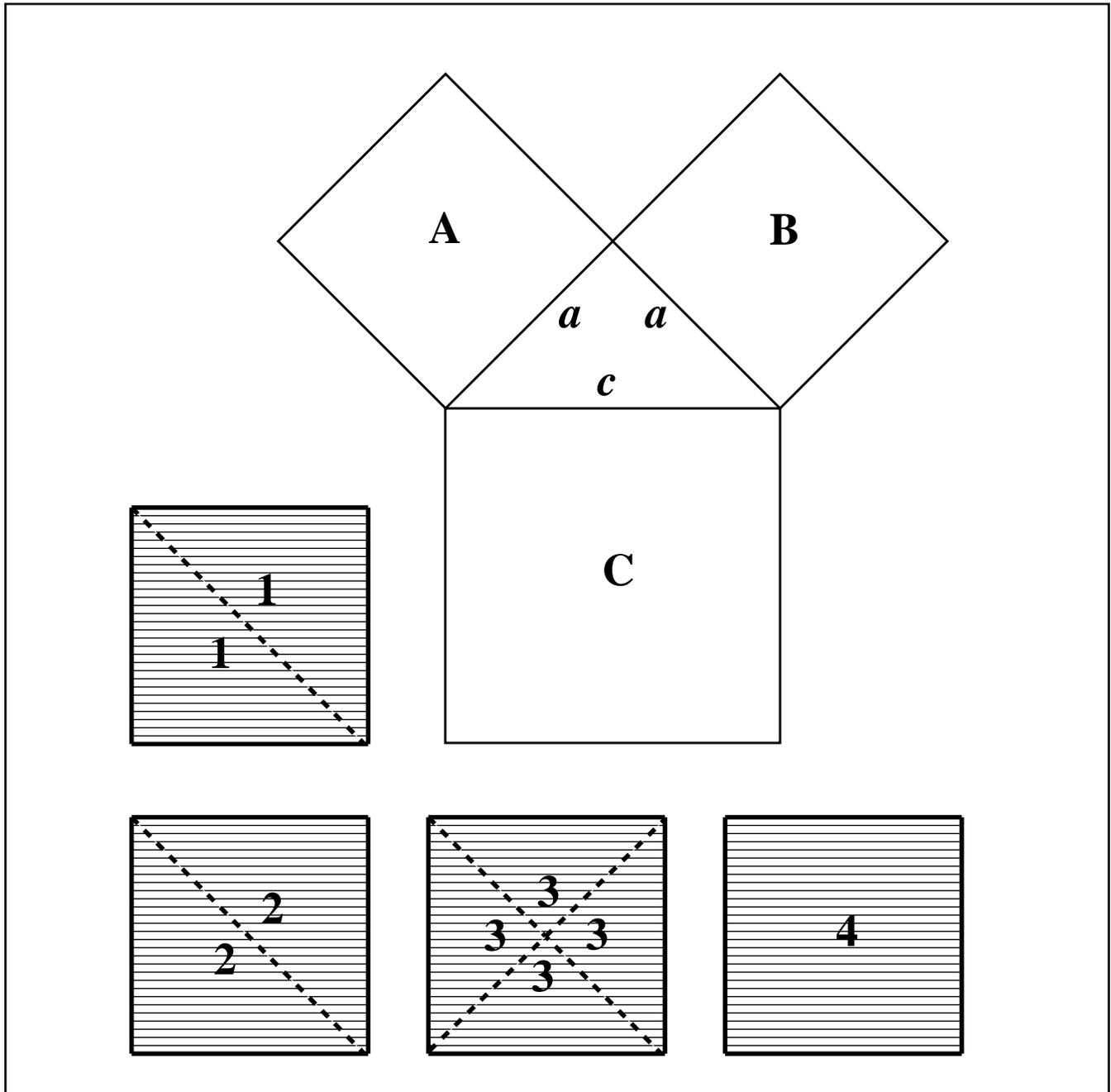
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# Isosceles Right-Triangle Puzzles

## SHEET 1

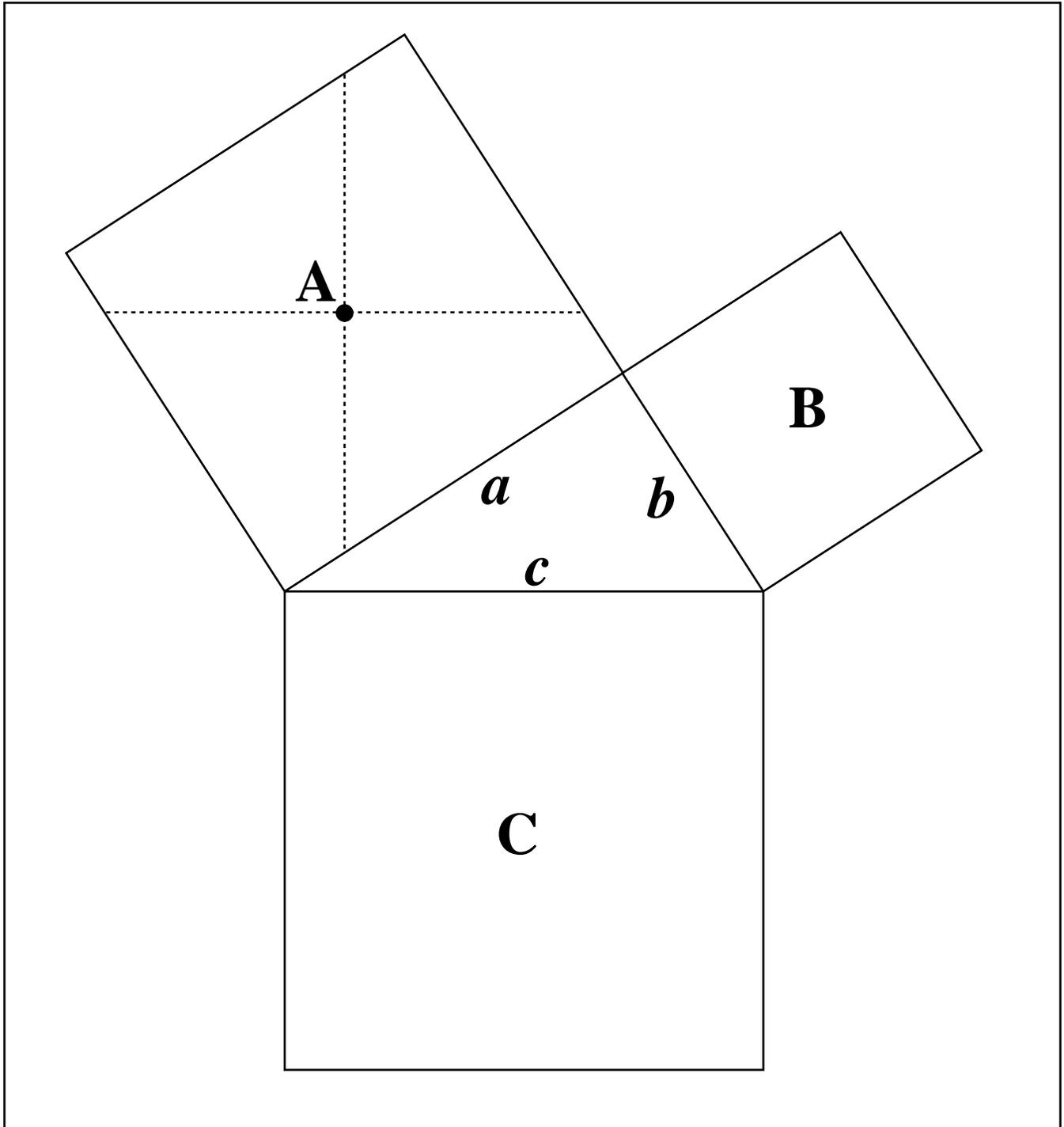
1. Cut out squares 1 and 2. Use them to cover squares A and B to verify that all four squares are congruent.
2. Cut the square regions 1 and 2 along the dashed diagonal lines. Show how these four pieces can be arranged to cover square region C.
3. Does there seem to be a relationship between  $a^2 + a^2$  and  $c^2$ ? Explain.
4. Cut out squares 3 and 4, and use them to cover squares A and B to verify that the four squares are all congruent.
5. Cut square region 3 along the dashed diagonal lines. Show how these four pieces along with square 4 can be arranged to cover square C.



# Perigal's Pythagorean Puzzle

## SHEET 2

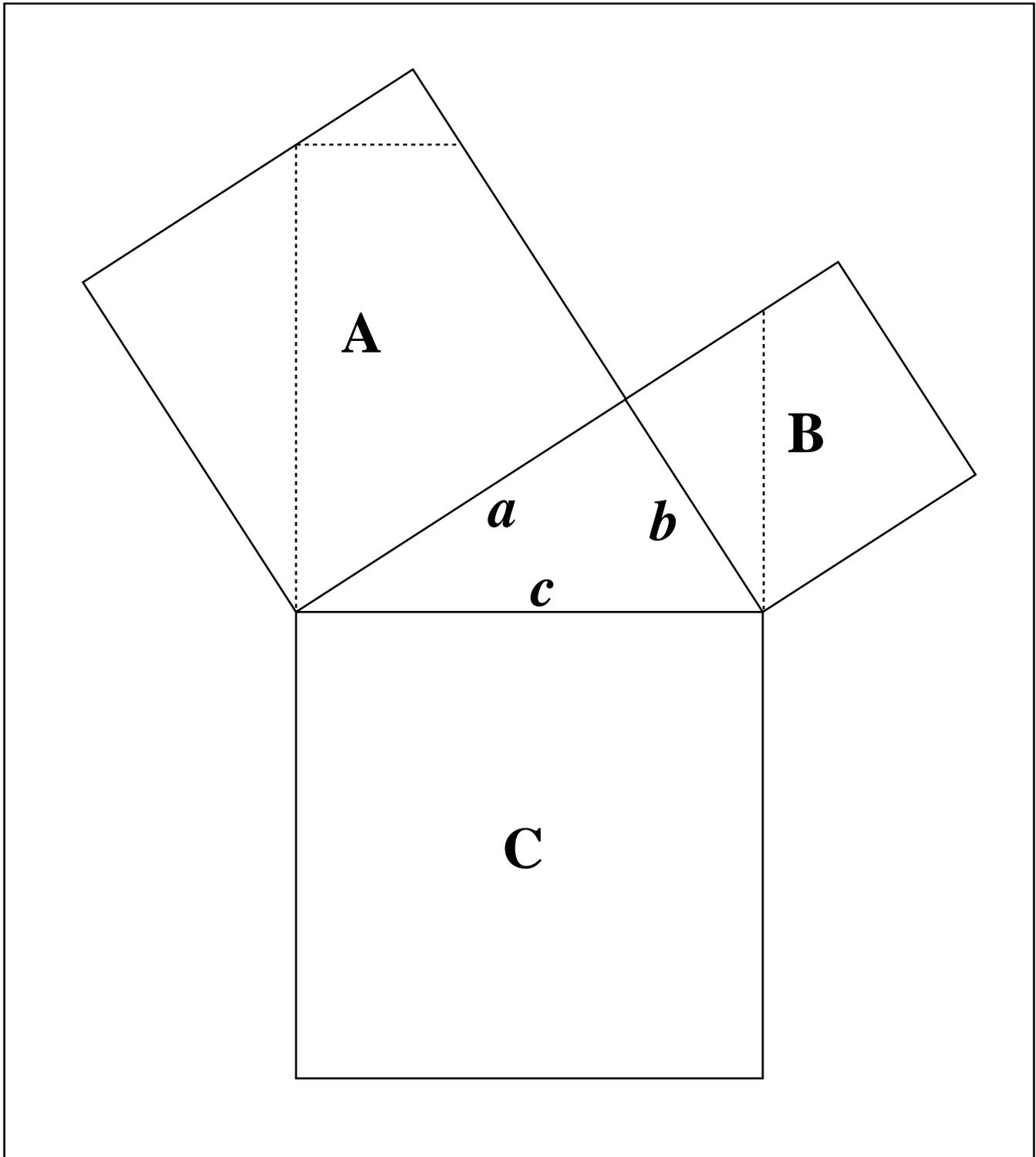
1. Cut out square 5 on sheet 4. Cover square A to verify that the squares are congruent. Cover square B with square 4 from activity 1 to verify that these pairs of squares are congruent.
2. Cut square 5 along the dashed lines. Show how these four pieces together with square region 4 can be arranged to cover square region C.
3. What relationship appears to be true between  $a^2 + b^2$  and  $c^2$ ? Explain.

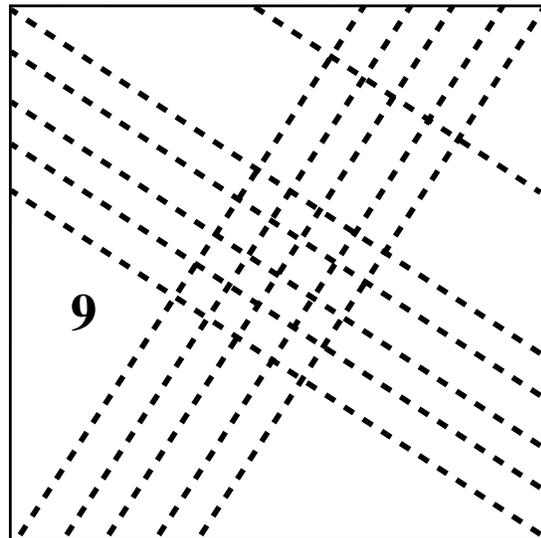
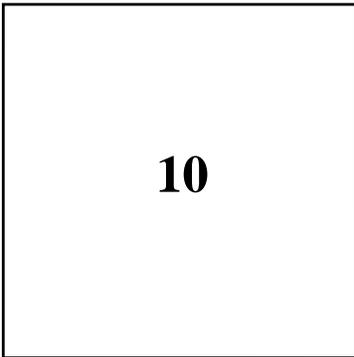
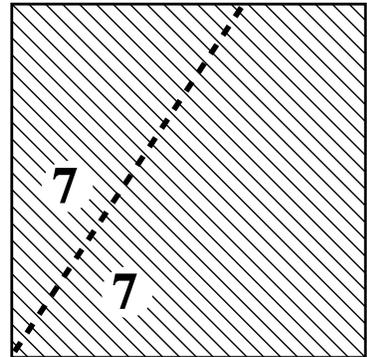
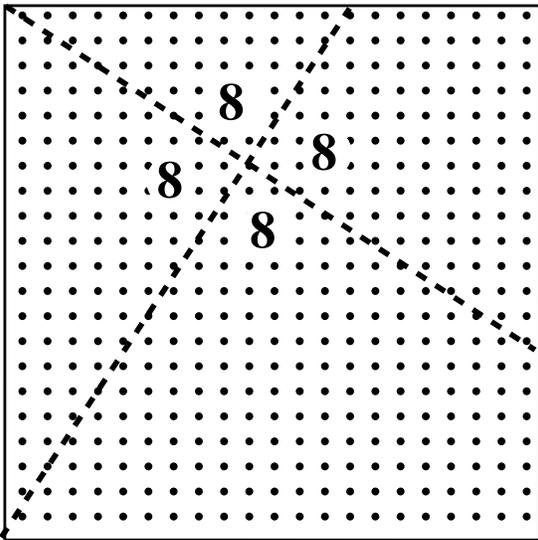
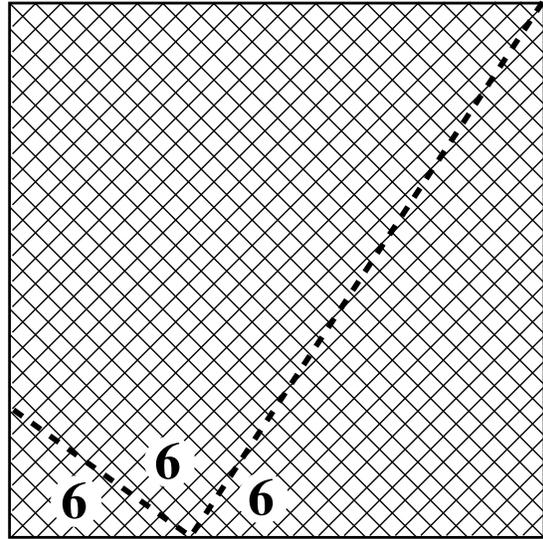
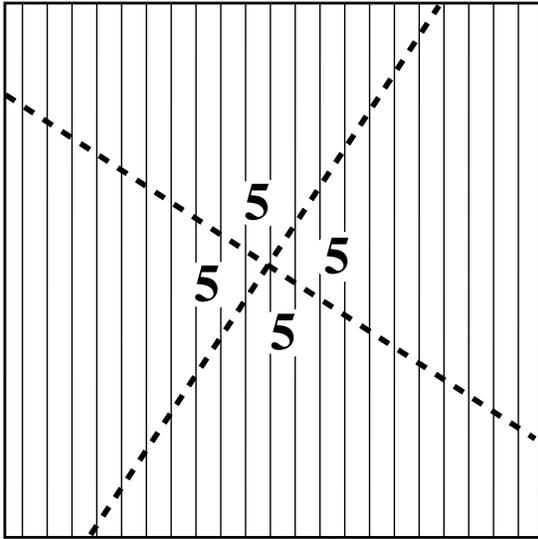


# Loomis's Pythagorean Puzzle

## SHEET 3

1. Cut out squares 6 and 7 on sheet 4. Use those squares to cover A and B to verify that each pair of squares is congruent.
2. Cut square regions 6 and 7 along the dashed lines. Show how these five pieces can be arranged to cover square region C.
3. Does  $a^2 + b^2$  appear to equal  $c^2$ ? Explain.





From the *Mathematics Teacher*, April 1993, V-86 (4), pages 302-308, 313-314.

## SECTION 3: BUILD A CLINOMETER

### Foundational Objectives:

To develop an understanding of the primary trigonometric ratios and their applications (10 05 03).

### Specific Objectives:

Apply the trigonometric ratios to problems involving right triangles.

\*Students will construct an angle-measuring device called a *clinometer*, and will use it to measure the *Angle of Elevation* of several inaccessible objects outside of the school. They will then use trig ratios to determine the heights of these objects.

### Background:

Knowledge of right triangles and the three primary trigonometric ratios. (This activity only uses Tangent).

### Time:

This activity takes 1 hour to set up and explain; 1/2 hour to complete measurements and 1/2 hour to do the calculations and analysis.

### Classroom Management Tips:

Because of the freedom allowed to the students in this activity, it is very important that students are absolutely clear as to what is expected of them. Clearly explain where they can go, what they do, and when to be back.

### Instructional Strategies:

- A. Direct Instruction
- B. Interactive Instruction
- C. Experiential Learning

### Instructional Methods and Activities:

- A. 1. Structured Overview  
Student should practise "Angle of Elevation" problems. Begin with a discussion of how the students could use trigonometry to determine the measure of an inaccessible object. (See "Angle of Evaluation" Problems).
- A. 2. Demonstrate use and construction of Clinometer (See instructions and pattern)
- B. 1. Laboratory Groups  
In groups of 2 or 4, have students assemble Clinometer and prepare data-collection sheet. (See "Jobs to be Done" and "Data Collection Sheet").
- B. 2. Clearly outline to students before they leave the classroom:
  - a) how many items they are to measure (recommendation: 5).
  - b) how results are to be recorded; what is to be handed in; when work is due.

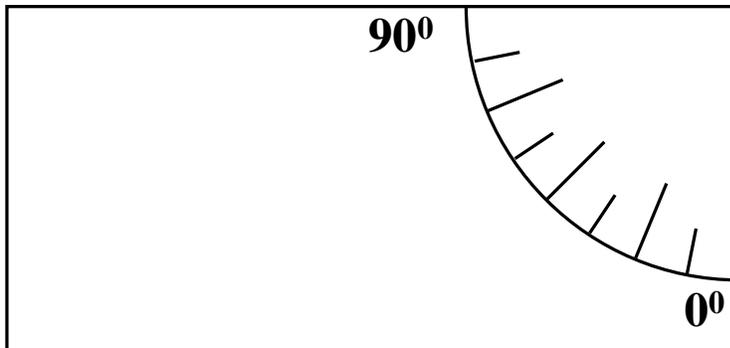
- C. 1. Field Trip:  
Outline areas students may go. Suggestions: outside, anywhere on school grounds, within 1 block of school, etc. [in bad weather: gym, cafeteria, hallways, just outside the door]. **BE VERY SPECIFIC!**
- C. 2. Outline time allowed. (Suggestion: 1/2 hour and they must be in their seats or take a zero on the project.) **BE VERY SPECIFIC!**
- C. 3. After collecting the data, students will need about 20 minutes to complete diagrams, calculations and summary statements. \*Be clear whether group or individual results are to be turned in.

## Equipment:

- (A) Clinometer:
- piece of cardboard or stiff paper, approximately 25 cm x 30 cm.
  - photocopy of enlarged protractor 0 - 90°
  - straw
  - tape
  - scissors
  - thread
  - button
- (B) Measurement Device for baseline:
- Trundle Wheel or
  - Meter sticks or tape or
  - Students can pace off the distance and measure a "typical pacing step" after returning to the classroom.
- (C) Data Sheet: can be hand-drawn by student or photocopied.
- (D) Calculator

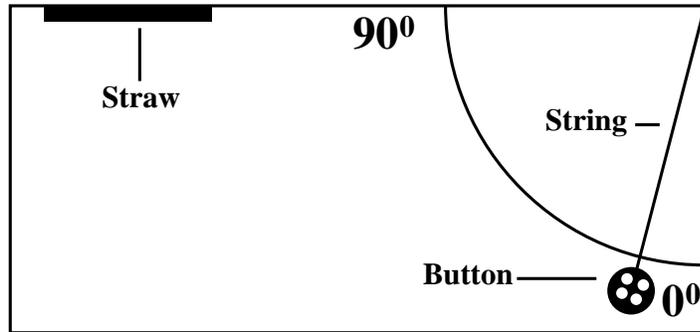
## Instructions for Clinometer:

1. Cut out the photocopy of the protractor carefully along to 0° and the 90° lines.
2. Glue the protractor into the upper right corner of the cardboard so that the edges match.

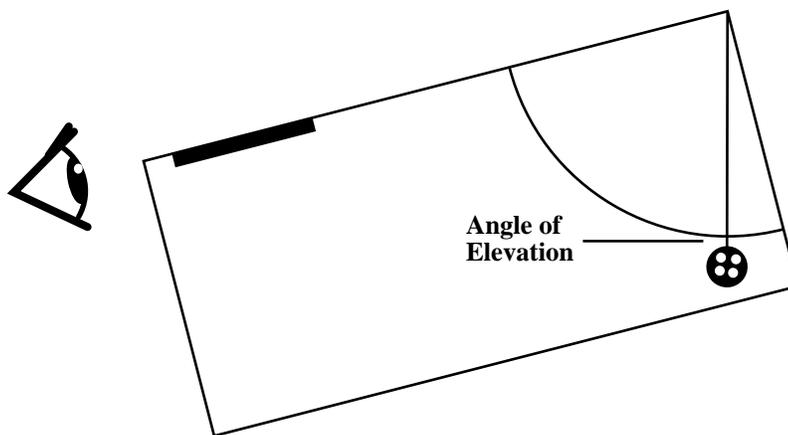


3. Attach the string as close as possible to the upper right corner of the cardboard and attach the button so that it swings freely below the numbers.

4. Tape a 5 - 10 cm piece of straw in the upper left corner so that it sights along the 90° line.



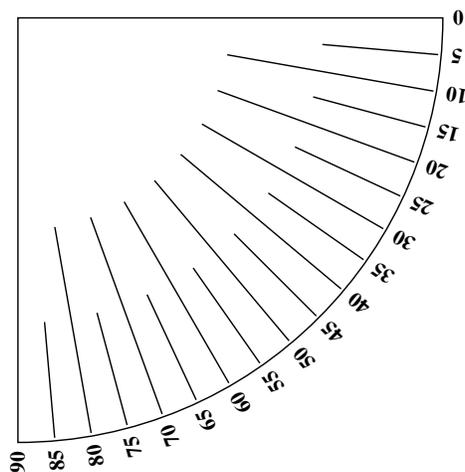
5. To use clinometer: Look through the straw at the object. Have partner read the angle of elevation shown by the string.



### Instructions for Groups:

See Clinometer: Jobs to be Done

Note: These four jobs can be done by four people *or* by *two* people.



### Data Chart:

Students can design their own, or this can be developed together on the board and copied by students or it can be photocopied.

# ANGLE OF ELEVATION PROBLEMS

1. To measure the height of an inaccessible TV tower, a surveyor paces out a base line of 200m and measures the angle of elevation to the top of the tower to be  $62^\circ$ . How high is the tower?
2. A tourist stands 15m back from the base of a statue and looks up to the top of the statue. If the angle of evaluation is  $48^\circ$ , find the height of the statue.
3. A student paces a base line 12m from the bottom of flagpole. She then uses a clinometer to measure a  $35^\circ$  Angle of Elevation. How high is the flagpole? (The distance from the ground to the student's eyes is 150 cm).

## CLINOMETER: JOBS TO BE DONE

1. **PACER:** for each object to be measured, this person must pace off the distance from the object to the **SIGHTER**. This must be done in a straight line. The **PACER** must then tell the **RECORDER** how many paces it took.
2. **SIGHTER:** this person is in charge of the Clinometer. For each measurement, the **SIGHTER** sights the top of the object and remains still while the **ANGLE READER** has read the angle. He/she should also remain still until the **PACER** has measured the base line.
3. **ANGLE READER:** when the **SIGHTER** has sighted the top of the object, this person reads the size of the **ANGLE OF ELEVATION** shown on the Clinometer and approximates it to the nearest degree. The **ANGLE READER** then tells the **RECORDER** the value of the angle.
4. **RECORDER:** this person will record on the chart the **ANGLE OF ELEVATION**, the number of paces in the base line and the distance from the sighter's eyes to the ground.

## PROCEDURES

1. The **RECORDER** should be the one to take the instructions and chart outside.
2. The **SIGHTER** should have the Clinometer.
3. When the measurements are finished, return to the classroom and copy the information collected by the **RECORDER**.
4. Draw the diagrams and calculate the rest of the information needed in the table.

**DATA CHART: Clinometer Lab**

Objects to be Measured	Number of Paces to the Object	Number of feet to the Object (1 pace = 0.8 m)	Angle of Elevation	Distance from Ground to Sighter's Eye	Height of Object

## Assessment Techniques:

- Written Assignments: either individual or group results could be collected. Suggestion: collect completed data charts, diagram for each situation and computed results.
- Quiz or test could be given.
- A portion of the evaluation could be from a Group Self- Evaluation form (see template).

## Adaptive Dimension:

1. This exercise can be done as a scavenger hunt. Each group can be provided with a different set (or different order) of objects.
2. This exercise could also be done as a race with a list of objects and a time limit.

<b>ASSESSMENT OF COOPERATIVE LEARNING</b>						
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual <input type="checkbox"/> Pair <input type="checkbox"/> Group						
Student Name						
Partner/Group Members						
Date						
<b>DIRECTIONS:</b> Please meet with your group and use the rating scale below as a basis for discussing how effectively your group is working. Complete the rating scale and return it to your instructor.						
DID YOUR GROUP	POORLY			EXTREMELY WELL		
• identify specific goals?	1	2	3	4	5	6
• make noticeable progress towards those goals?	1	2	3	4	5	6
• share information, ideas and options with each other?	1	2	3	4	5	6
• make decisions that were based on the views of all members?	1	2	3	4	5	6
• listen with attention to each other?	1	2	3	4	5	6
• actively encourage each other to participate in the group activities?	1	2	3	4	5	6
Some suggestions for improving our group work next time:  <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/>						
from Business Education Accounting 16, 26, 36 Saskatchewan Education 1992						

## SECTION 4: GEOMETRY FLASH CARDS

### Foundational Objective:

To identify and apply common properties of triangles, special quadrilaterals, and n-gons. (10 05 01)

### Specific Objectives:

(Math Grade 10 Curriculum Guide)

- D.1 define and illustrate line segment, ray, line, bisector, median, perpendicular line, perpendicular bisector. (Page 138)
- E.1 define and illustrate acute angle, right angle, obtuse angle, straight angle, reflex angle, complementary angles, supplementary angles, adjacent angles, vertically opposite angles, congruent angles, central angles of a polygon. (Page 140)
- E.3 (a) define and illustrate polygons: convex, regular, triangle, quadrilateral, parallelogram, rectangle, rhombus, square, trapezoid, and isosceles trapezoid.
- E.3 (b) define and illustrate triangles: scalene, isosceles, equilateral, acute, right and obtuse. The student will produce a deck of cards with the name of the object on one side and definition of the object on the reverse. Then students will use these to identify and relate common properties.

### Time:

- (1) Flash card review - 10 to 15 min. periods.
- (2) Concept map - 30 min.

### Instructional Strategy:

- A. Interactive Instruction
- B. Indirect Instruction

### Instructional Methods:

#### A. Peer Practice:

1. Students work in groups of 4. Have each group prepare a full set of cards with Name on one side and definition on the other. Activity sheet #1 can be enlarged, glued to stiff paper, and cut out.  
[Sets of blank cards are commercially available.]
2. Students work for 10-15 min. periods with a partner. (Suggestion - the original group of 4 divides the deck in half, practises in groups of 2's with half the deck, then switches halves.) This can be done for practice at various times during the unit.

#### Games

- show name, give definition
- show definition, give name
- keep if correct, leave in pile if incorrect.

\*A rough version of *War* can be played where the winner's term contains the loser's term.

Example: triangle beats line segment, polygon beats triangle.

## ACTIVITY 1: Flash Cards

line

parallelogram

acute angle

complementary angle

rectangle

congruent angles

rhombus

straight angle

ray

obtuse angle

line segment

right angle

supplementary angle

square

vertically  
opposite angle

trapezoid

point

adjacent angle

isosceles trapezoid

scalene triangle

quadrilateral

isosceles triangle

equilateral triangle

acute triangle

polygon

right triangle

obtuse triangle

convex polygon

triangle

regular polygon

central angle  
of a polygon

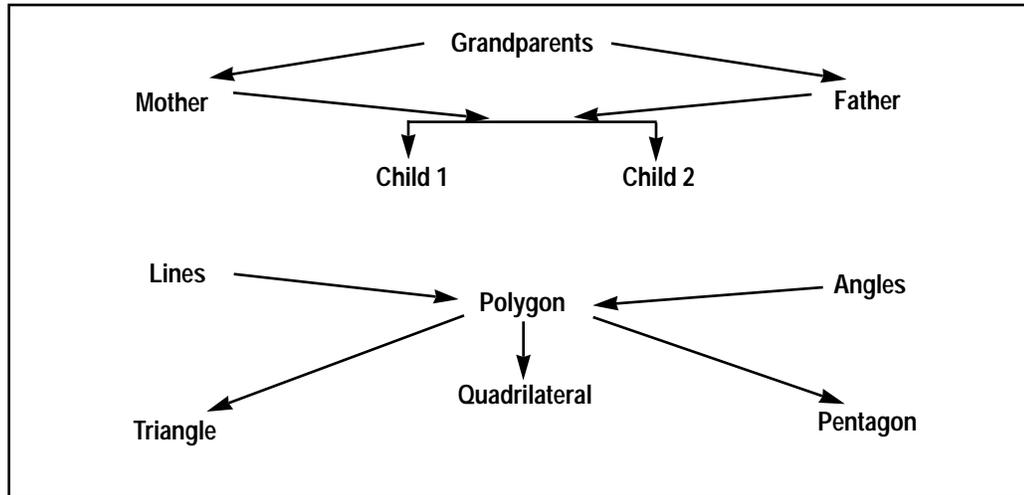
pentagon

hexagon

## B. Concept Mapping:

1. This activity is suggested for use at the end of the unit. The purpose of it is to show a logical ordering of the relationships that students have been studying throughout the unit.
2. Students work in groups of 4 with one deck of cards and a large surface between them (ex. 4 desks pushed together).
3. Students form a "concept map" using the cards to demonstrate as many relationships as possible.

Example of starting point:



4. A copy of the final map could be put onto an overhead transparency to facilitate class discussion.

## Equipment

- commercially prepared decks of cards that are blank OR
- photocopy and enlarge Activity Sheet, glue to stiff paper
- scissors
- rulers

## Assessment Technique:

- (a) Flashcards
  - Used for review before Unit Exam
  - Oral or Written Quiz following practice time
- (b) Concept Map
  - *Class Presentation* with an emphasis on explaining the relationships that are demonstrated (an overhead could be made of each concept map, used for the presentation, then handed in to be marked).
  - group evaluation template included.

## Adaptive Dimension:

When all groups have their final concept maps completed, each group could visit one or two other groups and compare final products. It is interesting for students to see how the same ideas can be organized in different ways.

# ASSESSING GROUP PRESENTATIONS

Group Members \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Presentation \_\_\_\_\_

	POORLY			EXTREMELY WELL		
• The group members appeared to be prepared and organized.	1	2	3	4	5	6
• Each member appeared knowledgeable about her/his particular section	1	2	3	4	5	6
• The group members worked together as a cohesive unit.	1	2	3	4	5	6
• The group facilitated active participation from the remainder of the class.	1	2	3	4	5	6
• Each group member demonstrated patience and helpfulness with each other.	1	2	3	4	5	6
• The group used a variety of techniques to present the topic/information/concept.	1	2	3	4	5	6

Positive components of the presentation:

Suggestions for improvement (content, style, etc.):

