

7 3 proving triangles similar answer key

7 3 proving triangles similar answer key is a significant topic in geometry that deals with the criteria and methods used to establish the similarity of triangles. Triangles are considered similar if their corresponding angles are equal and their corresponding sides are in proportion, which means that they have the same shape but not necessarily the same size. In this article, we will explore the various methods for proving triangles similar, provide examples, and offer an answer key to common problems found in section 7.3 of geometry textbooks.

Understanding Triangle Similarity

Triangle similarity plays a crucial role in many areas of mathematics, especially in geometry. The three primary criteria used to prove that two triangles are similar are:

1. Angle-Angle (AA) Similarity Postulate

The AA postulate states that if two angles of one triangle are equal to two angles of another triangle, the triangles are similar. This is the simplest method to prove similarity.

2. Side-Angle-Side (SAS) Similarity Theorem

The SAS similarity theorem states that if an angle of one triangle is equal to an angle of another triangle, and the sides that include those angles are in proportion, then the triangles are similar.

3. Side-Side-Side (SSS) Similarity Theorem

The SSS similarity theorem states that if the corresponding sides of two triangles are in proportion, then the triangles are similar.

Applying Triangle Similarity Criteria

To effectively apply these criteria, let's look at some examples. We will also include an answer key to problems that typically arise in section 7.3 of geometry textbooks.

Example 1: Using the AA Postulate

Consider triangles ABC and DEF, where:

- Angle A = Angle D = 40°
- Angle B = Angle E = 70°

Since two angles of triangle ABC are equal to two angles of triangle DEF, we can conclude that:

- Triangles ABC and DEF are similar by AA postulate.

Example 2: Using the SAS Theorem

Let's say we have triangles GHI and JKL where:

- Angle G = Angle J = 30°
- Side GH = 4 cm
- Side JK = 6 cm
- Side HI = 8 cm
- Side KL = 12 cm

To apply the SAS theorem:

- We see that the included angles (30°) are equal.
- The ratio of the sides is $4:6 = 2:3$ and $8:12 = 2:3$, which means the sides are in proportion.

Thus, triangles GHI and JKL are similar by SAS theorem.

Example 3: Using the SSS Theorem

In triangles MNO and PQR:

- Side MN = 3 cm, NO = 4 cm, MO = 5 cm
- Side PQ = 6 cm, QR = 8 cm, RP = 10 cm

To determine the similarity:

- The ratios of the sides are:
- $MN:PQ = 3:6 = 1:2$
- $NO:QR = 4:8 = 1:2$
- $MO:RP = 5:10 = 1:2$

Since the ratios of all corresponding sides are equal, triangles MNO and PQR are similar by SSS theorem.

Common Problems and Answer Key for 7 3 Proving Triangles Similar

Here are some common problems you might encounter in section 7.3, along with their answers:

1.

Problem 1: Prove that triangles ABC and DEF are similar if angle A = angle D and side AB = 5 cm, side DE = 10 cm.

Answer: By AA postulate, triangles ABC and DEF are similar.

2.

Problem 2: Prove that triangles GHI and JKL are similar if angle G = angle J and side GH = 3 cm, side JK = 9 cm, side HI = 4 cm, side KL = 12 cm.

Answer: By SAS theorem, triangles GHI and JKL are similar.

3.

Problem 3: Prove that triangles MNO and PQR are similar if side MN = 2 cm, side NO = 4 cm, side MO = 6 cm, side PQ = 4 cm, side QR = 8 cm, side RP = 12 cm.

Answer: By SSS theorem, triangles MNO and PQR are similar.

4.

Problem 4: Given triangle XYZ with angle X = 50° , angle Y = 70° , and triangle ABC with angle A = 50° and angle B = 70° , are these triangles similar?

Answer: Yes, by AA postulate, triangles XYZ and ABC are similar.

5.

Problem 5: Prove that triangle DEF is similar to triangle GHI given that angle D = angle G = 90° and the sides DE = 6 cm, DF = 8 cm, GH = 12 cm.

Answer: By SAS theorem, if angle D = angle G and $DE:GH = 6:12 = 1:2$, then triangles DEF and GHI are similar.

Conclusion

In conclusion, understanding the criteria for proving triangle similarity is essential for solving various geometric problems. The ability to utilize the AA postulate, SAS theorem, and SSS theorem allows students to recognize the relationships between triangles and apply these concepts to real-world situations. The 7 3 proving triangles similar answer key provided here serves as a valuable resource for students looking to master the concept of triangle similarity in geometry. Whether you are studying for a test or helping others understand this fundamental topic, the principles outlined

in this article will enhance your understanding of triangle similarity.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the criteria for proving triangles similar in the context of 7-3?

The criteria for proving triangles similar include Angle-Angle (AA), Side-Side-Side (SSS), and Side-Angle-Side (SAS).

How does the Angle-Angle (AA) criterion work for triangle similarity?

The Angle-Angle (AA) criterion states that if two angles of one triangle are equal to two angles of another triangle, the triangles are similar.

What is the significance of the Side-Angle-Side (SAS) similarity criterion?

The SAS similarity criterion indicates that if one angle of a triangle is equal to one angle of another triangle, and the sides including those angles are in proportion, the triangles are similar.

Can you provide an example of using the SSS criterion for triangle similarity?

Yes, if the corresponding sides of two triangles are in proportion (for example, 2:4, 3:6, and 5:10), then the triangles are similar by the SSS criterion.

What role do proportional sides play in proving triangles similar?

Proportional sides are essential for the SSS and SAS criteria, as they establish that the triangles maintain the same shape despite potentially different sizes.

How can the properties of similar triangles be applied in real-world scenarios?

Similar triangles can be used in various applications, such as determining heights of inaccessible objects, scaling models, and in architecture to ensure structural integrity.

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