



SAT/ACT MATH

Formula Sheet

Algebra

1. Order of operation PEMDAS: -

(Parentheses → exponents → Multiply → divide → add → subtract).

2. Factoring & solving: -

$$(x + a)(x + b) = x^2 + (a + b)x + ab$$

$$a^2 - b^2 = (a + b)(a - b)$$

$$(a \pm b)^2 = a^2 + b^2 \pm 2ab$$

3. Percentages: -

$$\text{Part} = \frac{\text{percent}}{100} \times \text{whole}$$

$$\text{Percentage change} = \frac{\text{new} - \text{old}}{\text{old}} \times 100\%$$

4. Rate: -

$$\text{Speed} = \frac{\text{Distance}}{\text{time}} \quad (\text{Frequently used formula in rate})$$

5. Exponents & radicals: -

$$x^a \cdot x^b = x^{a+b}$$

$$(x^a)^b = x^{ab}$$

$$x^a / x^b = x^{a-b}$$

$$(xy)^a = x^a \cdot y^a$$

$$1/x^a = x^{-a}$$

$$\sqrt[a]{xy} = \sqrt[a]{x} \sqrt[a]{y}$$

$$x^a = y \rightarrow x = y^{1/a}$$

$$(-1)^n = \{+1 \text{ if } n \text{ is even } - 1 \text{ if } n \text{ is odd}\}$$

6. Arithmetic Sequence: -

$$n^{\text{th}} \text{ term} = a_n = a + (n-1)d$$

$$\text{Sum of } n \text{ term} = S_n = \frac{n}{2}(2a + (n-1)d)$$

Where a = first term, d = common difference

7. Geometric Sequence: -

$$n^{\text{th}} \text{ term} = a_n = a \cdot r^{n-1}$$

$$\text{Sum of } n \text{ term} = S_n = \frac{a(r^n - 1)}{r - 1}$$

Where a = first term, r = common ratio

8. Numbers: -

Sum of consecutive integers from 1 to n =

$$\frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

$\frac{a}{b}$ is undefined when denominator (b) = 0
as a increases, $\frac{a}{b}$ also increases (keeping b

same)

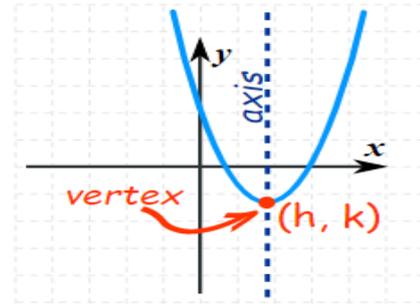
as b increases, $\frac{a}{b}$ decreases (keeping a same)

if $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{c}{d} \rightarrow ad = bc$ (cross multiplication)

9. Quadratic equations: -

$$y = ax^2 + bx + c$$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$



$$\text{Sum of roots} = \frac{-b}{a}$$

$$\text{Product of roots} = \frac{c}{a}$$

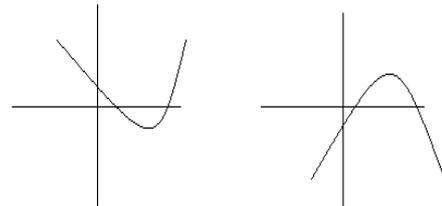
$$h = \frac{-b}{2a} = \text{average of two roots}$$

$$D = \text{Discriminant} = b^2 - 4ac$$

D > 0 - Two distinct real roots

$$a > 0$$

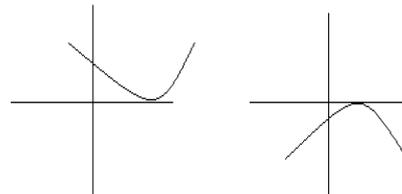
$$a < 0$$



D = 0 - equal roots

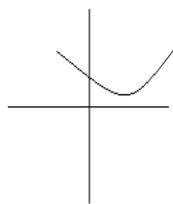
$$a > 0$$

$$a < 0$$

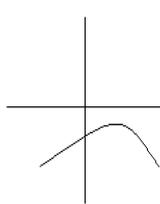


D < 0- Imaginary roots

$a > 0$



$a < 0$



Vertex form for $y = ax^2 + bx + c$
 $y = a(x - h)^2 + k$

10. Linear inequalities: -

$$a < x < b$$

$$a \pm c < x \pm c < b \pm c$$

$$ac < (x)(c) < bc \text{ (of } c > 0)$$

$$bc < (x)(c) < ac \text{ (if } c < 0)$$

$$a > b \rightarrow \frac{1}{a} < \frac{1}{b}$$

11. Absolute Value: -

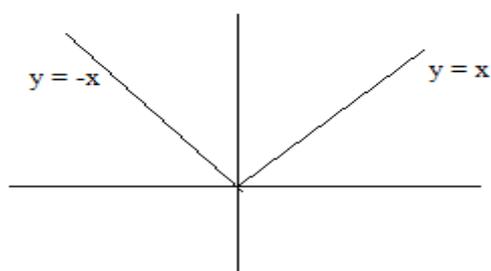
If $|x| = 5$, then $x = 5$ or -5

If $|x| > 5$, then $x > 5$ or $x < -5$

If $|x| < 5$, then $-5 < x < 5$

If $|x| = a$ ($a < 0$), then no solution for x

$$y = |x| = \{x, \text{ if } x \geq 0, -x \text{ if } x < 0$$

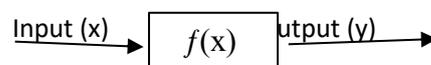


$$y = |x|$$

12. Functions: -

$$y = f(x)$$

$$f: x \rightarrow y$$



Set of all possible inputs is Domain

Set of all possible outputs is Range

Transformation of function - $y = f(x)$

	Nature	Change
$f(x)+a$	$a > 0$	Moves vertically (↑) up
$f(x)+a$	$a < 0$	Moves vertically (↓) down
$f(x+a)$	$a > 0$	Moves left (←)
$f(x+a)$	$a < 0$	Moves right (→)
$af(x)$	$a > 0$	Vertical dilation by scale a
$f(ax)$	$a > 0$	Horizontal dilation by scale a
$-f(x)$	-	Reflection about x - axis
$f(-x)$	-	Reflection about y-axis
$ f(x) $	-	Reflection of negative 'y' part about x - axis

13. Complex numbers: -

$$i = \sqrt{-1}$$

$$i^2 = -1$$

$$i^3 = -i$$

$$i^4 = 1$$

$a \pm bi$ are conjugate pairs

14. Logarithms: -

$\log_a x = n$ is equivalent to $a^n = x$

$$\log_a x + \log_a y = \log_a xy$$

$$\log_a x - \log_a y = \log_a \frac{x}{y}$$

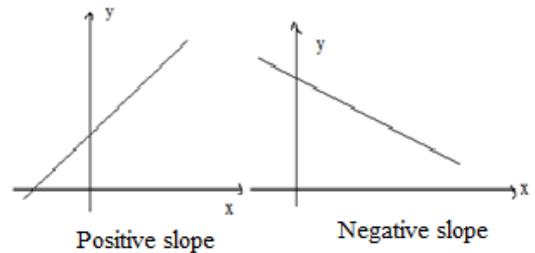
$$\log_a x = \frac{\log_c x}{\log_c a}$$

15. Growth and Decay: -

General form – $A = P (1 \pm r)^t$

Exponential form – $A = Pa^{rt}$

Compounding form – $A = P (1 \pm \frac{r}{n})^{nt}$



Statistics and probability: -

Mean = $\frac{\text{sum of terms}}{\text{Number of terms}(n)}$

Mode – Most frequent term

Median – Middle value in the list

If n is odd → Median is $(\frac{n+1}{2})^{th}$ value

If n is even → Median is average of

value at $(\frac{n}{2})^{th}$ and $(\frac{n}{2} + 1)^{th}$ position.

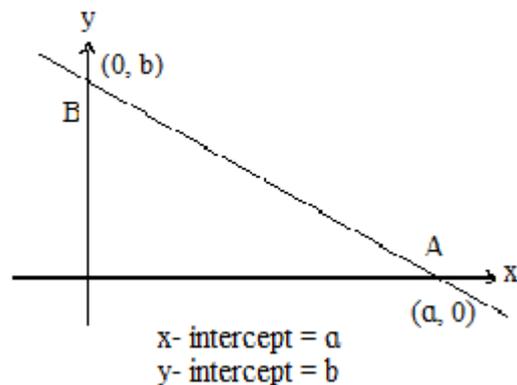
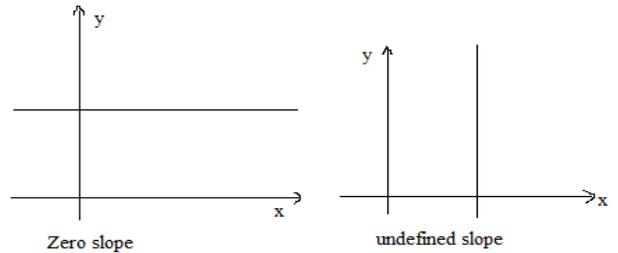
Probability =

$\frac{\text{number of desired outcome}}{\text{number of total outcome}}$

$P(A \text{ and } B) = P(A) \cdot P(B)$ if events A and B are independent

$P(A \text{ or } B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \& B)$

Conditional probability: $P(A | B) = \frac{P(A \& B)}{P(B)}$



Permutation and Combination: -

Counting principle –

N ways for event A

M ways for event B

Then NXM ways for event A and B together number of permutations of n things taken r at a time is

$P(n, r) = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!}$

Number of combinations of n things taken r at a time is

$C(n, r) = \frac{n!}{(n-r)! \cdot r!}$

Coordinate Geometry: -

A (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2)

Distance AB = $\sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}$

Mid-point of AB = $(\frac{x_1 + x_2}{2}, \frac{y_1 + y_2}{2})$

Slope of line AB(m) = $\frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$

Line equation: -

Point slope form $(y - y_1) = m(x - x_1)$

Slope intercept form $y = mx + c$

(c = y- intercept)

For parallel lines: $m_1 = m_2$ (equal slopes)

For perpendicular lines: $m_1 \times m_2 = -1$

System of equations: -

$a_1x + b_1y = c_1$

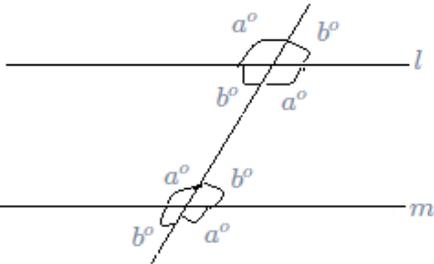
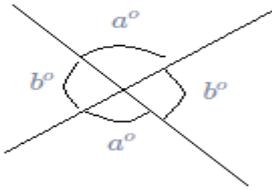
$a_2x + b_2y = c_2$

$\frac{a_1}{a_2} = \frac{b_1}{b_2} \rightarrow$ No solution

$\frac{a_1}{a_2} = \frac{b_1}{b_2} = \frac{c_1}{c_2} \rightarrow$ Infinite solutions

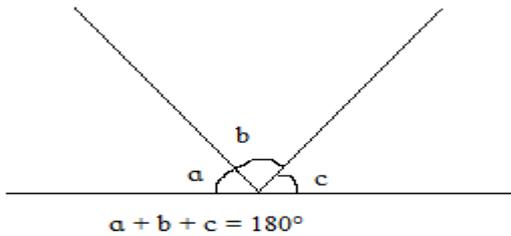
Geometry: -

1. Angles

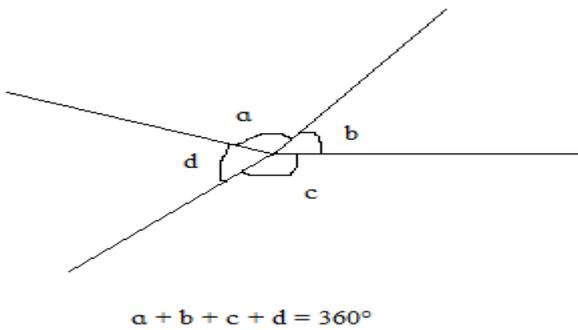


l and m are parallel

sum of any number of angles forming a straight line is 180°

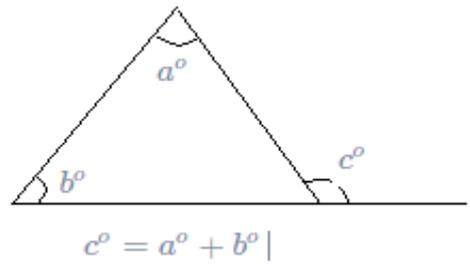


Sum of any number of angles around a point is 360°



If $\angle a + \angle b = 90^\circ$, then a and b complementary angles.

If $\angle a + \angle b = 180^\circ$, then a and b are supplementary angles.

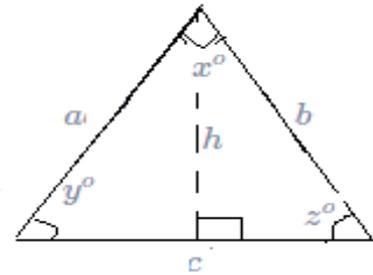


2. Polygon (n = number of sides): -

Sum of all interior angles = $180^\circ(n-2)$

Sum of all exterior angles = 360°

Triangles: -



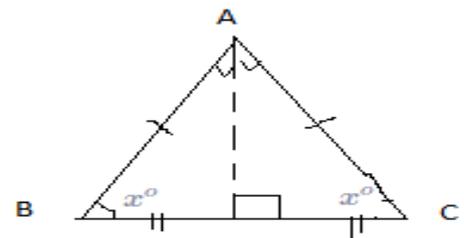
$a + b > c$	$ a - b < c$
$b + c > a$	$ b - c < a$
$c + a > b$	$ c - a < b$

$x^\circ + y^\circ + z^\circ = 180^\circ$

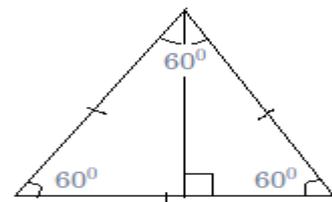
Area = $\frac{1}{2} \times b \times h$

Side opposite to largest angle is largest and vice versa

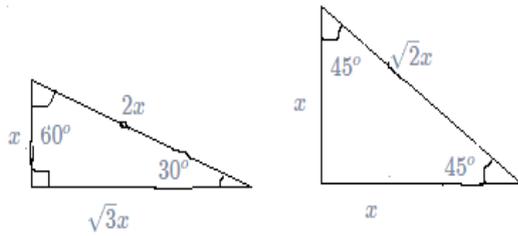
Isosceles -



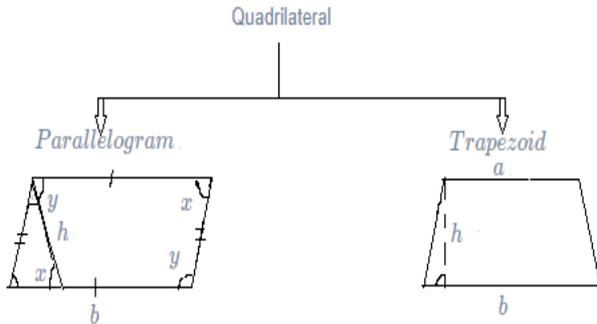
Equilateral -



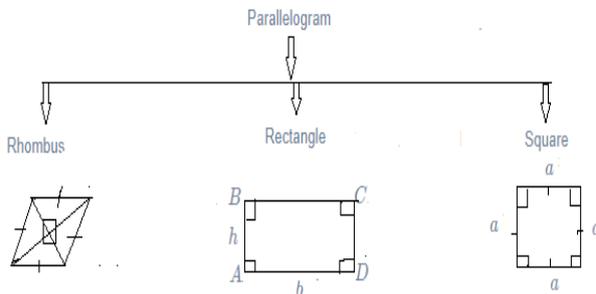
Right angle-



Pythagoras theorem- $a^2+b^2=c^2$
 (Where, c is hypotenuse)
 Pythagorean triplets-(3,4,5),(12,5,13),(6,8,10)

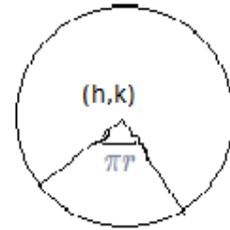


- opposite sides are parallel
 - $x+y=180^\circ$
 - Diagonals bisect each other
 - Area = $base(b) \times height(h)$
- one pair of parallel sides
 - Area = $\frac{1}{2} \times h \times (a+b)$

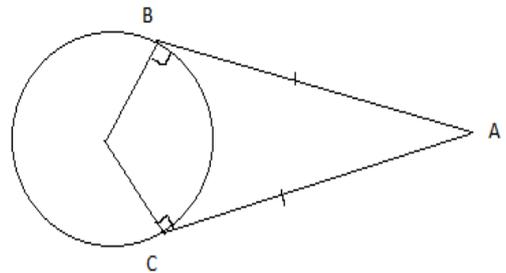


- All sides are equal
 - Diagonals bisect each other at right angle
 - Area = $\frac{1}{2} \times (d1) \times (d2)$
d1 and d2 are length of diagonals
- AC = BD
 - Area = $b \times h$
- Area = a^2

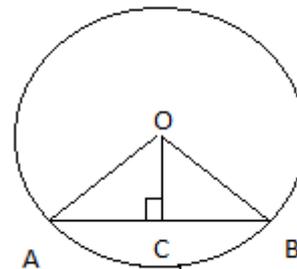
3.Circle: -



Area = πr^2
 Circumference = $2\pi r$
 Length of arc = $\left(\frac{n^\circ}{360^\circ}\right) 2\pi r$
 Area of sector = $\left(\frac{n^\circ}{360^\circ}\right) \times \pi r^2$



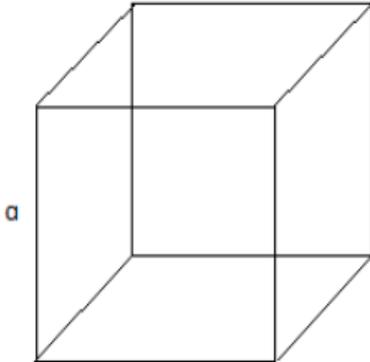
AB = AC
 Tangent and radius are at right angle.



AC = BC
 AB is chord
 Equation of circle- $(x - h)^2 + (y - k)^2 = r^2$
 Radian = degree $\times \left(\frac{\pi}{180^\circ}\right)$

4.Solid figure: -

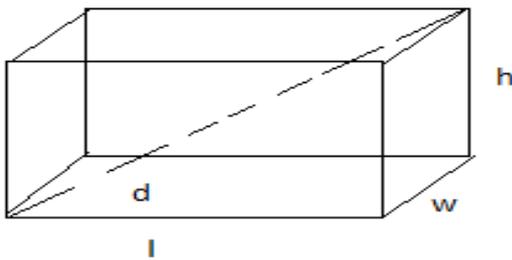
Cube



$$V = a^3$$

$$SA = 6a^2$$

Rectangular box

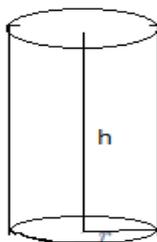


$$V = l \times w \times h$$

$$d = \sqrt{l^2 + w^2 + h^2}$$

surface area (SA)
 $= 2(lw + wh + hl)$

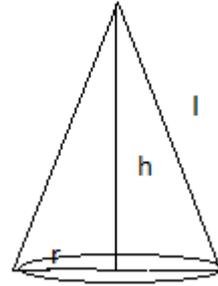
Right circular cylinder



$$V = \pi r^2 h$$

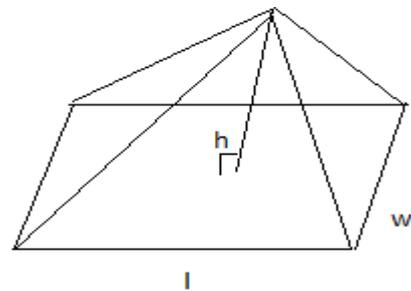
$$SA = 2\pi r^2 + 2\pi rh$$

Right Circular cone



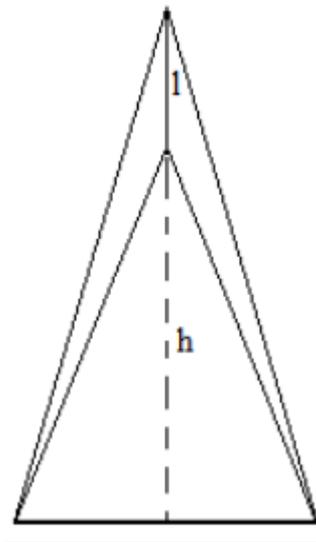
$$V = \frac{1}{3}\pi r^2 h$$

Pyramid with rectangular base



$$V = \frac{1}{3} \times l \times w \times h$$

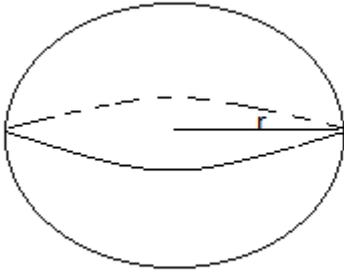
Triangular Pyramid



$$V = \frac{1}{3} \times A \times h$$

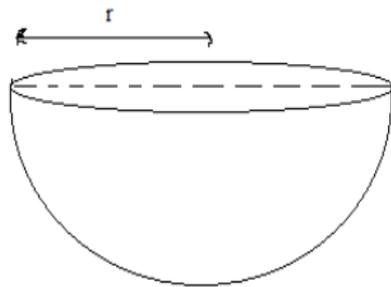
Where, A = area of triangular base

Sphere



$$V = \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3$$

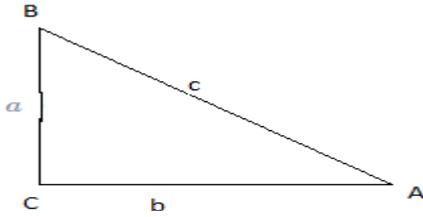
$$SA = 4\pi r^2$$



$$V = \frac{2}{3} \pi r^3$$

$$SA = 3\pi r^2$$

Trigonometry: -



$$\sin A = \frac{a}{c}$$

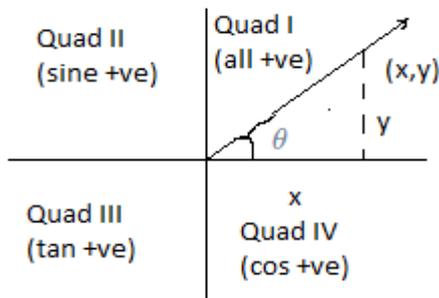
$$\cos A = \frac{b}{c}$$

$$\tan A = \frac{a}{b}$$

$$\frac{\sin A}{\cos A} = \tan A$$

$$\sin A = \cos(90 - A) = \cos B$$

Unit circle



$$\sin \theta = \frac{y}{r}$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{x}{r}$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{y}{x}$$

$$\sin(x \pm 360^\circ) = \sin x$$

$$\cos(x \pm 360^\circ) = \cos x$$

$$\tan(x \pm 360^\circ) = \tan x$$

$$\csc \theta = \frac{1}{\sin \theta}$$

$$\sec \theta = \frac{1}{\cos \theta}$$

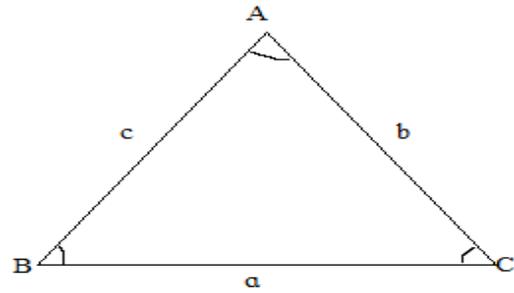
$$\cot \theta = \frac{1}{\tan \theta}$$

Identities

$$\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1$$

$$1 + \tan^2 \theta = \sec^2 \theta$$

$$1 + \cot^2 \theta = \csc^2 \theta$$



Sine rule-

$$\frac{\sin A}{a} = \frac{\sin B}{b} = \frac{\sin C}{c}$$

Cosine rule

$$\cos A = \frac{b^2 + c^2 - a^2}{2bc}$$

$$\cos B = \frac{a^2 + c^2 - b^2}{2ac}$$

$$\cos C = \frac{a^2 + b^2 - c^2}{2ab}$$