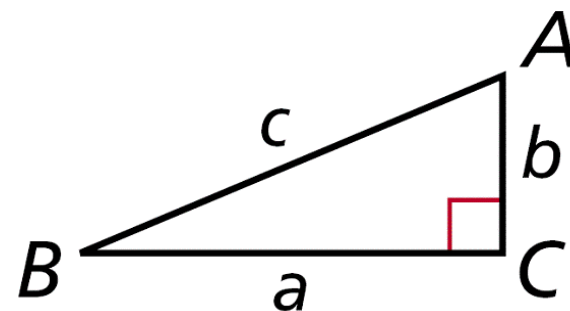


## 8-3 Solving Right Triangles

### Warm Up

Use  $\triangle ABC$  for Exercises 1–3.

1. If  $a = 8$  and  $b = 5$ , find  $c$ .  $\sqrt{89}$
2. If  $a = 60$  and  $c = 61$ , find  $b$ .  $11$
3. If  $b = 6$  and  $c = 10$ , find  $\sin B$ .  $0.6$



**Find AB.**

4.  $A(8, 10), B(3, 0)$   $5\sqrt{5}$
5.  $A(1, -2), B(2, 6)$   $\sqrt{65}$

## 8-3 Solving Right Triangles

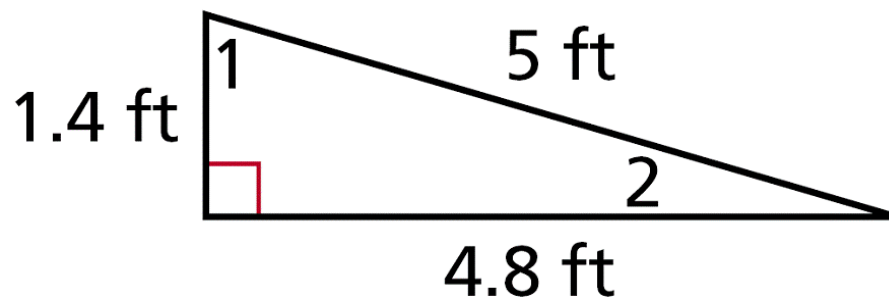
### *Objective*

Use trigonometric ratios to find angle measures in right triangles and to solve real-world problems.

## 8-3 Solving Right Triangles

### Example 1: Identifying Angles from Trigonometric Ratios

Use the trigonometric ratio  $\cos A = \frac{24}{25}$  to determine which angle of the triangle is  $\angle A$ .



$$\cos A = \frac{\text{adj. leg}}{\text{hyp.}}$$

*Cosine is the ratio of the adjacent leg to the hypotenuse.*

$$\cos \angle 1 = \frac{1.4}{5} = \frac{7}{25}$$

*The leg adjacent to  $\angle 1$  is 1.4. The hypotenuse is 5.*

$$\cos \angle 2 = \frac{4.8}{5} = \frac{24}{25}$$

*The leg adjacent to  $\angle 2$  is 4.8. The hypotenuse is 5.*

Since  $\cos A = \cos \angle 2$ ,  $\angle 2$  is  $\angle A$ .

## 8-3 Solving Right Triangles

### Check It Out! Example 1a

Use the given trigonometric ratio to determine which angle of the triangle is  $\angle A$ .

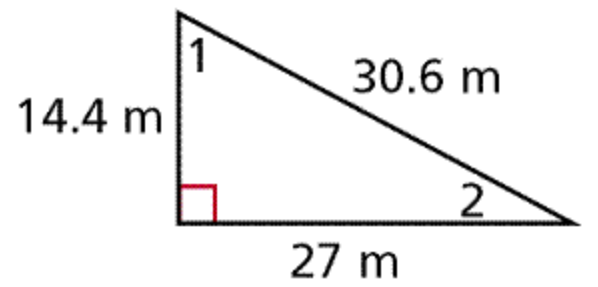
$$\sin A = \frac{8}{17}$$

$$\sin A = \frac{\text{opp. leg}}{\text{hyp.}}$$

$$\sin \angle 1 = \frac{27}{30.6} = 0.88$$

$$\sin \angle 2 = \frac{14.4}{30.6} = 0.47$$

Since  $\sin \angle A = \sin \angle 2$ ,  $\angle 2$  is  $\angle A$ .



*Sine is the ratio of the opposite leg to the hypotenuse.*

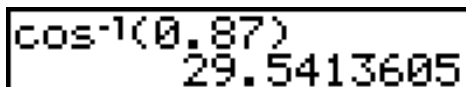
*The leg adjacent to  $\angle 1$  is 27. The hypotenuse is 30.6.*

*The leg adjacent to  $\angle 2$  is 14.4. The hypotenuse is 30.6.*

**8-3****Solving Right Triangles****Example 2: Calculating Angle Measures from Trigonometric Ratios**

**Use your calculator to find each angle measure to the nearest degree.**

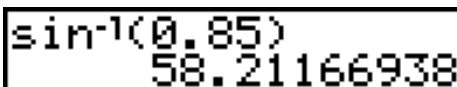
**A.**  $\cos^{-1}(0.87)$



A calculator screen showing the input  $\cos^{-1}(0.87)$  and the output 29.5413605. A small black cursor is visible on the left side of the screen.

$$\cos^{-1}(0.87) \approx 30^\circ$$

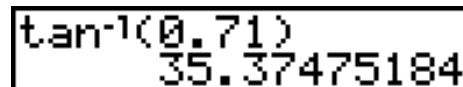
**B.**  $\sin^{-1}(0.85)$



A calculator screen showing the input  $\sin^{-1}(0.85)$  and the output 58.21166938. A small black cursor is visible on the left side of the screen.

$$\sin^{-1}(0.85) \approx 58^\circ$$

**C.**  $\tan^{-1}(0.71)$



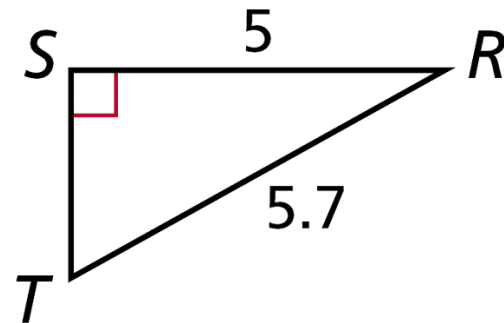
A calculator screen showing the input  $\tan^{-1}(0.71)$  and the output 35.37475184. A small black cursor is visible on the left side of the screen.

$$\tan^{-1}(0.71) \approx 35^\circ$$

## 8-3 Solving Right Triangles

### Example 3: Solving Right Triangles

**Find the unknown measures.  
Round lengths to the nearest  
hundredth and angle measures to  
the nearest degree.**



**Method 1:** By the Pythagorean Theorem,

$$RT^2 = RS^2 + ST^2$$

$$(5.7)^2 = 5^2 + ST^2$$

$$\text{So } ST = \sqrt{7.49} \approx 2.74.$$

$$m\angle R = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{5}{5.7}\right) \approx 29^\circ$$

Since the acute angles of a right triangle are complementary,  $m\angle T \approx 90^\circ - 29^\circ \approx 61^\circ$ .

## 8-3 Solving Right Triangles

### Example 3 Continued

#### Method 2:

$$m\angle R = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{5}{5.7}\right) \approx 29^\circ$$

Since the acute angles of a right triangle are complementary,  $m\angle T \approx 90^\circ - 29^\circ \approx 61^\circ$ .

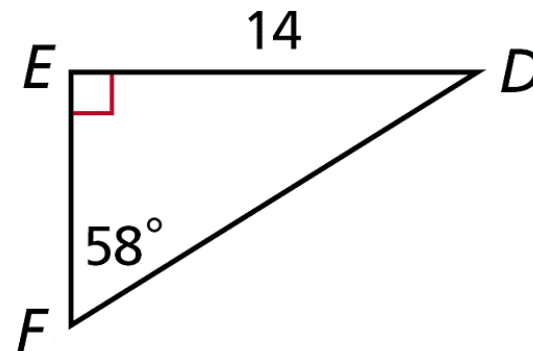
$$\sin R = \frac{ST}{5.7}, \text{ so } ST = 5.7 \sin R.$$

$$ST \approx 5.7 \sin\left[\cos^{-1}\left(\frac{5}{5.7}\right)\right] \approx 2.74$$

## 8-3 Solving Right Triangles

### Check It Out! Example 3

**Find the unknown measures.  
Round lengths to the nearest  
hundredth and angle measures  
to the nearest degree.**



Since the acute angles of a right triangle are complementary,  $m\angle D = 90^\circ - 58^\circ = 32^\circ$ .

$$\tan 32^\circ = \frac{EF}{14}, \text{ so } EF = 14 \tan 32^\circ. EF \approx 8.75$$

$$DF^2 = ED^2 + EF^2$$

$$DF^2 = 14^2 + 8.75^2$$

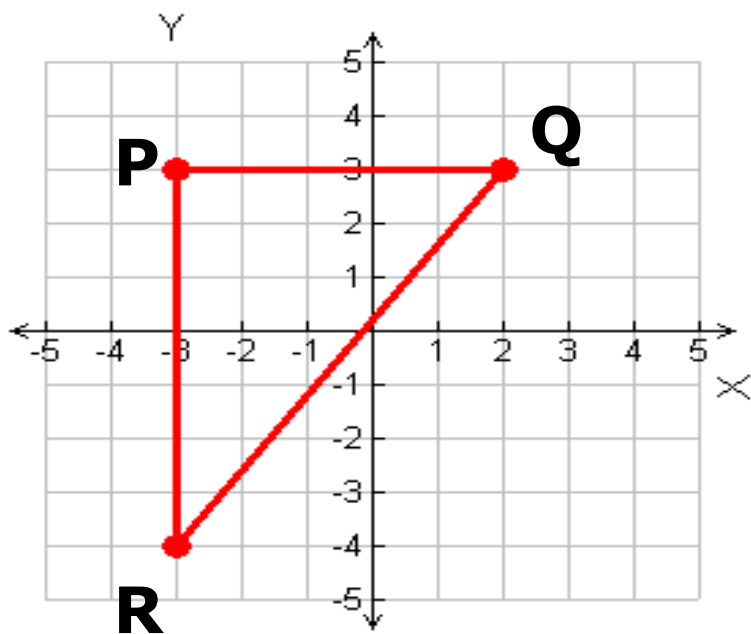
$$DF \approx 16.51$$



## 8-3 Solving Right Triangles

### Example 4: Solving a Right Triangle in the Coordinate Plane

The coordinates of the vertices of  $\triangle PQR$  are  $P(-3, 3)$ ,  $Q(2, 3)$ , and  $R(-3, -4)$ . Find the side lengths to the nearest hundredth and the angle measures to the nearest degree.



**Step 1** Find the side lengths.

Plot points  $P$ ,  $Q$ , and  $R$ .

$$PR = 7 \qquad PQ = 5$$

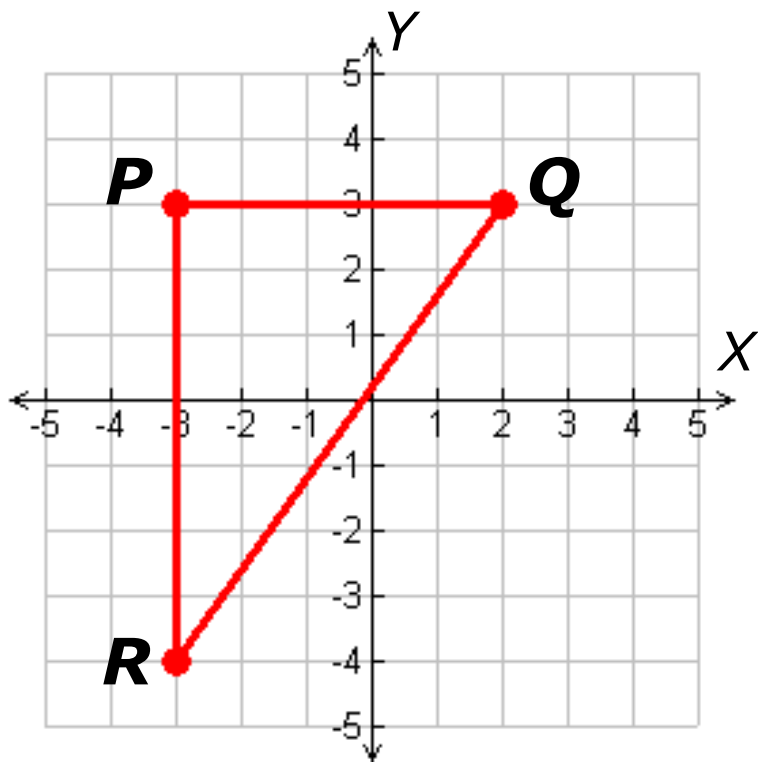
By the Distance Formula,

$$\begin{aligned} QR &= \sqrt{(-3-2)^2 + (-4-3)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{(-5)^2 + (-7)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{25 + 49} = \sqrt{74} \approx 8.60 \end{aligned}$$

## 8-3 Solving Right Triangles

### Example 4 Continued

**Step 2** Find the angle measures.



$$m\angle P = 90^\circ \quad \overline{PQ} \text{ and } \overline{PR} \text{ are } \perp.$$

$\overline{PR}$  is opp.  $\angle Q$ ,  
and  $\overline{PQ}$  is adj. to  $\angle Q$ .

$$m\angle Q = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{7}{5}\right) \approx 54^\circ$$

*The acute  $\angle$ s of a rt.  $\Delta$  are comp.*

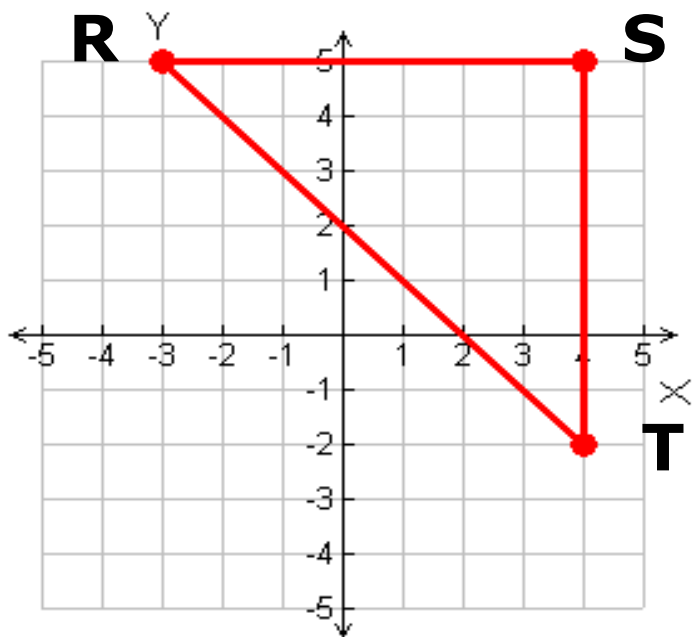
$$m\angle R \approx 90^\circ - 54^\circ \approx 36^\circ$$

## 8-3 Solving Right Triangles

### Check It Out! Example 4

The coordinates of the vertices of  $\triangle RST$  are  $R(-3, 5)$ ,  $S(4, 5)$ , and  $T(4, -2)$ . Find the side lengths to the nearest hundredth and the angle measures to the nearest degree.

**Step 1** Find the side lengths. Plot points  $R$ ,  $S$ , and  $T$ .



$$RS = ST = 7$$

By the Distance Formula,

$$\begin{aligned} RT &= \sqrt{(4 - (-3))^2 + (-2 - 5)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{(7)^2 + (-7)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{49 + 49} = 7\sqrt{2} \approx 9.90 \end{aligned}$$

## 8-3 Solving Right Triangles

### Check It Out! Example 4 Continued

**Step 2** Find the angle measures.

$$m\angle S = 90^\circ$$

$$m\angle T = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{7}{7}\right) = 45^\circ$$

$$m\angle R \approx 90^\circ - 45^\circ \approx 45^\circ$$

$\overline{RS}$  and  $\overline{ST}$  are  $\perp$ .

$\overline{RS}$  is opp.  $\angle T$ ,  
and  $\overline{ST}$  is adj.  $\angle T$ .

*The acute  $\angle$ s of a rt.  $\Delta$  are comp.*

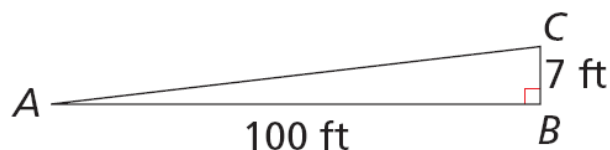
## 8-3 Solving Right Triangles

### Example 5: Travel Application

A highway sign warns that a section of road ahead has a 7% grade. To the nearest degree, what angle does the road make with a horizontal line?

$$7\% = \frac{7}{100} \quad \text{Change the percent grade to a fraction.}$$

A 7% grade means the road rises (or falls) 7 ft for every 100 ft of horizontal distance.



*Draw a right triangle to represent the road.*

$$m\angle A = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{7}{100}\right) \approx 4^\circ$$

*$\angle A$  is the angle the road makes with a horizontal line.*

## Lesson Quiz: Part I

Use your calculator to find each angle measure to the nearest degree.

1.  $\cos^{-1}(0.97)$   $14^\circ$

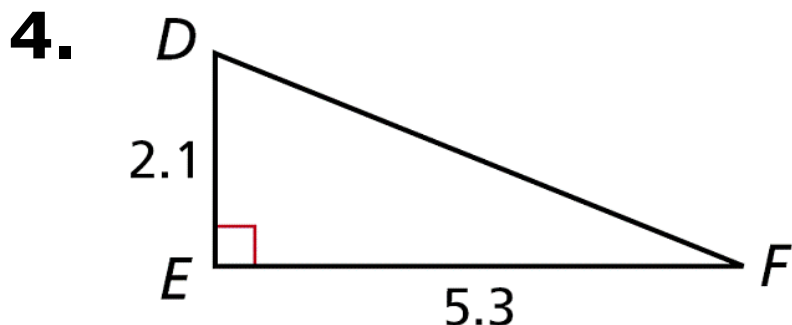
2.  $\tan^{-1}(2)$   $63^\circ$

3.  $\sin^{-1}(0.59)$   $36^\circ$

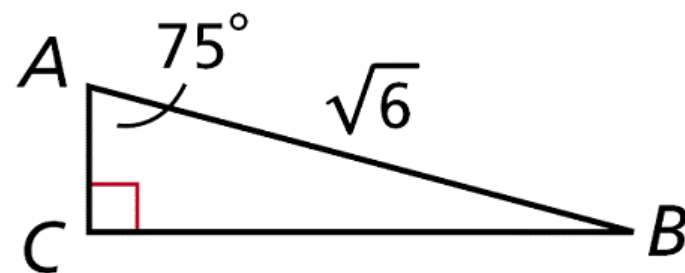
## 8-3 Solving Right Triangles

### Lesson Quiz: Part II

Find the unknown measures. Round lengths to the nearest hundredth and angle measures to the nearest degree.



$$DF \approx 5.7; m\angle D \approx 68^\circ; \\ m\angle F \approx 22^\circ$$



$$AC \approx 0.63; BC \approx 2.37; \\ m\angle B = 15^\circ$$

## Lesson Quiz: Part III

6. The coordinates of the vertices of  $\triangle MNP$  are  $M(-3, -2)$ ,  $N(-3, 5)$ , and  $P(6, 5)$ . Find the side lengths to the nearest hundredth and the angle measures to the nearest degree.

$$MN = 7; NP = 9; MP \approx 11.40; m\angle N = 90^\circ; \\ m\angle M \approx 52^\circ; m\angle P \approx 38^\circ$$