

Since grade 8, we've been solving right triangles involving 2 key concepts:

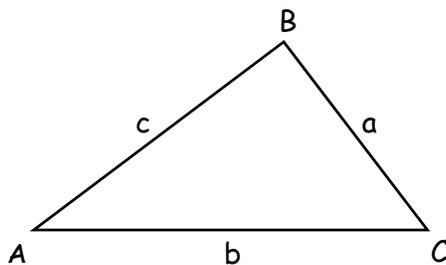
- **Pythagoras Theorem**: given 2 sides of a right triangle and find the 3<sup>rd</sup> side
- **Trigonometric Ratios**: given a side and an angle find a 2<sup>nd</sup> side, or given 2 sides determine the missing angle

Problem is, not every triangle will be a right triangle nor can one be easily made. In a situation like this we apply two new concepts that addresses this issue:

- We use the **Sine Law**, including the ambiguous case, and/or
- Use the **Cosine Law**

The **Sine Law** uses ratios, that's been derived using right triangles, basic trig, and algebra, to compare angles and sides.

**Example 1:** Given the triangle, determine the relationship of the sides and angles.

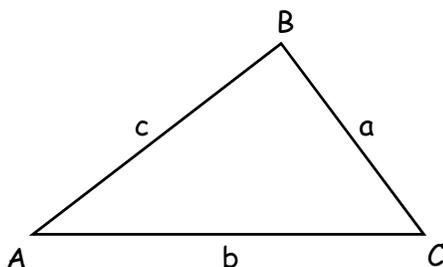


Draw an altitude from  $\angle B$  to  $\overline{AC}$  and label it "h"  
Determine  $\sin A$  and  $\sin C$ , then solve for "h"

Since  $h=h$ , the equation is now  
Multiply the equation by  $\frac{1}{\sin A \sin C}$  we

Basically, for any triangle that is not right angled, use the sine law.

- It compares an angle and its opposite side, expressed as a ratio, and equates this to another ratio of a different angle and its opposite side



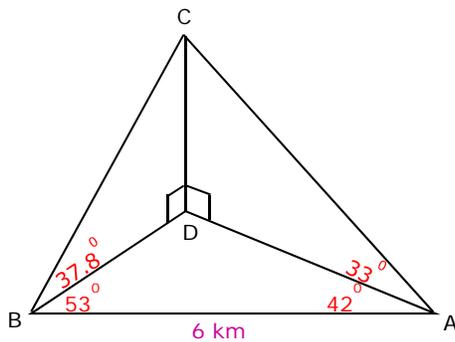
$$\frac{a}{\sin A} = \frac{b}{\sin B} = \frac{c}{\sin C}$$

**Example 2:** Given  $\triangle MNO$ ,  $\angle N = 115^\circ$ ,  $MN = 4.5$ , and  $MO = 10.8$ , determine the lengths and angles of the triangle to the nearest tenth.

**Example 3:** Given  $\triangle ABC$ ,  $\angle A = 37^\circ$ ,  $AB = 15$ , and  $\angle C = 72^\circ$ , calculate the lengths and angles of the triangle to the nearest tenth

**Example 4:** The Calgary Tower is located on 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. S. If you were standing west of the tower and measured the angle of elevation to the top of the tower, your clinometer would read  $5.9^\circ$ . If you traveled 2.9 km so that you're now east of the tower, the angle of elevation measures  $10.3^\circ$ . Determine the height of the tower.

**Example 5:** The diagram shows the measurements a student will need to use to calculate the height of Mauna Kea, in Hawaii. Determine the height of Mount Kea.



**Example 6:** The Harbor Center is 125.81 m tall. The angle of elevation from a person's eyes, 1.5 m above the ground, to the top is  $43^\circ$ . When the person moves closer, the angle of elevation is  $75^\circ$ . How much closer to the Harbor Center did the person move? How far is the top of the Harbor Center to the person's eyes?

Homework: