

## SM2H 7.5 Similarity Notes

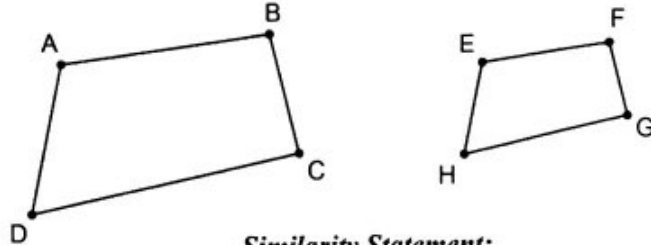
**Congruent Figures:** Same shape and same size.

**Similar Figures:** Same shape.

If two polygons are similar, then:

- Their **corresponding angles are congruent**.
- The lengths of their **corresponding sides are proportional**.

**Examples:**



**Similarity Statement:**  
 $ABCD \sim EFGH$

1. List all pairs of congruent angles.

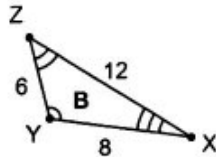
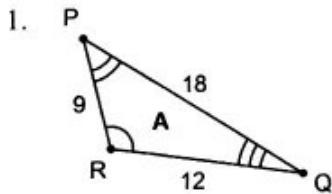
$$\begin{aligned} \angle A &\cong \angle E & \angle D &\cong \angle H \\ \angle B &\cong \angle F & \angle C &\cong \angle G \end{aligned}$$

2. Write a *statement of proportionality* for the sides.

$$\frac{AB}{EF} = \frac{BC}{FG} = \frac{CD}{GH} = \frac{DA}{HE}$$

**Scale Factor:** The ratio of the lengths of two corresponding sides in similar polygons.

**Examples:** Decide whether each set of figures are similar. If they are similar, write a similarity statement and find the scale factor.

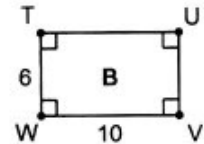
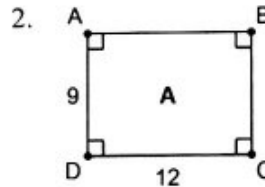


$$\frac{6}{9} = \frac{2}{3} \quad \frac{8}{12} = \frac{2}{3}$$

$\Delta PQR \sim \Delta ZXY$

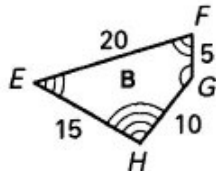
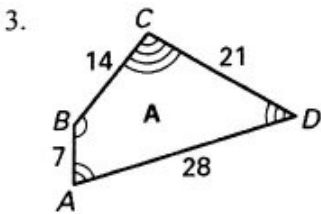
$$\frac{12}{18} = \frac{2}{3}$$

Scale factor =  $\frac{2}{3}$   
or  $\frac{3}{2}$



$$\frac{6}{9} = \frac{2}{3} \quad \frac{10}{12} = \frac{5}{6}$$

NOT SIMILAR



$$\frac{5}{7} = \frac{5}{7}$$

$$\frac{10}{14} = \frac{5}{7}$$

$$\frac{15}{21} = \frac{5}{7}$$

$$\frac{20}{28} = \frac{5}{7}$$

Similar  
 $ABC \sim FGH$   
Scale factor =  $\frac{5}{7}$   
or  $\frac{7}{5}$

Examples:  $\triangle ABC \sim \triangle XYZ$ . Find the value of  $x$ .

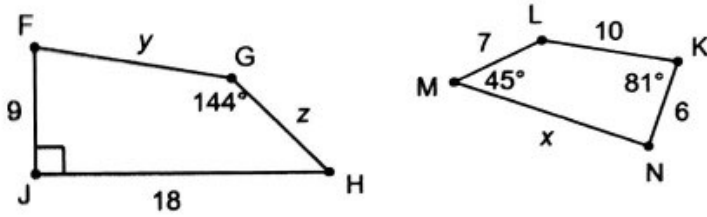
1.

$\frac{x}{6} \neq \frac{15}{9}$   
 $9x = 90$   
 $x = 10$

2.

$\frac{x}{10} \neq \frac{3}{6}$   
 $6x = 30$   
 $x = 5$

Examples: In the diagram below,  $FGHJ \sim KLMN$ .



- List all pairs of congruent angles.  
 $\angle F \cong \angle K$      $\angle H \cong \angle M$   
 $\angle G \cong \angle L$      $\angle J \cong \angle N$
- Write a statement of proportionality.

3. Find  $m\angle F$ .

$81^\circ$

4. Find  $m\angle H$ .

$45^\circ$

5. Find  $m\angle L$ .

$144^\circ$

6. Find  $m\angle N$ .

$90^\circ$

7. Find the value of  $x$ .

$\frac{x}{18} = \frac{6}{9}$   
 $9x = 108$   
 $x = 12$

8. Find the value of  $y$ .

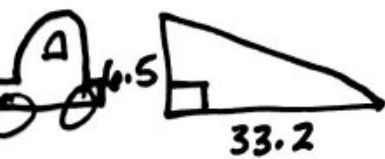
$\frac{y}{10} \neq \frac{9}{6}$   
 $6y = 90$   
 $y = 15$

9. Find the value of  $z$ .

$\frac{z}{7} = \frac{9}{6}$   
 $6z = 63$   
 $z = 63/6 = 2\frac{1}{2} = 10.5$

Examples:

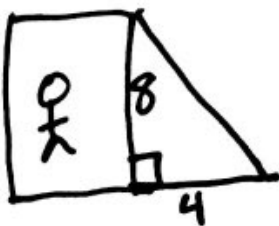
1. A 6.5 ft. tall car standing next to an adult elephant casts a 33.2 ft. shadow. If the adult elephant casts a shadow that is 51.5 ft. long, then how tall is the elephant?



$\frac{x}{6.5} = \frac{51.5}{33.2}$   
 $\frac{33.2x}{33.2} = \frac{3347.5}{33.2}$

2. A telephone booth that is 8 ft. tall casts a shadow that is 4 ft. long. Find the height of a nearby lawn ornament that casts a 2 ft. shadow.

$x = 10.1\text{ft}$



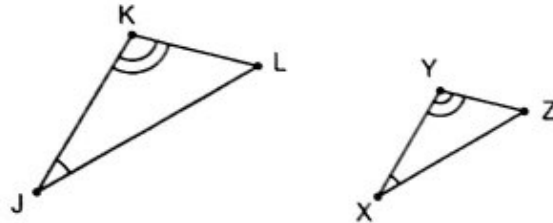
$\frac{x}{8} = \frac{2}{4}$   
 $4x = 16$   
 $x = 4\text{ft}$

## Triangle Similarity Theorems

So far, if we wanted to show that two figures are similar, we've had to show that *all* of the corresponding angles are congruent and *all* of the corresponding sides are proportional. Luckily, there are some shortcuts for triangles.

### Angle-Angle Similarity Postulate (AA Similarity):

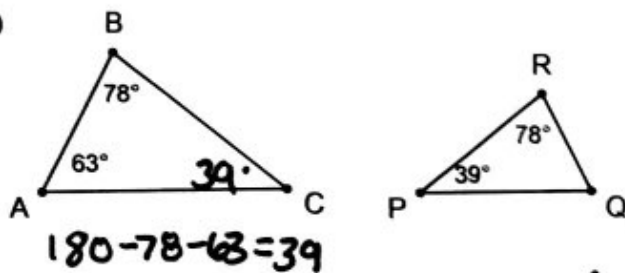
If two angles of one triangle are congruent to two angles of another triangle, then the two triangles are similar.



If  $\angle J \cong \angle X$  and  $\angle K \cong \angle Y$ , then  $\Delta JKL \sim \Delta XYZ$ .

**Examples:** Determine whether the triangles are similar. Explain your reasoning. If they are similar, write a similarity statement.

a)

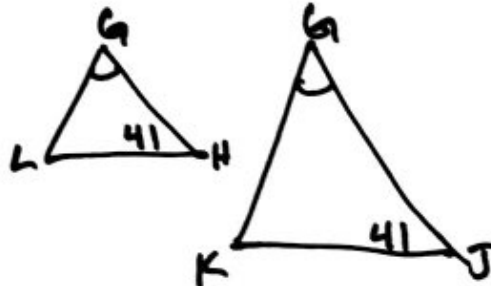
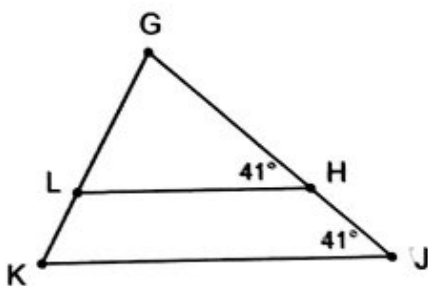


$$\begin{aligned} \angle C &\cong \angle P \\ \angle B &\cong \angle R \end{aligned}$$

$\Delta ABC \sim \Delta RQP$  by AA Similarity

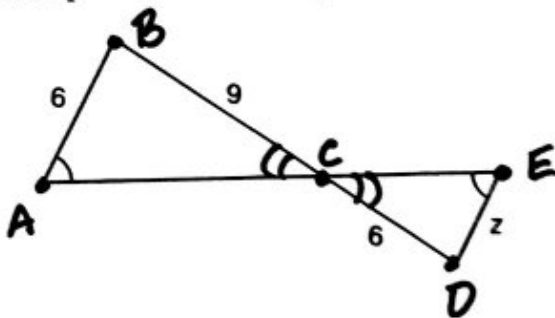
$$180 - 78 - 63 = 39$$

b)



$$\begin{aligned} \angle G &\cong \angle G \\ \angle H &\cong \angle J \\ \Delta GLH &\sim \Delta GKJ \\ &\text{by AA Similarity} \end{aligned}$$

**Example:** Write a similarity statement for the triangles. Then find the value of  $z$ .

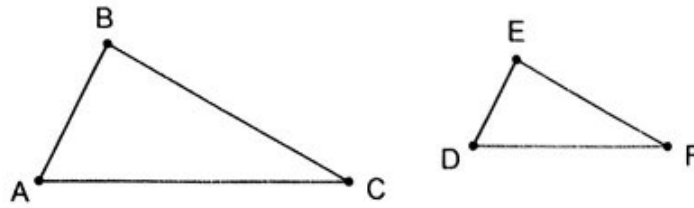


$$\begin{aligned} \angle BCA &\cong \angle DCE \\ \angle A &\cong \angle E \\ \Delta ABC &\sim \Delta EDC \\ &\text{by AA Similarity} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{z}{6} &= \frac{6}{9} \\ 9z &= 36 \\ \boxed{z = 4} \end{aligned}$$

**Side-Side-Side Similarity Theorem (SSS Similarity)**

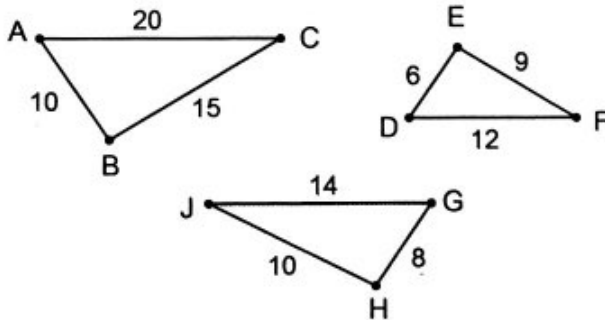
If the corresponding sides of two triangles are proportional, then the triangles are similar.



$$\text{If } \frac{AB}{DE} = \frac{BC}{EF} = \frac{CA}{FD}, \text{ then } \triangle ABC \sim \triangle DEF.$$

★ **TIP:** When testing for SSS similarity, compare the shortest sides, longest sides, and medium sides.

**Example:** Is either  $\triangle DEF$  or  $\triangle GHJ$  similar to  $\triangle ABC$ ?



$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{SIDE} & \text{SIDE} & \text{SIDE} \\ \frac{10}{6} = \frac{5}{3} & \frac{15}{9} = \frac{5}{3} & \frac{20}{12} = \frac{5}{3} \end{array}$$

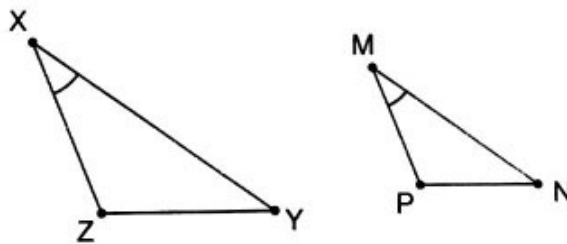
$\triangle ABC \sim \triangle DEF$  by SSS

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{SIDE} & \text{SIDE} & \text{SIDE} \\ \frac{10}{8} = \frac{5}{4} & \frac{15}{10} = \frac{3}{2} & \frac{20}{14} = \frac{10}{7} \end{array}$$

$\triangle ABC$  not similar  $\triangle GHJ$   
Fractions not same

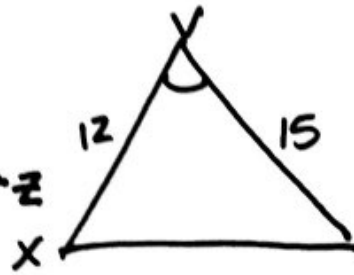
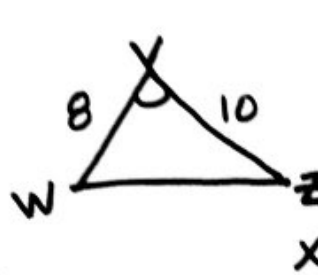
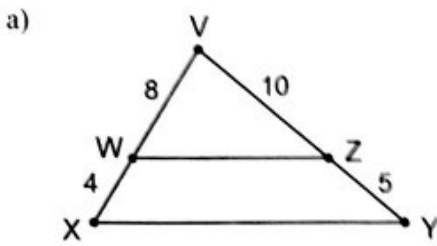
**Side-Angle-Side Similarity Theorem (SAS Similarity)**

If an angle of one triangle is congruent to an angle of a second triangle and the lengths of the sides that include these angles are proportional, then the triangles are similar.



$$\text{If } \angle X \cong \angle M \text{ and } \frac{PM}{ZX} = \frac{MN}{XY}, \text{ then } \triangle XYZ \sim \triangle MNP.$$

**Examples:** Determine whether the triangles are similar. If they are similar, write a similarity statement and determine the scale factor.

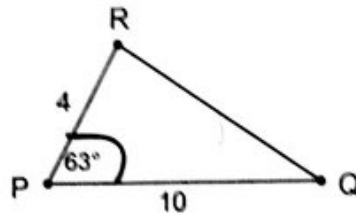
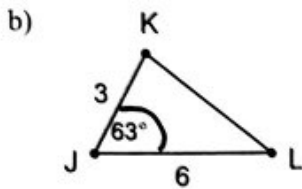


$$S \frac{8}{12} = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$A \angle V \cong \angle V$$

$$S \frac{10}{15} = \frac{2}{3}$$

$\Delta WYZ \sim \Delta XYV$



$$S \frac{3}{4}$$

$$A \angle J \cong \angle P$$

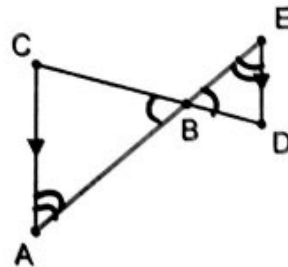
$$S \frac{6}{10} = \frac{3}{5}$$

NOT SIMILAR

Fractions not same

Complete the following proof:

Given:  $\overline{AC} \parallel \overline{DE}$   
 Prove:  $\Delta ABC \sim \Delta EBD$



Statements	Reasons
1. $\overline{AC} \parallel \overline{DE}$	1. Given
2. $\angle A \cong \angle E$	2. Alternate Interior $\angle$ 's $\cong$
3. $\angle CBA \cong \angle DBE$	3. Vertical Angles Theorem
4. $\Delta ABC \sim \Delta EBD$	4. AA Similarity