

KEY CONCEPTS:

Learn the basic concepts of angles which measure the amount of turn in degrees (also radians for a later lesson).

1. A full rotation around a circle is 360°. Why 360? There are two plausible explanations. One is that the ancient Babylonians and Persians used a 360 day calendar and one degree was the amount the sun moved each day as it traced an annual circle across the sky. The other is that the Babylonians used a base 60 number system and they understood a hexagon was made up of 6 equilateral triangles rotated around a full circle so 360 was a natural multiple of their base counting.

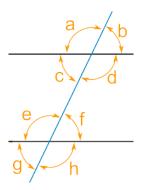
- 2. Angles are categorized into the following groups.
 - a. Acute less than 90°
 - b. **Right** exactly equal to 90°
 - c. **Obtuse** greater than 90° and less than 180°
 - d. Straight exactly equal to 180°
 - e. **Reflex** greater than 180°

3. There are three basic angle theorems critical for the exam.

- a. Supplementary Angles (also known as angles along a line) sum to 180°.
- b. Opposing Vertical Angles are congruent (the same).

c. Alternate Interior Angles (related to transversals where two parallel lines are traversed by a third line) are congruent. e.g. c = f and d = e

Likewise, corresponding angles are congruent (e.g. g = c) and alternate exterior angles are congruent (e.g. a = h).



4. In conjunction with the above three theorems, the sum of interior angles of polygons (e.g. triangles interior angles sum to 180° and quadrilateral interior angles sum to 360°) is often key to finding missing angles on exam problems.

a. Equilateral triangles have the same side lengths and the same interior angle measures; 60° .

b. Isosceles triangles have exactly two sides equal in length and two equal interior angles.

c. Scalene triangles have all different side lengths and different interior angle measures,