TRIGONOMETRY RAP

Written by Jason Marshall © 2008

To all the ordered pairs in the Cartesian plane From 1st to the 2nd to the 3rd to the 4th quadrants Are you ready?

Trigonometry is legit
So...Get triggy, get triggy with it
Get triggy, get triggy with it
Understanding it is to your benefit
So get triggy

If you got a right triangle
With unknown sides and angles
Use the primary trigonometric ratios
Which are functions called
Sine, cosine, and tangent
Involving the sides
Hypotenuse, opposite and adjacent
To figure out how they're related
Just keep singing this bit of the song
S to the O to the H, Oh, Oh
C to the A to the H, Ah, Ah
T to the O to the A, Oh Ah, Oh Ah
SOH, SOH, SOH, SOH CAH TOA

Trigonometry is legit So...Get triggy, get triggy with it Get triggy, get triggy with it Understanding it is to your benefit So get triggy S to the O to the H
Represents the sine ratio
One of the members of the trio
From the angle of interest
It is no contest
Identify the opposite side and hypotenuse
Review the problem to reveal the clues
Now you can solve for one of variables
If two of the three are available

C to the A to the H
Represents the cosine ratio
One of the members of the trio
From the angle of interest
It is no contest
Identify the adjacent side and hypotenuse
Review the problem to reveal the clues
Now you can solve for one of variables
If two of the three are available

T to the O to the A
Represents the tangent ratio
One of the members of the trio
From the angle of interest
It is no contest
Identify the opposite and adjacent sides
Review the problem to reveal the clues
Now you can solve for one of variables
If two of the three are available

To remember how each ratio's related Just keep singing this bit of the song S to the O to the H, Oh, Oh C to the A to the H, Ah, Ah T to the O to the A, Oh Ah, Oh Ah SOH, SOH, SOH, SOH CAH TOA

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If your triangle doesn't have a right angle Relax, there is no need to struggle There are two laws to help you through Depending on the information available to you

The sine law is a relation of three equal ratios Sine A (upper case) over a (lower case) Equal to Sine B (upper case) over b (lower case) Equal to Sine C (upper case) over c (lower case) It can also be expressed as their reciprocals If it makes the problem easier to solve

The Sine Law is the cat's meow Solving problems given a little know how Examine the information that is before you To decide if this is the right law to pursue

Two angles and one side are needed
To use this law.... only in the case provided
That the side is opposite one of the angles
That is given in your triangle
Then use the sine law
Solve for the unknown side
And cheer hip hip hoorah!

Or two sides and one angle are needed To use this law.... only in the case provided That the angle is opposite one of the sides That your triangle provides Then use the sine law Solve for the unknown angle And cheer hip hip hoorah!

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The Cosine law is the bee's knees
It will solve your problem with ease
Examine the information that is before you
To decide if this is the right law to pursue

The cosine law is the longest of all
Which makes it difficult to recall
a squared equals b squared plus c squared
minus 2 times b times c times cosine A (upper case)
Long I know but elegant to use
It can be expressed in this form two different ways
Given the information that the triangles displays
b squared equals a squared plus c squared
minus 2 times a times c times cosine B (upper case)
Or
c squared equals a squared plus b squared
minus 2 times a times b times cosine C (upper case)
With this information, use the cosine law
Solve for the unknown side and cheer hip hip hoorah!

If you know all three sides but not a single angle You can use this law to solve for any angle By rearranging one of the equations to suit Your solution will be an angle that may be obtuse or acute With this information, use the cosine law Solve for the unknown angle and cheer hip hip hoorah!

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That is grade ten trigonometry in a nutshell Understanding it will serve you well

So remember
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Get triggy, get triggy with it
Understanding it is to your benefit
So get triggy