TM1a

Stimulus Guidelines:

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Grade 8 Mathematics Item Specification C1 TH

triangle.

Stimulus: The student is presented with a situation in two or three dimensions where the Pythagorean Theorem must be used to determine the missing sides of the right triangle.

Right triangle is in a 2D or 3D figure

Measurements are whole numbers, rational numbers,

Pythagorean triplets, such as a 3-4-5 right triangle

Pythagorean Theorem to identify an unknown side length of a right

Context should be familiar to 13–15 year olds. Item difficulty can be adjusted via these methods:

Finding the hypotenuse or legs

or irrational numbers







Enter the value of x.

Tools: Calculator

Version 3 Update:

Added new TM1b to address the converse of the Pythagorean Theorem, so original TM1 was changed to TM1a.

Example Stem 2: A right square pyramid is shown. The height of the pyramid is 4 units. The distance from the center of the base of the pyramid to vertex D is 3 units, as shown.



Enter the length of segment *AD*, in units.



Pythagorean Theorem to

Task Model 1

DOK Level 2

8.G.B.7

Apply the

Response Type:

Equation/Numeric

determine unknown side lengths in right triangles in realworld and mathematical problems in two and three dimensions.

Evidence **Required:**

1. The student solves real-world and mathematical problems of right triangles in two and three dimensions by applying the Pythagorean Theorem and its converse.



Task Model 1

Response Type: Equation/Numeric

of the ladder is on the ground at a distance of 5 feet from the base of the tree. The base of the tree and the ground form a right angle as shown.

DOK Level 2

8.G.B.7

Apply the Pythagorean Theorem to determine unknown side lengths in right triangles in realworld and mathematical problems in two and three dimensions.

Evidence Required:

1. The student solves real-world and mathematical problems of right triangles in two and three dimensions by applying the Pythagorean Theorem and its converse.

Tools: Calculator

Version 3 Update:

Added new TM1b to address the converse of the Pythagorean Theorem.



Example Stem 3: A 13-foot ladder is leaning on a tree. The bottom

Enter the distance between the ground and the top of the ladder, x, in feet.

Rubric: (1 point) Student enters correct value (e.g., 2.6; 5; 12).

Response Type: Equation/Numeric

TM1b

Prompt Features: The student is prompted to determine whether a triangle meets the definition of a right triangle.

Stimulus Guidelines: Same as TM1a

Example Stem: The table shows the side lengths for some triangles. Determine whether the side lengths define a right triangle.

Select Yes if it is a right triangle. Select No if it cannot be a right triangle.

Triangle Side Lengths	Yes	No
4 cm, 5 cm, 8 cm		
8 ft, 10 ft, 16 ft		
21 in, 28 in, 35 in		

Rubric: (1 point) Student correctly classifies triangles (e.g., N,N,Y).

Response Type: Matching tables

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Task Model 2	Prompt Features: The student is prompted to identify the distance between two points in a coordinate system by applying the		
Pesnonse Type:	Pythagorean Theorem		
Multiple Choice	rythagorean meorem.		
Multiple Choice,			
single correct	Stimulus Guidelines:		
response;	 Context should be familiar to 13–15 year olds. 		
Equation/Numeric	 Item difficulty can be adjusted via these methods: 		
	$_{\odot}~$ Calculations require whole numbers, integers, rational		
DOK Level 2	numbers, or irrational numbers.The points may be given verbally or with a coordinate grid.		
8.G.B.8	 Pythagorean triplets, such as a 3-4-5 right triangle 		
Apply the	 Finding the hypotenuse or legs. 		
Pythagorean	 Measurements are whole numbers, rational numbers, or 		
Theorem to find the	irrational numbers		
	\sim Pight triangle is in a 2D or 2D figure		
distance between			
two points in a	• Levels of scarfolding.		
coordinate system.			
,	TM2a		
Fyidence	Stimulus: The student is presented with two or more points in a		
Poquirod	coordinate system where the Pythagorean Theorem must be used to		
2 The student finds	determine the distance between the points		
the distance	Example Stem 1. A coordinate plane is shown with labeled points		
between two points	Example Stem 1: A coordinate plane is shown with labeled points.		
in a coordinate	y		
system by applying			
the Pythagorean	8-		
Theorem			
meorem	6-		
Ioois: Calculator	4+		
	B		
	2+ •		
	-2+		
	•-4 •		
	-6+		
	v		
	-8-		
	What is the distance between point 4 and point R on the coordinate		
	what is the distance between point A and point B on the coordinate		
	piane?		
	A. 5		
	B. 6		
	C. 10		
	D 14		



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Task Model 2	Example Stem 2: What is the distance between points $(5, 2)$ and $(-3, -4)$ on the coordinate plane?	
Response Type: Multiple Choice, single correct response; Equation/Numeric	A. 5 B. 6 C. 10 D. 14	
DOK Level 2	Rubric: (1 point) Student selects the distance between point A and point B (e.g., C; C).	
8.G.B.8 Apply the Pythagorean Theorem to find the distance between two points in a coordinate system.	Response Type: Multiple Choice, single correct response TM2b Stimulus: The student is presented with two or more points in a coordinate system where the Pythagorean Theorem must be used to determine the distance between the points.	
Evidence Required:	Example Stem: The points show different locations in Joe's town. Each unit represents 1 mile.	
2. The student finds the distance between two points in a coordinate system by applying the Pythagorean Theorem.	Places in Joe's Town y Library 3 Joe's Home	
Tools: Calculator	Park 1	
	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	
	What is the distance, in miles, between Joe's Home and the Park? Round your answer to the nearest tenth.	
	Rubric: (1 point) The student finds the distance (e.g., 3.6).	
	Response Type: Equation/Numeric	