



# Reteaching

## 13.6 Inverses of Trigonometric Functions

◆ **Skill A** Evaluating inverse trigonometric relations and functions

**Recall** The **domain and range** of a function become the **range and domain** respectively, of the inverse.

◆ **Example 1**

Find each value. Give answers in degrees and radians.

a.  $\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)$       b.  $\cos^{-1}\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)$       c.  $\tan^{-1}(-1)$

◆ **Solution**

a. Since  $\sin 60^\circ = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ , then  $\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) = 60^\circ$  or  $\frac{\pi}{3}$  radians.

Notice that although other angles have a sine of  $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ , you must choose an angle that is between  $-90^\circ$  and  $90^\circ$  in order to have a value in the appropriate range.

b. Since  $\cos 120^\circ = -\frac{1}{2}$ , then  $\cos^{-1}\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) = 120^\circ$  or  $\frac{2\pi}{3}$  radians.

c. Since  $\tan(-45^\circ) = -1$ , then  $\tan^{-1}(-1) = -45^\circ$  or  $-\frac{\pi}{4}$  radians.

◆ **Example 2**

Evaluate each expression.

a.  $\sin\left(\cos^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\right)$

b.  $\tan^{-1}(\sin 90^\circ)$

◆ **Solution**

a. Begin inside the parentheses.

$$\cos^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 60^\circ$$

$$\text{So, } \sin\left(\cos^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\right) = \sin 60^\circ = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

b.  $\sin 90^\circ = 1$

Therefore,  $\tan^{-1}(\sin 90^\circ) = \tan^{-1}(1)$

$$= 45^\circ \text{ or } \frac{\pi}{4} \text{ radians}$$

**Find each value. Give answers in degrees and in radians. (It may be helpful to review what you learned about 30°, 45°, and 60°-angles.)**

1.  $\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$  \_\_\_\_\_

2.  $\cos^{-1}\left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)$  \_\_\_\_\_

3.  $\tan^{-1}(\sqrt{3})$  \_\_\_\_\_

4.  $\sin^{-1}(-1)$  \_\_\_\_\_

5.  $\cos^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)$  \_\_\_\_\_

6.  $\tan^{-1}(-1)$  \_\_\_\_\_

**Evaluate each composite trigonometric expression.**

7.  $\tan\left(\cos^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)\right)$  \_\_\_\_\_

8.  $\cos\left(\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)\right)$  \_\_\_\_\_

9.  $\sin\left(\tan^{-1}\left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\right)\right)$  \_\_\_\_\_

10.  $\sin^{-1}(\cos 0^\circ)$  \_\_\_\_\_

11.  $\tan^{-1}(\sin 0^\circ)$  \_\_\_\_\_

12.  $\sin^{-1}(\sin 90^\circ)$  \_\_\_\_\_

◆ **Skill B** Applying inverse trigonometric functions

**Recall**  $\sin \theta = \frac{\text{opp.}}{\text{hyp.}}$      $\cos \theta = \frac{\text{adj.}}{\text{hyp.}}$      $\tan \theta = \frac{\text{opp.}}{\text{adj.}}$

◆ **Example**

At a certain time of the day, the 5 meter flagpole shown at right casts a shadow that is 3 meters long. What is the angle of elevation of the sun at this time?

◆ **Solution**

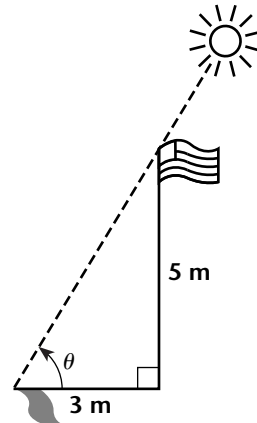
Since 3 meters is the length of the side **adjacent** to  $\theta$  and 5 meters is the length of the side **opposite**  $\theta$ , use the tangent function.

$$\tan \theta = \frac{5}{3}$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{5}{3}\right)$$

This last equation states that  $\theta$  is the angle that has a tangent of  $\frac{5}{3}$ .

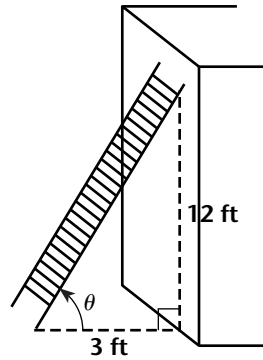
$\theta \approx 59^\circ$     Use calculator in **degree** mode.



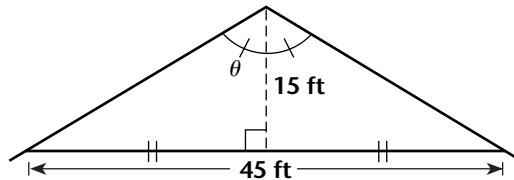
**Find the measure of each angle to the nearest whole degree.**

13. Find the measure of the smallest angle in a right triangle with sides of 3, 4, and 5 centimeters. \_\_\_\_\_

14. What is the angle between the bottom of the ladder and the ground as shown at right? \_\_\_\_\_



15. Find the angle at the peak of the roof as shown at right. \_\_\_\_\_



16. The hypotenuse of a right triangle is 3 times as long as the shorter leg. Find the measure of the angle between the shorter leg and the hypotenuse. \_\_\_\_\_

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