

## Steps to Solve Trig Problems:

- 1) Label the sides of the triangle based on given angle  
(H - hypotenuse, O – side opposite angle, A – side adjacent angle)
- 2) Use trig definitions to figure out which trig function to use  
(O&H  $\rightarrow$  sin; A&H  $\rightarrow$  cos; O&A  $\rightarrow$  tan)
- 3) Write out equation using definition
- 4) Solve for x (remember if x is an angle to use inverse trig function  
 $\sin^{-1}$  or  $\cos^{-1}$  or  $\tan^{-1}$ )

## Examples:

a.

**O**  
x

**H** 26

**A**

30°

**O&H use sin**

$\sin 30^\circ = x/26$   
 $26 \sin 30^\circ = x$

Or

**side opp 30° = ½ hyp**  
 $x = \frac{1}{2} (26) = 13$

b.

15 **A**

**O**

**H** 21

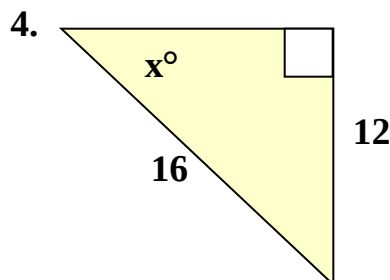
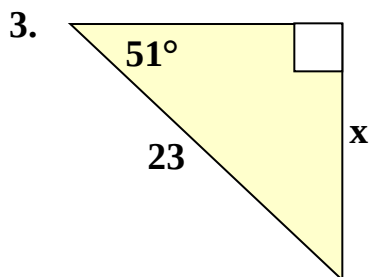
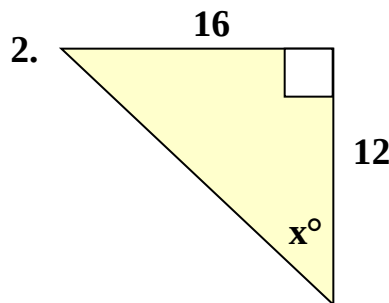
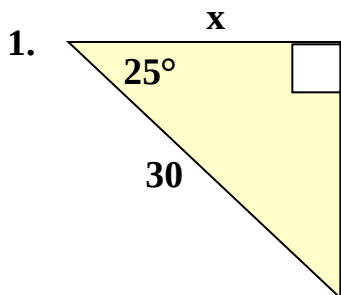
x°

**A&H use cos**

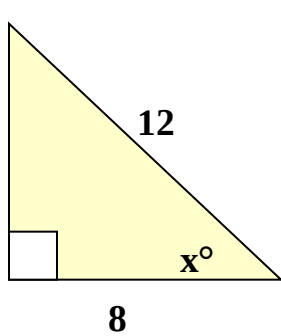
$\cos x^\circ = 15/21$   
**x is an angle so use  $\cos^{-1}$**

$x = \cos^{-1} (15/21)$

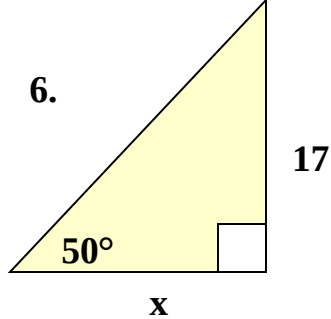
Find values for x in each problem; ok to leave in fraction form



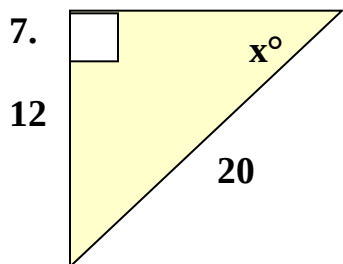
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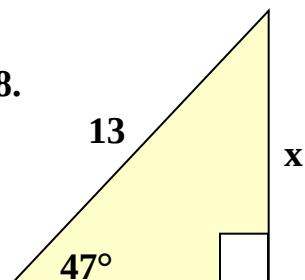
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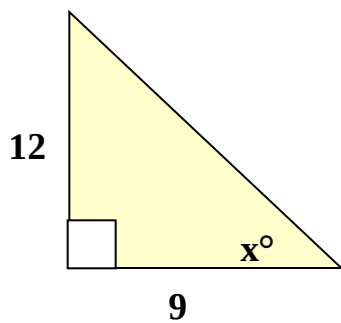
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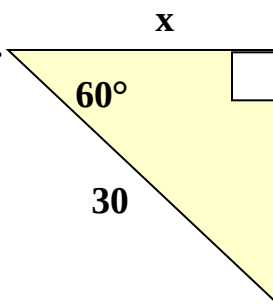
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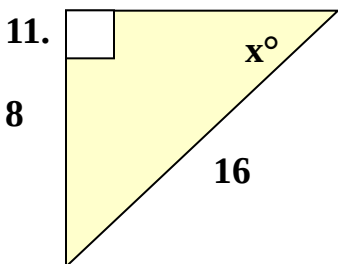
9.



10.



11.



12.

