

Junior Cycle Mathematics

Appendix B: Geometry for Post-primary School Mathematics



Figure 31.

7 Constructions to Study

The instruments that may be used are:

- **straight-edge:** This may be used (together with a pencil) to draw a straight line passing through two marked points.
- **compass:** This instrument allows you to draw a circle with a given centre, passing through a given point. It also allows you to take a given segment [AB], and draw a circle centred at a given point C having radius |AB|.
- **ruler:** This is a straight-edge marked with numbers. It allows you measure the length of segments, and to mark a point B on a given ray with vertex A, such that the length |AB| is a given positive number. It can also be employed by sliding it along a set square, or by other methods of sliding, while keeping one or two points on one or two curves.
- **protractor:** This allows you to measure angles, and mark points C such that the angle $\angle BAC$ made with a given ray [AB] has a given number of degrees. It can also be employed by sliding it along a line until some line on the protractor lies over a given point.
- set-squares: You may use these to draw right angles, and angles of 30°, 60°, and 45°. It can also be used by sliding it along a ruler until some coincidence occurs.

The prescribed constructions are:

- 1. Bisector of a given angle, using only compass and straight edge.
- 2. Perpendicular bisector of a segment, using only compass and straight edge.
- 3. Line perpendicular to a given line l, passing through a given point not on l.



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- 4. Line perpendicular to a given line l, passing through a given point on l.
- 5. Line parallel to given line, through given point.
- 6. Division of a segment into 2, 3 equal segments, without measuring it.
- 7. Division of a segment into any number of equal segments, without measuring it.
- 8. Line segment of given length on a given ray.
- 9. Angle of given number of degrees with a given ray as one arm.
- 10. Triangle, given lengths of three sides.
- 11. Triangle, given SAS data.
- 12. Triangle, given ASA data.
- 13. Right-angled triangle, given the length of the hypotenuse and one other side.
- 14. Right-angled triangle, given one side and one of the acute angles (several cases).
- 15. Rectangle, given side lengths.
- 16. Circumcentre and circumcircle of a given triangle, using only straightedge and compass.
- 17. Incentre and incircle of a given triangle, using only straight-edge and compass.
- 18. Angle of 60° , without using a protractor or set square.
- 19. Tangent to a given circle at a given point on it.
- 20. Parallelogram, given the length of the sides and the measure of the angles.
- 21. Centroid of a triangle.
- 22. Orthocentre of a triangle.