

SKILL 8: Similar Figures

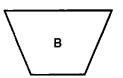
Similar figures are the same shape but not necessarily the same size.

Congruent figures are the same size and the same shape.

Polygons A, B, and C are all similar, but only polygons A and C are congruent.

In similar figures, matching angles have the same measure, and matching sides are proportional.









Example

The two triangles are similar. Find the length of side k.

The triangles are similar, so the corresponding sides are proportional.

Write a proportion using corresponding sides. The side that corresponds to k has a length of 4 cm.

Another pair of corresponding sides has lengths of 6 cm and 3 cm.

Find cross products to solve the proportion.

Divide to undo multiplication.

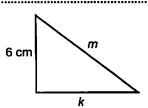
Side *k* measures 8 cm.



$$3 \times k = 24$$

$$\frac{3\times k}{3}=\frac{24}{3}$$

$$k = 8$$

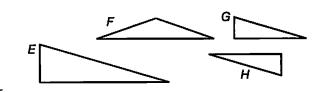




Guided Practice

Find a pair of triangles that appear to be:

- 1. Congruent ____
- **2.** Similar _____



Use the similar triangles in the Example. Find the length of side m.

- 3. Find the length of the side that corresponds to side m.
- 4. Find another pair of corresponding sides. _____
- 5. Write a proportion using corresponding sides.
- **6.** Solve to find the length of side *m*.

SKILL 8: Practice

Tell whether the figures appear to be congruent, similar, or neither.

1.

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2



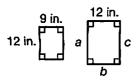
3.



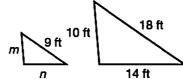
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The polygons in each exercise are similar. Find the missing lengths.

4.



5.



6.

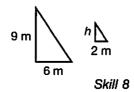
7.

8. The sizes of rectangular screens are given in the table. Which screens are similar in size?

Hand TV	2 in. by 3 in.		
Computer	12 in. by 15 in.		
TV	15 in. by 21 in.		
Movie	20 ft by 28 ft		



9. The triangles are similar. Find the length of h.



- **A** 3 m
- **B** 9 m
- **C** 6 m **D** 27 m

10. Solve for $d: \frac{d}{3.5} = \frac{10}{7}$

F 3.5

H 5

G 7

J 0.5

Skill 6