

**AIM: WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SLOPES AND PERPENDICULAR LINES?**

Now:

$x_1, y_1 \quad x_2, y_2$

1. Given points A (-2,4) and B (4,8), which of the following represents the slope of  $\overline{AB}$ ?

- A. 2      B.  $\frac{2}{3}$       C.  $-\frac{2}{3}$       D.  $\frac{3}{2}$

$$\frac{8-4}{4-2} = \frac{4}{2} = \frac{2}{1}$$

2. A line contains the points (4,-1) and (x,-6) and has a slope of  $-\frac{5}{2}$ . Find the value of x.

$$\frac{-6 - (-1)}{x - 4} = -\frac{5}{2}$$

$$-5(x-4) = 2(-5)$$

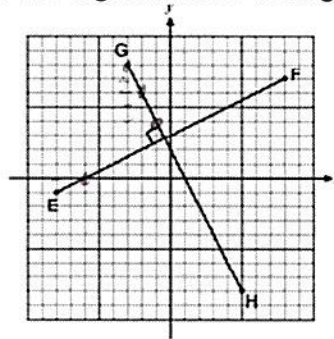
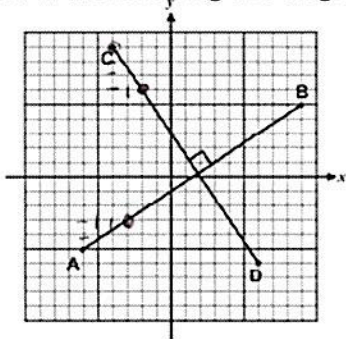
$$-5x + 20 = -10$$

$$\frac{-20 \quad -20}{-5x = -30}$$

$$x = 6$$

We saw in the last lesson that two lines with equal slopes are parallel. There is also a connection between lines that are perpendicular and their slopes. We will explore this in the first exercises.

**Example #1:** In the following two diagrams, two perpendicular line segments have been given.



(a) Determine the slopes of both line segments in both graphs. Label each slope.

Graph #1

$$m_{\overline{CD}} = -\frac{3}{2} \quad m_{\overline{AB}} = \frac{2}{3}$$

Graph #2

$$m_{\overline{GH}} = -\frac{2}{1} \quad m_{\overline{EF}} = \frac{1}{2}$$

(b) List as many observations as you can about the slopes of these perpendicular lines

- OPPOSITE RECIPROCALLS!
- sign change
- Fraction Flipped

Discovery	Example
Perpendicular lines have <u>opposite reciprocal</u> slopes!	$m = \frac{1}{2}$ then $\perp m = -\frac{2}{1}$

**Example #2:** Line segment AB has endpoints of A(-3, 7) and B(3, 15). Which of the following would be the slope of a line perpendicular to AB?

(A)  $\frac{4}{3}$

(B)  $-\frac{2}{5}$

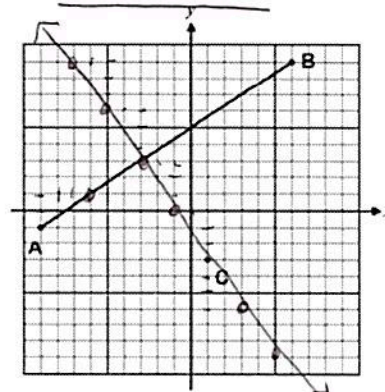
(C)  $-\frac{3}{4}$

(D)  $\frac{3}{7}$

$\frac{15-7}{3-3} = \frac{8}{0} = \frac{4}{3}$

$\perp m = -\frac{3}{4}$

**Example #3:** If a line was drawn through point C in the diagram such that it is perpendicular to AB, at what coordinate point would the two lines intersect?

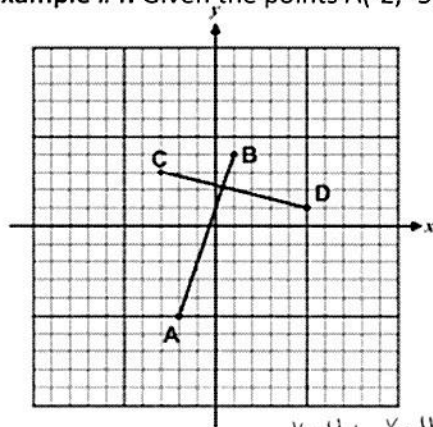


$m_{\overline{AB}} = \frac{2}{3}$

$\perp m = -\frac{3}{2}$

Because of the role of right angles in figures such as right triangles and rectangles, perpendicularity will be extremely important for us. This simple test with slopes will help us determine if right angles are present.

**Example #4:** Given the points A(-2, -5) B(1, 4) C(-3, 3) and D(5, 1) is  $AB \perp CD$ ? Justify your answer.



$m_{\overline{AB}} = \frac{4-(-5)}{1-(-2)} = \frac{9}{3} = 3$

$m_{\overline{CD}} = \frac{1-3}{5-(-3)} = \frac{-2}{8} = -\frac{1}{4}$

NO, the slopes are not opposite reciprocals.

**Example #5:** In  $\triangle ABC$ , A(-5, -7), B(7, -3) and C(4, 6). Is  $\triangle ABC$  a right triangle? Justify. Use of the grid is optional (but advised).

Need one pair of  $\perp$  sides, check slopes!

$m_{\overline{AB}} = \frac{-3-(-7)}{7-(-5)} = \frac{4}{12} = \frac{1}{3}$

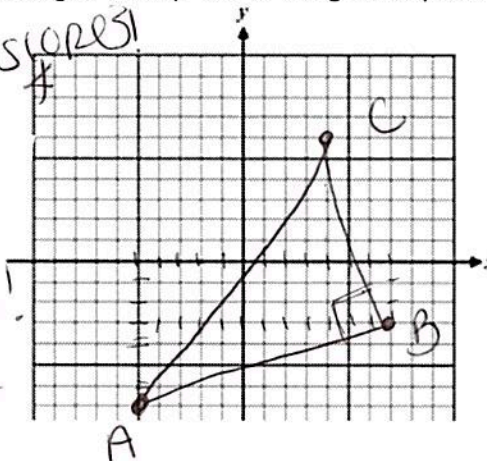
$m_{\overline{BC}} = \frac{6-(-3)}{4-7} = \frac{9}{-3} = -3$

$m_{\overline{AC}} = \frac{6-(-7)}{4-(-5)} = \frac{13}{9}$

OPP. RECIPROCAIS!

$\triangle ABC$  IS A RIGHT  $\triangle$  b/c  $AB \perp BC$

SO  $\angle B$  IS A RIGHT  $\angle$ .



**Example #6:** Given triangle PQR with coordinates P(4,2), Q(5,6), R(x,5). Determine the value of x that makes triangle PQR a right triangle with a right angle at Q, then justify your solution.

$PQ \perp QR$

$$m_{\overline{PQ}} = \frac{6-2}{5-4} = \frac{4}{1}$$

$$\perp m = -\frac{1}{4}$$

$$m_{\overline{QR}} = \frac{5-6}{x-5} = -\frac{1}{4}$$

$$-1(x-5) = 4(-1)$$

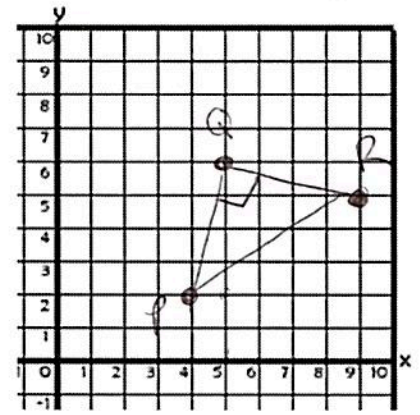
$$-x+5 = -4$$

$$\frac{-5}{-5} \quad \frac{-5}{-5}$$

$$-x = -9$$

$$x = 9$$

$$R = (9, 5)$$



### Altitude

Altitude is drawn perpendicular to the opposite side. ( $\perp m$ )

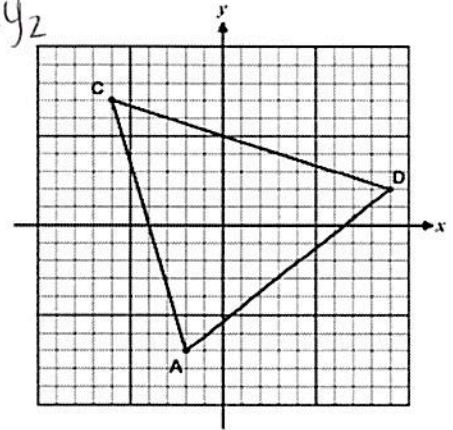
**Example #7:** In the diagram shown,  $\triangle ADC$  has vertices A(-2,-7), D(9,2), and C(-6,7). What is the slope of the altitude drawn from C to  $\overline{AD}$ ?

need  $\perp$  slope of  $\overline{AD}$

$$m_{\overline{AD}} = \frac{2 - (-7)}{9 - (-2)} = \frac{9}{11}$$

$$\perp m = -\frac{11}{9}$$

$x_1 y_1 \quad x_2 y_2$



**Practice NYTS (Now You Try Some!)**

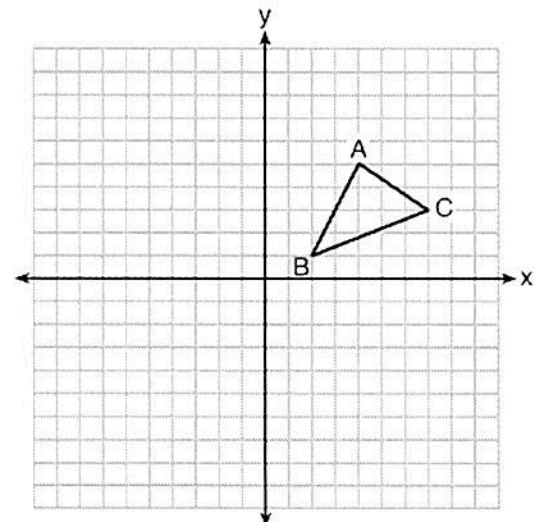
1. In the diagram shown,  $\triangle ABC$  has vertices A(4,5), B(2,1), and C(7,3). What is the slope of the altitude drawn from A to  $\overline{BC}$ ?

need  $\perp$  slope of  $\overline{BC}$

$$m_{\overline{BC}} = \frac{3-1}{7-2} = \frac{2}{5}$$

$$\perp m = -\frac{5}{2}$$

$x_1 y_1 \quad x_2 y_2$



2. If each of the following represents the slope of a line (or line segment), give the slope of a line that is perpendicular to it.

(a)  $m = \frac{4}{3}$   $\perp m = \frac{-3}{4}$

(b)  $m = -\frac{3}{7}$   $\perp m = \frac{7}{3}$

(c)  $m = 1$   $\perp m = -\frac{1}{1} = -1$

3. A line passes through the points  $E(-1, 4)$  and  $F(3, -2)$ . Which of the following is the slope of a line that is perpendicular to  $\overline{EF}$ ?

(1)  $\frac{2}{3}$

(2)  $\frac{1}{3}$

(3) -3

(4)  $-\frac{3}{2}$

$m = \frac{-2-4}{3-(-1)} = \frac{-6}{4} = \frac{-3}{2}$

$\perp m = \frac{2}{3}$

4. A line segment whose endpoints are  $(3, 9)$  and  $(7, k)$  is perpendicular to a line whose slope is -2. Which of the following is the value of  $k$ ?

(1) 1

(2) 11

(3) -7

(4) -5

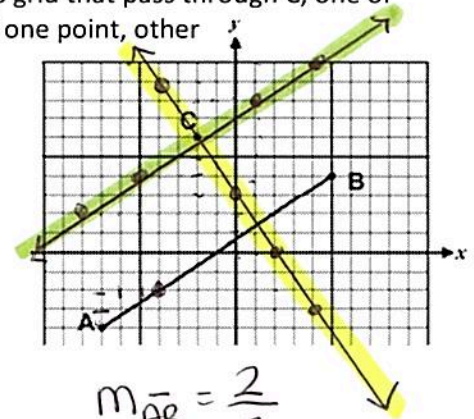
$\perp m = \frac{1}{2}$

$\frac{k-9}{7-3} = \frac{1}{2}$

$4 = 2(k-9)$

$4 = 2k - 18$   
 $+18$   $+18$   
 $22 = 2k$   
 $k = 11$

5. On the following grid, AB is shown along with point C. Draw two lines on this grid that pass through C, one of which is parallel to AB and one that is perpendicular to AB. Give the coordinates of one point, other than C, that lies on each line.



Point that lies on parallel line: (1, 8)

same slope

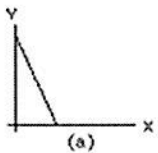
Point that lies on perpendicular line: (0, 3)

OPP. RECIP.

$m_{\overline{AB}} = \frac{2}{3}$

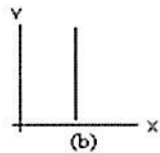
$\perp m = -\frac{3}{2}$

6. For a-f, identify whether the slope is (P)ositive, (N)egative, (Z)ero or (U)ndefined.



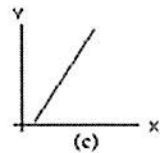
(a)

P



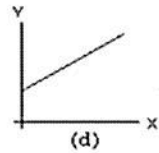
(b)

U



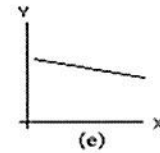
(c)

P



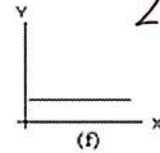
(d)

P



(e)

N



(f)

Z

If each of the following represents the slope of a line (or line segment), give the slope of a line that is perpendicular to it.

(a)  $m = -\frac{1}{3}$   $\perp m = \frac{3}{1}$

(b)  $m = \frac{4}{5}$   $\perp m = -\frac{5}{4}$

(c)  $m = 4$   $\perp m = -\frac{1}{4}$

2. Are the lines  $\overline{AB}$  and  $\overline{CD}$  perpendicular if the points defining the line have coordinates of  $A(3, -2)$ ,  $B(6, 13)$ ,  $C(-5, 8)$  and  $D(5, 6)$ ? Justify your answer.

$m_{\overline{AB}} = \frac{13 - (-2)}{6 - 3} = \frac{15}{3} = 5$

Yes!  $\perp$  lines have opposite reciprocal slopes

$m_{\overline{CD}} = \frac{6 - 8}{5 - (-5)} = \frac{-2}{10} = -\frac{1}{5}$

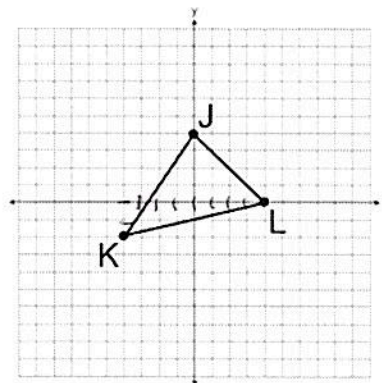
3. In the diagram shown,  $\triangle JKL$  has vertices  $J(0, 4)$ ,  $K(-4, -2)$ , and  $L(4, 0)$ .

What is the slope of the altitude drawn from  $J$  to  $\overline{KL}$ ?

$\hookrightarrow$  need  $\perp m$

$m_{\overline{KL}} = \frac{2}{8} = \frac{1}{4}$

$\perp m = -\frac{4}{1}$



4. In  $\triangle EFG$ ,  $E(-2, 7)$ ,  $F(7, -8)$  and  $G(-6, -3)$ . Is  $\triangle EFG$  a right triangle? Provide proof of your yes/no answer. The use of the grid is optional.

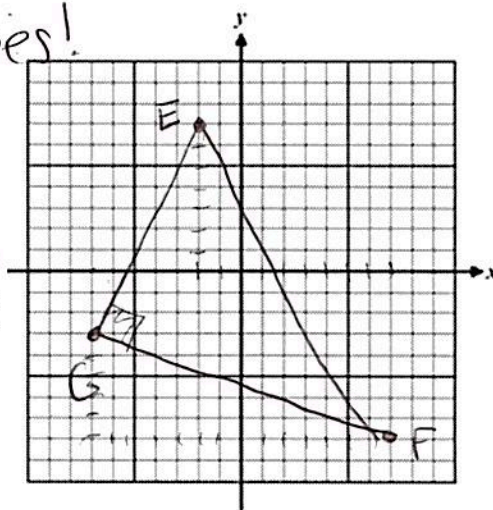
Need one pair of  $\perp$  sides - check slopes!

$m_{\overline{EG}} = \frac{-3 - 7}{-6 - 2} = \frac{-10}{-8} = \frac{5}{4}$

$m_{\overline{GF}} = \frac{-8 - (-3)}{-6 - 7} = \frac{-5}{-13} = \frac{5}{13}$

$m_{\overline{EF}} = \frac{-8 - 7}{7 - 2} = \frac{-15}{5} = -3$

NO,  $\triangle EFG$  is not a right triangle because there are no pairs of  $\perp$  lines



5. The slope of  $\overline{QR}$  is  $\frac{x-1}{4}$  and the slope of  $\overline{ST}$  is  $\frac{8}{3}$ . If  $\overline{QR} \perp \overline{ST}$ , determine and state the value of  $x$ .

$\perp m = -\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{x-1}{4} = -\frac{3}{8}$

$x = -2$

$-12 = 8(x-1)$   
 $-12 = 8x - 8$   
 $-4 = 8x$