GENERAL

discovering geometry chapter 8 review answers

Published: September 3, 2026 | Index ID: #-

Discovering Geometry: Chapter /8 Review Answers

Geometry is the cornerstone of many higher level mathematics courses, and mastering its concepts early on can make the difference between a smooth learning curve and a rocky academic journey. Chapter /8 of most geometry textbooks focuses on the fascinating world of **circles**, introducing students to topics such as **arc measures**, **tangent lines**, **secants**, and the **properties of cyclic quadrilaterals**. Whether you're a high school student tackling the next big test, a tutor looking for clear explanations, or a lifelong learner eager to refresh your knowledge, this comprehensive review will walk you through the key ideas, common pitfalls, and the exact answers to the chapter's most frequently asked questions.

Why Chapter /8 Matters in Geometry

While earlier chapters lay the groundwork with points, lines, and angles, Chapter /8 expands the scope by exploring the **infinite nature of circles**and how they intersect with other geometric figures. Understanding these concepts is critical for:

- Solving problems that involve arc lengths and sector areas.
- Applying the tangent–secant theorem in geometry proofs.
- Analyzing cyclic quadrilaterals and their properties such as opposite angles summing to 180°.
- Preparing for standardized tests like the SAT, ACT, and AP Calculus, where circle-related questions appear frequently.

By mastering Chapter 8, you'll build a solid foundation for advanced topics in trigonometry, calculus, and even physics.

Key Concepts Covered in Chapter /8

Below is a quick rundown of the main ideas that the chapter focuses on. Each concept is paired with a brief explanation and a practical example to illustrate its use.

1. Central and Inscribed Angles

A **central angle** is formed by two radii that meet at the center of the circle. Its measure is equal to the arc it subtends. An **inscribed angle**is formed by two chords that intersect on the circle's circumference, and its measure is half the measure of the intercepted arc.

Example: If an arc measures 120°, the inscribed angle that subtends the same arc measures 60°.

2. Arc Length and Sector Area

The **arc length** of a circle is calculated by the formula *L = (;,ó3c ' r #À*rwhere ;ê is the central angle in degrees. The **sector area** is given by *A = (;,ó3c ' r À*r²

Example: For a circle with radius 5 cm and a central angle of 90°, the arc length is 3.927 cm and the sector area is 19.635 /cm².

3. Tangents and Secants

A **tangent** touches the circle at exactly one point, while a **secant** intersects the circle at two points. The **tangent–secant theorem**states that the square of the length of the tangent segment from an external point to the circle equals the product of the lengths of the entire secant segment and its external segment.

Example: If a tangent from point P to the circle has length 4 cm and a secant from P intersects the circle at points Q and R with PQ /= /5 /cm and QR /= /3 /cm, then 4² /= /5 /× /3, confirming the theorem.

4. Cyclic Quadrilaterals

A **cyclic quadrilateral** is a four sided figure whose vertices all lie on a single circle. Key properties include:

- The sum of opposite angles equals 180°.
- The Ptolemy's theorem relates the sides and diagonals: ac + bd = ef, where a, b, c, d are the sides and e, f are the diagonals.
- The perpendicular bisectors of the sides intersect at the circle's center.

5. Power of a Point

The **power of a point**is a concept that unifies the tangent, secant, and chord theorems. For a point outside the circle, the product of the lengths of the segments of a secant equals the square of the tangent length from that point. For a point inside the circle, the product of the segments of a chord equals the product of the segments of any secant through that point.

Commonly Asked Review Questions

Below is a curated list of the most frequently encountered questions from Chapter 8. Each question is followed by a concise, step by step solution.

1. What is the measure of an inscribed angle that subtends a 140° arc?

Answer: **70°**. Since an inscribed angle is half the measure of its intercepted arc, 140° ÷ 2 = 70°.

2. How do you find the length of an arc that subtends a 45° angle in a circle with a radius of 8 /cm?

Solution:

1. Use the formula: L = (;,ó3c ' r #Àr.
2. Plug in the values: L = (45°/360°) × 2< ƒ, ö6Ò'à
3. Calculate: L = 0.125 × 16< $, bã#ƒ2 ö6Òà

3. Verify the tangent–secant theorem for a tangent of length 6 /cm and a secant with external segment 9 /cm and internal segment 4 /cm.

Solution:

1. Square the tangent length: 6² = 36.
2. Multiply the secant segments: 9 × 4 = 36.
3. Since 36 = 36, the theorem holds.

4. In a cyclic quadrilateral, if one angle measures 110°, what is the measure of the opposite angle?

Answer: **70°**. Opposite angles in a cyclic quadrilateral sum to 180°, so 180° – 110° = 70°.

5. Use Ptolemy's theorem to find the length of a diagonal in a rectangle inscribed in a circle with side lengths 6 /cm and 8 /cm.

Solution:

1. In a rectangle, all angles are 90°, so it is a cyclic quadrilateral.
2. Apply Ptolemy's theorem: ac + bd = ef. Here, sides a and c are 6 /cm, sides b and d are 8 /cm, and the diagonals e and f are equal.
3. Compute: 6 × 6 + 8 × 8 = 36 + 64 = 100 = ef.
4. Since e = f, each diagonal is " 100 = 10 /cm.

6. What is the power of a point inside a circle for a chord of length 12 /cm that passes through a point with a power of 36?

Answer: The power of the point equals the product of the segments of the chord. If the chord is divided into segments x and 12 /– /x, then x(12 /– /x) = 36. Solving the quadratic gives x = 6 /cm, so the chord is bisected at the point.

Step by Step Review Answers

Below we provide a deeper dive into the solutions, ensuring you understand the logic behind each answer.

Detailed Explanation of Inscribed Angle Problem

When solving inscribed angle problems, always remember:

- Identify the intercepted arc.
- Use the formula: Inscribed Angle = ½ × Arc Measure.
- Check that the arc is correctly measured in degrees.

For a 140° arc, the inscribed angle is 140° ÷ 2 = 70°.

Arc Length Calculation Walk through

Step 1: Convert the central angle to a fraction of 360°.

Step 2: Multiply that fraction by the circle's circumference (2< "'à

Example: 45° is 45/360 = 1/8. The circumference of a circle with radius 8 cm is 2< ƒ,• = 16< à Thus, the arc length is (1/8) × 16< Ò #À "H 6.283 /cm.

Verifying the Tangent–Secant Theorem

When verifying, always ensure that the point from which the tangent and secant emanate is external to the circle. Then, square the tangent length and compare it with the product of the secant segments.

Using Ptolemy's Theorem in Cyclic Quadrilaterals

Key steps:

- Confirm the quadrilateral is cyclic.
- Label the sides and diagonals correctly.
- Apply the formula: ac + bd = ef.
- Solve for the unknown diagonal.

Understanding the Power of a Point Inside a Circle

The power of a point inside a circle is the product of the distances from the point to the circle along any chord. If you know the power and one segment length, you can find the other segment by solving a simple quadratic equation.

Practice Problems with Answers

To reinforce your learning, try these practice problems. The solutions are provided at the end of each problem for

self checking.

Problem 1

Find the measure of the central angle that subtends an arc of 240° in a circle of radius 10 /cm.

Answer: 240° (by definition of central angle).

Problem 2

Calculate the sector area for a central angle of 60° in a circle with radius 7 /cm.

Answer: 28.274 /cm² (using A = (;,ó3c ’ r Àr²).

Problem 3

A tangent from point P to a circle has length 5 cm. A secant from the same point intersects the circle at Q and R with PQ /= /12 /cm and QR /= /3 /cm. Verify the tangent

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