

Determining Missing Information  
Congruence and Similarity

As you know, there are 5 ways to prove that triangles are **congruent**:

**SSS SAS ASA AAS HL**

and 3 ways to prove that triangles are **similar**:

**SSS SAS AA**

You're not always given everything you need, though. Today, you're going to have triangle that *do not have enough information* to prove either congruence or similarity. Your job is going to be to determine **what else you would need** to show that the triangles are congruent or similar.

For example, if you have **AS**, you only **need one piece** to make **SAS, ASA, or AAS**. The trick is knowing what you need. For example, if I were proving Similarity, I wouldn't use AAS or ASA, I'd *need to use SAS*. So, I'd *need* the other side.

<p><b>EXAMPLE</b>  <math>\triangle ABC</math> and <math>\triangle DEF</math> are two triangles such that <math>\overline{AB} \cong \overline{DE}</math> and <math>\angle A \cong \angle D</math>. What else would be needed to prove that <math>\triangle ABC \cong \triangle DEF</math>?</p> <p><b>Draw it out</b>—don't forget to mark it!</p> <p>We have <b>AS</b>, which could make <b>ASA</b> if we had <math>\angle B \cong \angle E</math> or <b>AAS</b> if we had <math>\angle C \cong \angle F</math> or <b>SAS</b> if we had <math>\overline{AC} \cong \overline{DF}</math></p>	<p><b>EXAMPLE</b>  <math>\triangle LMN</math> and <math>\triangle PQR</math> are two triangles such that <math>\overline{MN} \cong \overline{QR}</math> and <math>\angle L</math> &amp; <math>\angle P</math> are right angles. What else would be needed to prove that <math>\triangle LMN \cong \triangle PQR</math>?</p> <p><b>Draw it out</b>—don't forget to mark it!</p> <p>The <b>A</b> &amp; <b>S</b> can't connect, so we need something between them, like:  <b>AAS</b> if we had <math>\angle M \cong \angle Q</math> or <math>\angle N \cong \angle R</math>  or, since it's right and we can use <b>HL</b>,  <b>SSA</b> if we had <math>\overline{LM} \cong \overline{PQ}</math> or <math>\overline{LN} \cong \overline{PR}</math></p>	<p><b>EXAMPLE</b>  <math>\triangle TUV</math> and <math>\triangle XYZ</math> are two triangles such that</p> $\frac{TU}{XY} = \frac{UV}{YZ}$ <p>What else would be needed to prove that <math>\triangle TUV \sim \triangle XYZ</math>?</p> <p><b>Draw it out</b>—don't forget to mark it!</p> <p>For similar, I can use <b>AA, SAS, or SSS</b>. We have <b>SS</b>, so we could make either:  <b>SAS</b> if we had <math>\angle U \cong \angle Y</math>  or <b>SSS</b> if we had <math>\frac{TV}{XZ} = \frac{TU}{XY}</math> or <math>\frac{TV}{XZ} = \frac{UV}{YZ}</math></p>
<p>1. <math>\triangle LMN</math> and <math>\triangle PQR</math> are two triangles such that <math>\overline{LM} \cong \overline{PQ}</math> and <math>\overline{LN} \cong \overline{PR}</math>. What else would be needed to prove that <math>\triangle LMN \cong \triangle PQR</math>?</p>	<p>2. <math>\triangle TUV</math> and <math>\triangle XYZ</math> are two triangles such that</p> $\frac{TV}{XZ} = \frac{TU}{XY}$ <p>What else would be needed to prove that <math>\triangle TUV \sim \triangle XYZ</math>?</p>	<p>3. <math>\triangle ABC</math> and <math>\triangle DEF</math> are two triangles such that <math>\angle B \cong \angle E</math> and <math>\angle C \cong \angle F</math>. What else would be needed to prove that <math>\triangle ABC \cong \triangle DEF</math>?</p>
<p>4. <math>\triangle LMN</math> and <math>\triangle PQR</math> are two triangles such that</p> $\frac{LN}{PR} = \frac{MN}{QR}$ <p>What else would be needed to prove that <math>\triangle LMN \sim \triangle PQR</math>?</p>	<p>5. <math>\triangle TUV</math> and <math>\triangle XYZ</math> are two triangles such that <math>\angle V \cong \angle Z</math> and <math>\angle T \cong \angle X</math>. What else would be needed to prove that <math>\triangle TUV \cong \triangle XYZ</math>?</p>	<p>6. <math>\triangle ABC</math> and <math>\triangle DEF</math> are two triangles such that <math>\angle C \cong \angle F</math>. What else would be needed to prove that <math>\triangle ABC \sim \triangle DEF</math>?</p>