## Algebra

| absolute value $\|x-y\|$ | the distance between 2 points, $x$ and $y$, on a number line |
| :---: | :---: |
| absolute value $\|x\|$ | $\|x\|=\left\{\begin{array}{ll} x, & \text { if } x \geq 0 \\ -x, & \text { if } x<0 \end{array} \quad\|x\| \text { expresses the distance from } x\right. \text { to zero on the number line }$ |
| distance formula | $d=\sqrt{\left(x_{2}-x_{1}\right)^{2}+\left(y_{2}-y_{1}\right)^{2}}=$ distance between 2 points ( $\left.\mathrm{x}_{1}, \mathrm{y}_{1}\right)$ and ( $\mathrm{x}_{2}, \mathrm{y}_{2}$ ) on coordinate plane |
| midpoint formula | $M=\left(\frac{x_{1}+x_{2}}{2}, \frac{y_{1}+y_{2}}{2}\right)=$ (average of the x coordinates, average the y coordinates) |
| slope of a line between any 2 points ( $\mathrm{x}_{1}, \mathrm{y}_{1}$ ) and ( $\mathrm{x}_{2}, \mathrm{y}_{2}$ ) | $\begin{array}{ll} m=\frac{y_{2}-y_{1}}{x_{2}-x_{1}} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text { slope is the measure of the steepness of a line } \\ \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{l} \text { horizontal line slope }=0 ; \text { vertical line slope is undefined } \\ \text { parallel lines have equal slopes; } \\ \text { perpendicular lines - slopes are opposite (negative) reciprocals;product of slopes }=-1 \end{array} \end{array}$ |
| linear equation slope intercept form point-slope form standard form | $\begin{aligned} & y=m x+b \text {, where } m=\text { slope and } b=y \text { coordinate of the } y \text {-intercept } \\ & y-y_{1}=m\left(x-x_{1}\right) \\ & A x+B y=C \end{aligned}$ |
| equations for a circle | $\begin{array}{ll} x^{2}+y^{2}=r^{2} & \text { circle centered at }(0,0) \text { with radius } r \\ (x-h)^{2}+(y-k)^{2}=r^{2} & \text { circle centered at }(\mathrm{h}, \mathrm{k}) \text { with radius } r \end{array}$ |
| equations for parabola | $y=a(x-h)^{2}+k$ parabola opens up or down; vertex at $(h, k)$ <br> $x=a(y-k)^{2}+h$ parabola opens left or right; vertex at $(h, k)$ |
| factoring <br> difference of 2 squares sum of 2 squares difference of 2 cubes sum of 2 cubes perfect square trinomials | $a^{2}-b^{2}=(a+b)(a-b)$ <br> prime (not factorable) $\begin{aligned} & a^{3}-b^{3}=(a-b)\left(a^{2}+a b+b^{2}\right) \\ & a^{3}+b^{3}=(a+b)\left(a^{2}-a b+b^{2}\right) \\ & (a+b)^{2}=a^{2}+2 a b+b^{2} \quad \text { and } \end{aligned}$ <br> $(a-b)^{2}=a^{2}-2 a b+b^{2}$ |
| quadratic formula | $x=\frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^{2}-4 a c}}{2 a}$ yields solutions for $a x^{2}+b x+c=0$ <br> Note: the sum of the two solutions is $-b / a$ and product of solutions $=c / a$ |
| discriminant test | $\mathrm{b}^{2}-4 \mathrm{ac}=0 \rightarrow$ one real solution <br> $\mathrm{b}^{2}-4 \mathrm{ac}>0 \rightarrow$ two real solutions <br> $\mathrm{b}^{2}-4 \mathrm{ac}<0 \rightarrow$ two complex conjugate solutions |
| exponent rules | $x^{0}=1 \quad\left(x^{a}\right)^{b}=x^{a b} \quad x^{a} x^{b}=x^{a+b} \quad \frac{x^{a}}{x^{b}}=x^{a-b} \quad x^{-a}=\frac{1}{x^{a}} \text { and } \frac{1}{x^{-a}}=x^{a}$ |
| radicals and exponents | $\sqrt{x}=x^{1 / 2} \quad \sqrt[3]{x}=x^{1 / 3} \quad \sqrt[b]{x^{a}}=x^{a / b}$ |
| complex number | $\mathrm{i}=\sqrt{-1} \quad \mathrm{i}^{2}=-1 \quad \mathrm{i}^{3}=-\mathrm{i} \quad \mathrm{i}^{4}=1$ |
| absolute value equation | If \|algebraic expression| $=\mathrm{A}$, then set up two equations and solve: algebraic expression $=\mathrm{A}$ and algebraic expression $=-\mathrm{A}$ |
| absolute value inequalities | If \|algebraic expression $\mid<\mathrm{A}$, then set up compound inequality (conjunction) and solve: -A < algebraic expression < A <br> If \|algebraic expression|>A, then set up two inequalities (disjunction) and solve: algebraic expression > A or algebraic expression < -A |

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## ACT/SAT Formulas and Facts <br> revised 4/2018

## Algebra

| distance | $d=r t \quad$ distance $=$ rate x time |
| :---: | :---: |
| average (mean) | $\text { average }=\frac{x_{1}+x_{2}+x_{3}+\ldots+x_{n}}{n}$ |
| \% change | $\text { percent change }=\frac{\text { change in quantity }}{\text { original quantity }}$ |
| proportion | $\frac{a}{b}=\frac{c}{d}$ implies $a d=b c$ by cross-multiplication |
| direct variation | $y=k x \quad$ or $\quad \frac{x_{1}}{y_{1}}=\frac{x_{2}}{y_{2}}$ where $k$ is the constant of variation |
| inverse variation | $x y=k \quad$ or $\quad x_{1} y_{1}=x_{2} y_{2}$ where $k$ is the constant of variation |
| arithmetic sequence | $a_{n}=a_{1}+(n-1) d$, nth term of arithmetic sequence, $d$ is the common difference between terms |
| arithmetic series | $S_{n}=\frac{n\left(a_{1}+a_{n}\right)}{2}, \mathrm{~S}_{\mathrm{n}}=$ sum of first " n " terms of a finite geometric series; $\mathrm{a}_{1}=$ first term |
| geometric sequence | $a_{n}=a_{1} r^{n-1}$ nth term of the geometric series; r is the common ratio |
| geometric series | $S_{n}=a_{1}+a_{1} r+\ldots+a_{1} r^{n-1}=\frac{a_{1}\left(1-r^{n}\right)}{1-r}, \mathrm{~S}_{\mathrm{n}}=$ sum of first " n " terms of geometric series |
| probability | Probability of an outcome happening $=\frac{\text { number of desired outcomes }}{\text { total number of possible outcomes }}$ <br> Probability of two mutually exclusive events, A and B , happening $=\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{A}) \cdot \mathrm{P}(\mathrm{B})$ |
| combinations | A combination means the order of the elements doesn't matter. For example, a shirt and pants is the same thing as pants and a shirt. Possible combinations of 3 shirts and 4 pants $=3 \times 4=12$. <br> ${ }_{n} C_{r}=\frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!}$ number of combinations of $n$ items taken $r$ at a time; order does not matter; |
| permutations | ${ }_{n} P_{r}=\frac{n!}{(n-r)!} \quad$ number of ways to arrange $n$ items taken $r$ at a time; order does matter; |
| logarithms | $\begin{aligned} & \log _{b} y=x \quad \text { means } \quad y=b^{x} \\ & \log _{b} M N=\log _{b} M+\log _{b} N \\ & \log _{b}(M / N)=\log _{b} M-\log _{b} N \\ & \log _{b} M^{N}=N \log _{b} M \\ & \log _{b} M=\frac{\log _{c} M}{\log _{c} b} \quad \text { (change of base formula) } \end{aligned}$ |
| Transformations |  |
| Translation (no rotation or size change) <br> Reflection (flip) | $(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y}) \rightarrow(\mathrm{x}+\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{y}+\mathrm{b})$ represents horizontal shift of "a" units, vertical shift of "b" units); |
| Over x -axis | $(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y}) \rightarrow(\mathrm{x},-\mathrm{y})$ |
| Over y-axis | $(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y}) \rightarrow(-\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y})$ |
| Over line $\mathrm{y}=\mathrm{x}$ | $(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y}) \rightarrow(\mathrm{y}, \mathrm{x})$ |
| Over origin (line $\mathrm{y}=-\mathrm{x}$ ) | $(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y}) \rightarrow(-\mathrm{y},-\mathrm{x})$ |
| Rotation about origin |  |
| $90^{\circ} \mathrm{CCW}$ or $270^{\circ} \mathrm{CW}$ | $(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y}) \rightarrow(-\mathrm{y}, \mathrm{x})$ |
| $\begin{aligned} & 180^{\circ} \mathrm{CCW} \text { or } 180^{\circ} \mathrm{CW} \\ & 270^{\circ} \mathrm{CCW} \text { or } 90^{\circ} \mathrm{CW} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $(x, y) \rightarrow(-x,-y)$ $(x, y) \rightarrow(y,-x)$ |

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## Geometry

| Perimeter | In general, perimeter = sum of lengths of sides |
| :---: | :---: |
| square | $\mathrm{P}=4 \mathrm{~s}$ |
| rectangle | $\mathrm{P}=2 \mathrm{~L}+2 \mathrm{~W}$ |
| circle | $\mathrm{C}=2 \pi \mathrm{r}$ (circumference) |
| Area | Note that the units are square units. |
| square | $\mathrm{A}=\mathrm{s}^{2}$ |
| rectangle, parallelogram | $\mathrm{A}=\mathrm{bh}$ (note base and height are always perpendicular) |
| triangle | $\mathrm{A}=1 / 2 \mathrm{bh}$ |
| kite | $A=1 / 2\left(d_{1} d_{2}\right)$ where $d_{1}$ and $d_{2}$ are lengths of the diagonals |
| circle | $\mathrm{A}=\pi \mathrm{r}^{2}$ |
| trapezoid | $\mathrm{A}=1 / 2\left(\mathrm{~b}_{1}+\mathrm{b}_{2}\right) \mathrm{h}$ (average of bases times the height) |
| Volume | $\mathrm{B}=$ area of base; $\mathrm{h}=$ height |
| cube | $V=B h=s^{3} \quad$ where $s$ is the side length |
| rectangular prism | $V=B h=l w h$ |
| sphere | $V=\frac{4}{3} \pi r^{3}$ |
| cone | $V=\frac{1}{3} \pi r^{2} h$ |
| cylinder | $V=B h=\pi r^{2} h$ |
| Triangles |  |
| Congruency Theorems | SSS, SAS, ASA, or AAS or use H-L (right triangles only) |
| Pythagorean Theorem | $c^{2}=a^{2}+b^{2} \quad$ is used to find length of sides or hypotenuse, c , for a right triangle <br> If $c^{2}=a^{2}+b^{2}$, then the triangle is a right triangle (Converse of Pythagorean Theorem) <br> If $c^{2}<a^{2}+b^{2}$, then the triangle is acute <br> If $c^{2}>a^{2}+b^{2}$, then the triangle is obtuse |
| Common Pythagorean Triples | $3-4-5$ $5-12-13$   <br> $6-8-10$ $10-24-26$ $R-24-25$ $8-15-17$ |
| 45-45-90 triangle | ratios of sides lengths: $1 x: 1 x: x \sqrt{2}$ |
| 30-60-90 triangle | ratios of sides lengths: $1 x: x \sqrt{3}: 2 x$ |
| Law of Sines and Law of Cosines (for non-right triangles) | For non-right triangles, use the Law of Sines to find side lengths and angles when possible, or use Law of Cosines when you have 2 sides and the included angle . $\frac{\sin A}{a}=\frac{\sin B}{b}=\frac{\sin C}{c} \quad c^{2}=a^{2}+b^{2}-2 b c \cos C$ |

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| Other Formulas and Facts |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| sum of interior angles of a convex polygon | $\mathrm{S}=(\mathrm{n}-2) 180^{\circ}, \mathrm{n}=\#$ of sides |
| sum of exterior angles in a convex polygon | sum of exterior angles always equals $360^{\circ}$ |
| number of diagonals in a convex polygon | \# of diagnonals $=\frac{n(n-3)}{2}$, where $n=$ number of sides |
| inscribed angle facts | An inscribed angle a is half the central angle, 2 a . Therefore, the inscribed angle $90^{\circ}$ is half of the central angle $180^{\circ}$. <br> A Cyclic Quadrilateral's opposite angles add up to $180^{\circ}$ : $\begin{aligned} & a+c=180^{\circ} \\ & b+d=180^{\circ} \end{aligned}$ <br> A tangent is a line that just touches a circle at one point. <br> It always forms a right angle with the circle's radius to the point of tangency. |
| sector area of a circle | $A=\frac{\theta^{\sigma}}{360^{\circ}} \cdot \pi r^{2}=$ fractional part of the circle's area |
| length of intercepted arc | $L=\frac{\theta^{\circ}}{360^{\circ}} \cdot 2 \pi r=$ fractional part of the circumference |
| Length of diagonal of a rectangular prism | $d=\sqrt{L^{2}+H^{2}+W^{2}}$ |
| Vectors | $<\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{b}>+<\mathrm{c}, \mathrm{d}>=<\mathrm{a}+\mathrm{c}, \mathrm{b}+\mathrm{d}>$ similar to add complex numbers $(\mathrm{a}+\mathrm{bi})+(\mathrm{c}+\mathrm{di})=(\mathrm{a}+\mathrm{b})+\mathrm{i}(\mathrm{c}+\mathrm{d})$ |

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## Trigonometry



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Graphs

| Parent Function | Graph | Parent Function | Graph |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{gathered} \boldsymbol{y}=\boldsymbol{x} \\ \text { Linear, Odd } \\ \text { Domain: }(-\infty, \infty) \\ \text { Range: }(-\infty, \infty) \\ \text { End Behavior: } \\ x \rightarrow-\infty, y \rightarrow-\infty \\ x \rightarrow \infty, y \rightarrow \infty \end{gathered}$ |  | $y=\|x\|$ <br> Absolute Value, Even <br> Domain: $(-\infty, \infty)$ <br> Range: $[0, \infty)$ <br> End Behavior: $\begin{aligned} & x \rightarrow-\infty, y \rightarrow \infty \\ & x \rightarrow \infty, y \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned}$ |  |
| $\boldsymbol{y}=\boldsymbol{x}^{\mathbf{2}}$ Quadratic, Even Domain: $(-\infty, \infty)$ Range: $[0, \infty)$ End Behavior: $x \rightarrow-\infty, y \rightarrow \infty$ $x \rightarrow \infty, \quad y \rightarrow \infty$ |  | $y=\sqrt{x}$ <br> Radical, Neither <br> Domain: $[0, \infty)$ <br> Range: $[0, \infty)$ <br> End Behavior: $x \rightarrow \infty, y \rightarrow \infty$ |  |
| $\boldsymbol{y}=\boldsymbol{x}^{\mathbf{3}}$ Cubic, Odd Domain: $(-\infty, \infty)$ Range: $(-\infty, \infty)$ End Behavior: $x \rightarrow-\infty, y \rightarrow-\infty$ $x \rightarrow \infty, y \rightarrow \infty$ |  | $y=\sqrt[3]{x}$ Cube Root, Odd Domain: $(-\infty, \infty)$ Range: $\quad(-\infty, \infty)$ End Behavior: $x \rightarrow-\infty, y \rightarrow-\infty$ $x \rightarrow \infty, y \rightarrow \infty$ |  |
| $y=b^{x}, b>1$ <br> Exponential, Neither <br> Domain: $(-\infty, \infty)$ <br> Range: $(0, \infty)$ <br> End Behavior: $\begin{aligned} & x \rightarrow-\infty, y \rightarrow 0 \\ & x \rightarrow \infty, y \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned}$ |  | $y=\log _{b}(x), b>1$ <br> Log, Neither <br> Domain: $(0, \infty)$ <br> Range: $(-\infty, \infty)$ <br> End Behavior: $\begin{aligned} & x \rightarrow 0^{+}, y \rightarrow-\infty \\ & x \rightarrow \infty, y \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned}$ |  |
| Rational (Inverse), Odd <br> Domain: $(-\infty, 0) \cup(0, \infty)$ <br> Range: $(-\infty, 0) \cup(0, \infty)$ <br> End Behavior: $\begin{aligned} & x \rightarrow-\infty, y \rightarrow 0 \\ & x \rightarrow \infty, y \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$ |  | $y=\frac{1}{x^{2}}$ <br> Rational (Inverse Squared), Even <br> Domain: $(-\infty, 0) \cup(0, \infty)$ Range: $(0, \infty)$ <br> End Behavior: $\begin{aligned} & x \rightarrow-\infty, y \rightarrow 0 \\ & x \rightarrow \infty, y \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$ |  |
| $y=\operatorname{int}(x)=[x]$ <br> Greatest Integer, Neither <br> Domain: $(-\infty, \infty)$ <br> Range: $\{y: y \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ (integers) $\begin{aligned} & \text { End Behavior: } \\ & x \rightarrow-\infty, y \rightarrow-\infty \\ & x \rightarrow \infty, y \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \boldsymbol{y}=\mathbf{C} \\ (\boldsymbol{y}=\mathbf{2} \text { in the graph) } \\ \text { Constant, Even } \\ \text { Domain: }(-\infty, \infty) \\ \text { Range: }\{y: y=C\} \\ \text { End Behavior: } \\ x \rightarrow-\infty, y \rightarrow C \\ x \rightarrow \infty, y \rightarrow C \end{gathered}$ |  |

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## Conic Sections

|  | Circle <br> Center: ( $h, k$ ) | Parabola <br> Vertex: $(h, k)$ | Ellipse <br> Center: $(h, k)$ <br> $\boldsymbol{a}$ always larger than $\boldsymbol{b}$ | Hyperbola <br> Center: $(h, k)$ <br> $a$ always before the "-" |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Equation (Horizontal) | $(x-h)^{2}+(y-k)^{2}=r^{2}$ | $\begin{gathered} x=a(y-k)^{2}+h \\ \text { or } \\ x-h=a(y-k)^{2} \\ \text { or } \\ b(x-h)=(y-k)^{2} \end{gathered}$ | $\frac{(x-h)^{2}}{a^{2}}+\frac{(y-k)^{2}}{b^{2}}=1$ | $\frac{(x-h)^{2}}{a^{2}}-\frac{(y-k)^{2}}{b^{2}}=1$ <br> Asymptotes: $y-k= \pm \frac{b}{a}(x-h)$ |
| Graph (Horizontal) |  | (Positive Coefficient) |  |  |
| Equation (Vertical) | Same | $y=a(x-h)^{2}+k$ <br> or $\begin{gathered} y-k=a(x-h)^{2} \\ \text { or } \\ b(y-k)=(x-h)^{2} \end{gathered}$ | $\frac{(x-h)^{2}}{b^{2}}+\frac{(y-k)^{2}}{a^{2}}=1$ | $\frac{(y-k)^{2}}{a^{2}}-\frac{(x-h)^{2}}{b^{2}}=1$ <br> Asymptotes: $y-k= \pm \frac{a}{b}(x-h)$ |
| Graph (Vertical) | Same | (Positive Coefficient) |  |  |
| Additional Information | To get $r$ : $y= \pm \sqrt{r^{2}-(x-h)^{2}}+k$ | For $x-h=a(y-k)^{2}$ : $p=\frac{1}{4 a} ; \quad a=\frac{1}{4 p}$ <br> For $b(x-h)=(y-k)^{2}$ : $b=4 p ; \quad p=\frac{b}{4}$ $p=\text { focal length }$ <br> Negative Coefficients: <br> Flip parabola | $c^{2}=a^{2}-b^{2}$ | $c^{2}=a^{2}+b^{2}$ |

