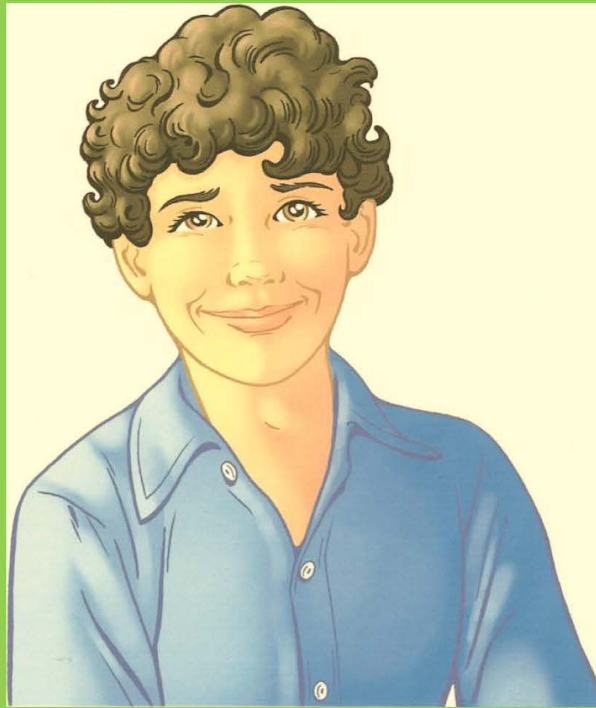


THE BARTON SERIES

BARTON AND THE FUNNY ODES



BY

DR FAYAD W. ALI

(Ages 8 and over)

BARTON AND THE FUNNY ODES

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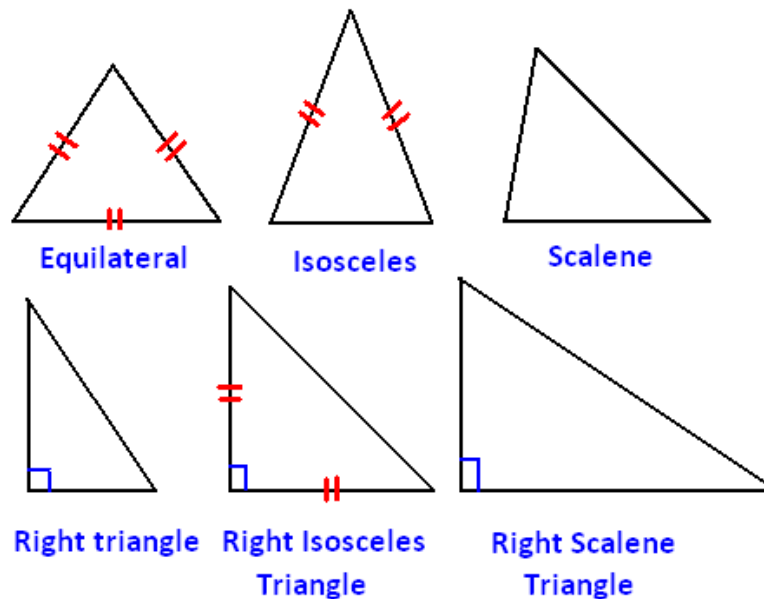
THE TRIANGLE

Marlene held some pieces of paper, each with several small sketches. She had been hard at work for quite some time and gazed admiringly at her handicraft.

“I will draw these figures on a larger scale and place all the diagrams on a single sheet,” she said softly.

“I am working along with her,” said a boy who sat beside her. “I’m her brother,” he added, looking at Kwame and Barton.

“We worked together on the triangle,” chimed Marlene. “We often work together, my brother and I.”



“There are several types,” she explained to the older boys, perhaps thinking that they were unaware of this famed geometrical fact.

Barton and Kwame nodded.

“It is difficult to scribe about all of the different types of triangles and their respective properties in verse,” confessed the girl. “Even with Marlon assisting, the feat has been quite demanding.”

Marlon looked embarrassed at first, after his sister’s statement. Then he smiled a little.

“Whilst Marlene was cutting and pasting, I was thinking about lines for our ode,” admitted Marlon.

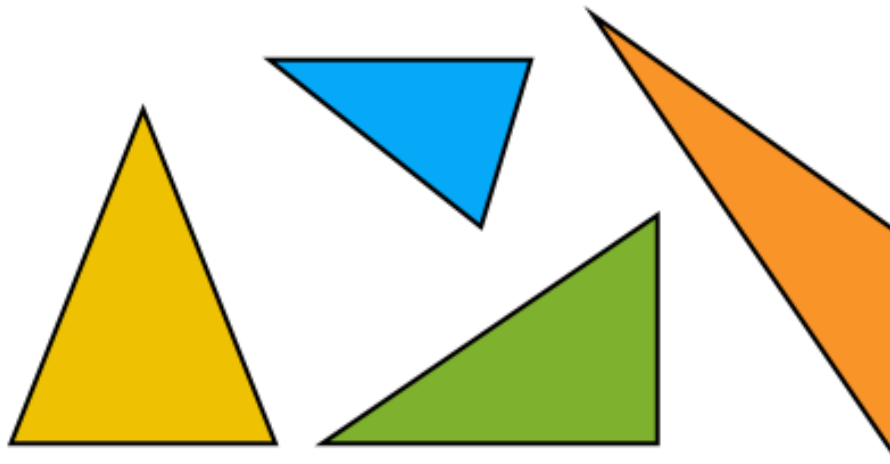
“We enjoy a good combination for our school projects,” explained the brother, to the others who were listening in silence and anxiety. The sister nodded and patted him on the shoulder.

“Then, let’s see what you have scribed, Lonny,” requested Marlene, smiling with her sibling.

“Do you mind if I sit?” begged Marlon, looking at the small group with puppy eyes. “All my verses are a bit scattered and are written on several pieces of paper.

“I’ll need to search for them and then place them in sequence before I can recite them.”

With permission immediately granted and with a few pieces of paper held in both hands, the young boy began.



THE TRIANGLE

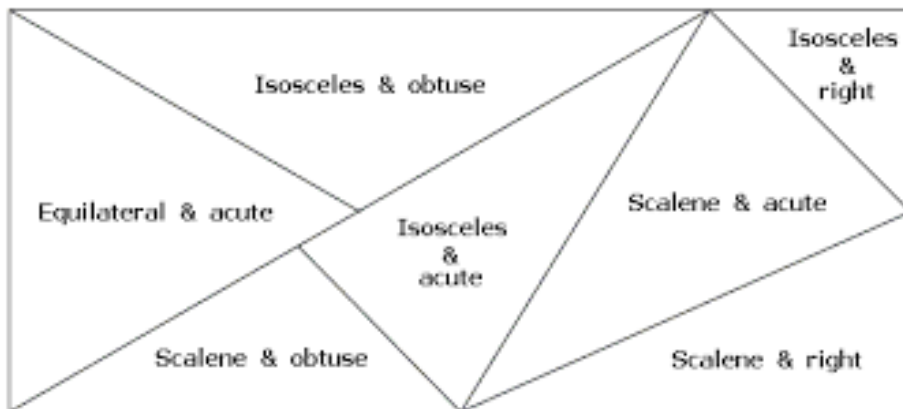
The sides are straight and drawn to touch

They number only three

Of great interest to learn and watch

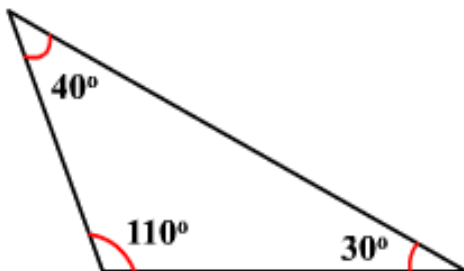
This common property

No matter what their types may be

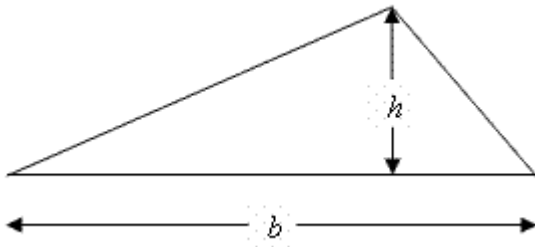


Their angles which are three

When measured in degrees we'd see



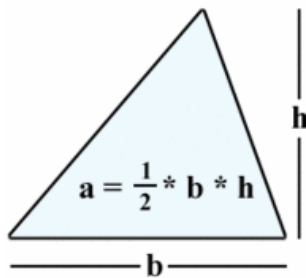
Would total one eighty



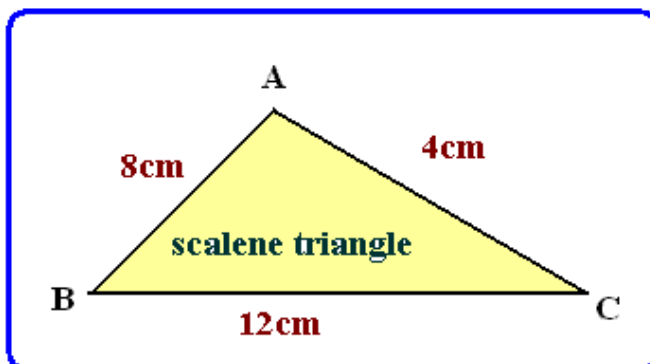
If 'b' is base an 'h' is height

For area here's the clue

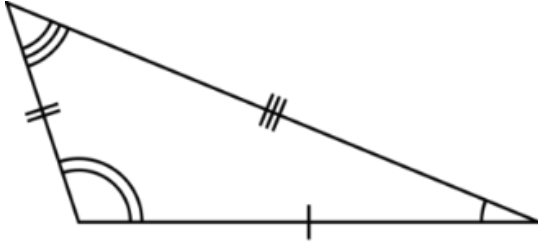
To ensure that our answer's right



Find 'b h' over two



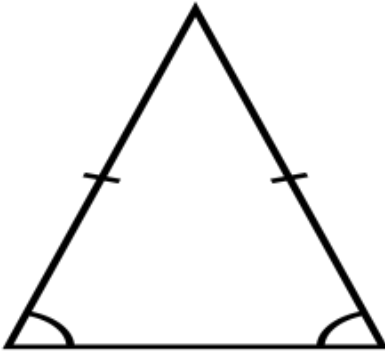
When all the sides are not the same



The angles differ too

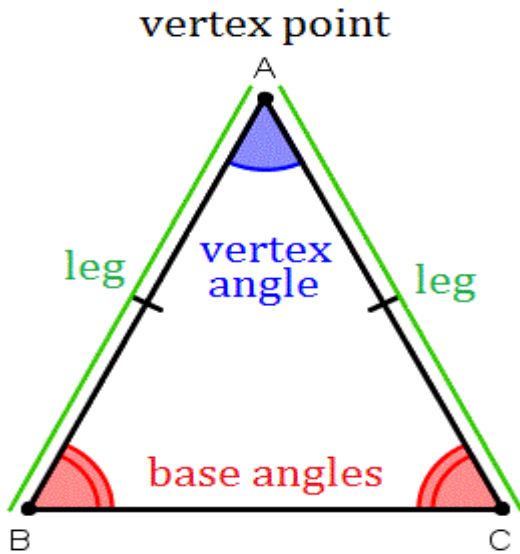
Then scalene is its given name

Just as these ones we drew



Two equal sides and angles too

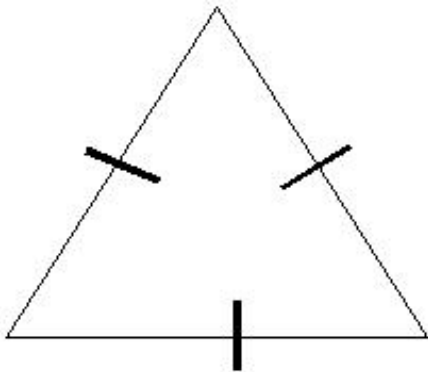
Quite clearly marked on these



So we can tell just from the view

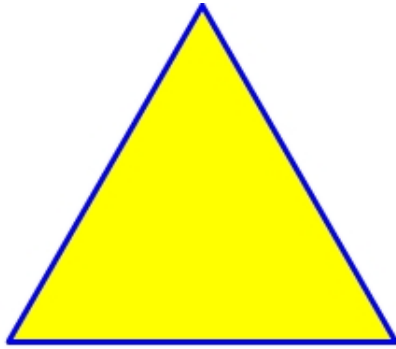
It's called isosceles

If all three angles are the same



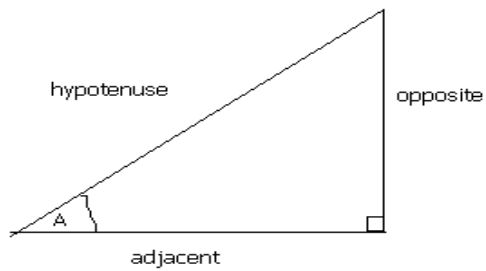
The sides will also be

And equilateral the name



Equilateral Triangle

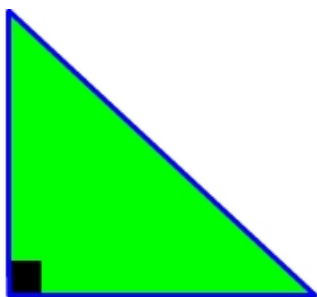
As drawn above to see



When one of these three angles be

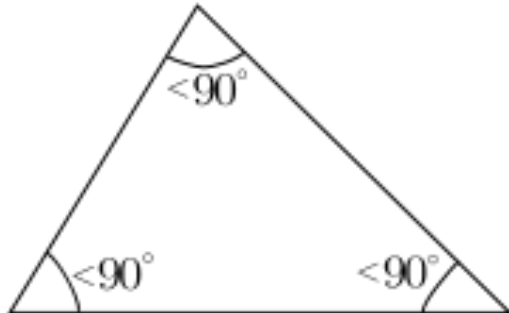
Not 'correct' but is 'right'

Right-angled is definitely



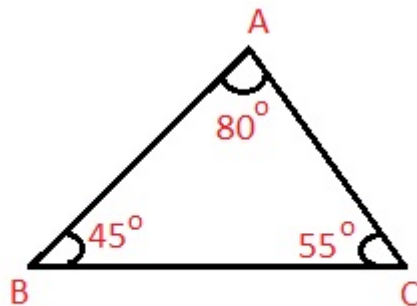
Right-Angled Triangle

The name that we should write



When angles drawn are less than right

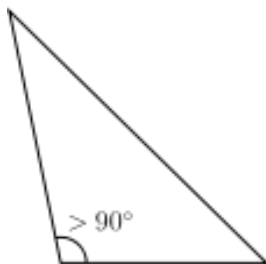
The name does clearly suit



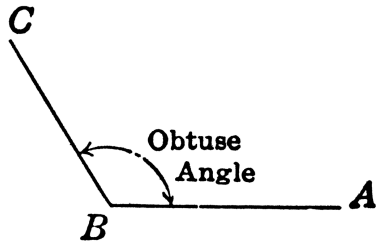
$\angle A$, $\angle B$ and $\angle C$ are acute angles

With pretty sight and great delight

This one is called acute



One special angle less than straight



But also more than right

It may sound rude when we dictate

Obtuse is what we'll write

Regardless of the type that's drawn

Or any kind we see

Each one would help us to adorn

The world of geometry

Barton and Kwame were at a loss for words.

“Don’t you think my brother is wonderful?” asked Marlene, breaking the silence.

“The word wonderful does not do his justice,” answered Kwame.