



EXAM PAPERS PRACTICE

Similarity

Model Answer

Question 1



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The length of a backpack of capacity 30 litres is 53 cm.
Calculate the length of a mathematically similar backpack of capacity 20 litres.

$$\frac{l_1}{l_2} = \frac{c_1}{c_2}$$

Plugging in the given values, we get:

$$\frac{53 \text{ cm}}{l_2} = \frac{30 \text{ liters}}{20 \text{ liters}}$$

To solve for l_2 , we can cross-multiply and then divide both sides by $\frac{30 \text{ liters}}{20 \text{ liters}}$

$$l_2 = \frac{53 \text{ cm} \times 20 \text{ liters}}{30 \text{ liters}}$$

$$l_2 = \frac{1060}{30} \text{ cm}$$

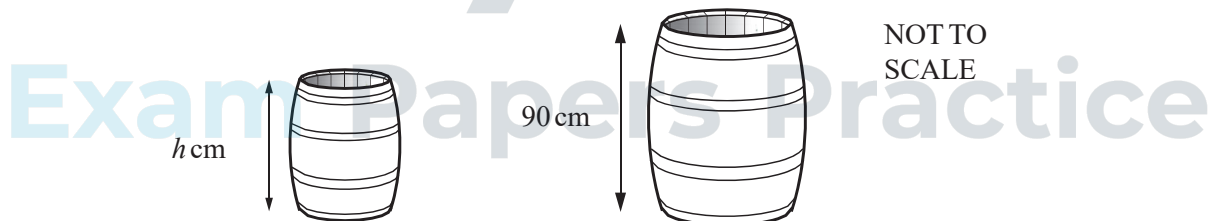
$$l_2 = 35.33 \text{ cm}$$

Therefore, the length of the second backpack is 35.33 centimeters.

[3]

Question 2

The two barrels in the diagram are mathematically similar.



The smaller barrel has a height of h cm and a capacity of 100 litres.
The larger barrel has a height of 90 cm and a capacity of 160 litres.

Work out the value of h .

$$\frac{100}{h} = \frac{160}{90}$$

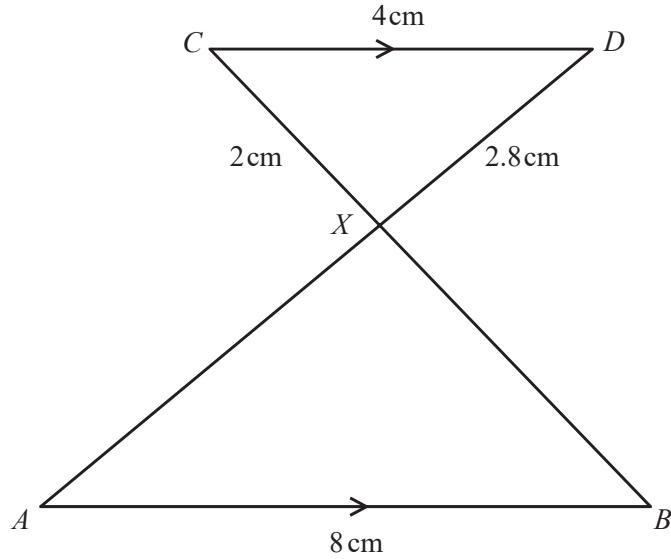
Now, solve for h :

$$h = \frac{100 \times 90}{160}$$

$$h = 56.25 \text{ cm}$$

[3]

Question 3



NOT TO SCALE

In the diagram, AB and CD are parallel.
 AD and BC intersect at X .
 $AB = 8$ cm, $CD = 4$ cm, $CX = 2$ cm and $DX = 2.8$ cm.

(a) Complete this mathematical statement. [1]

Triangle ABX is **similar** to triangle DCX .

(b) Calculate AX . [2]

Answer: $AX = 5.6$ cm

Exam Papers Practice

(c) The area of triangle ABX is y cm².

Find the area of triangle DCX in terms of y . [1]

$$DCX \text{ is } \frac{16}{9}y = \frac{16y}{9} \text{ cm}^2.$$

Two bottles and their labels are mathematically similar.
The smaller bottle contains 0.512 litres of water and has a label with area 96 cm^2 .
The larger bottle contains 1 litre of water.

Calculate the area of the larger label.

[3]

Answer:

area of larger label is equal to $96/0.512$ which is 187.5 cm^2

Question 5

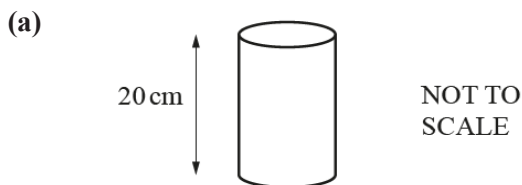
Two cups are mathematically similar.
The larger cup has capacity 0.5 litres and height 8 cm.
The smaller cup has capacity 0.25 litres.

Find the height of the smaller cup.

Answer:

The smaller cup has a height of 4 cm

[3]



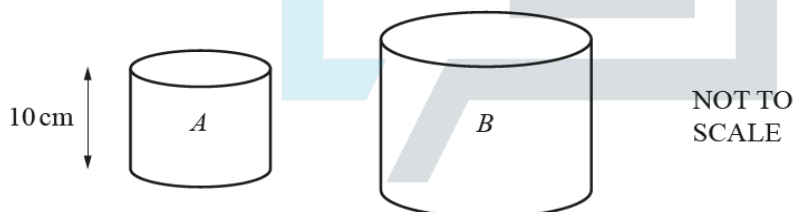
A cylinder has height 20 cm.
The area of the circular cross section is 74cm^2 .

Work out the volume of this cylinder.

[1]

The given cylinder has a radius of $r = \sqrt{74\text{ cm}^2/\pi} = 4.9\text{ cm}$. Therefore, its volume is $V = \pi r^2 h = \pi(4.9\text{ cm})^2(20\text{ cm}) = 1480\text{ cm}^3$.

(b) Cylinder A is mathematically similar to cylinder B .



The height of cylinder A is 10 cm and its surface area is 440 cm^2 .
The surface area of cylinder B is 3960 cm^2 .

Calculate the height of cylinder B .

[3]

$$\frac{A_A}{A_B} = \left(\frac{h_A}{h_B}\right)^2$$

Given that $A_A = 440\text{ cm}^2$ and $A_B = 3960\text{ cm}^2$, and $h_A = 10\text{ cm}$, you can use this information to find h_B :

$$\frac{440}{3960} = \left(\frac{10}{h_B}\right)^2$$

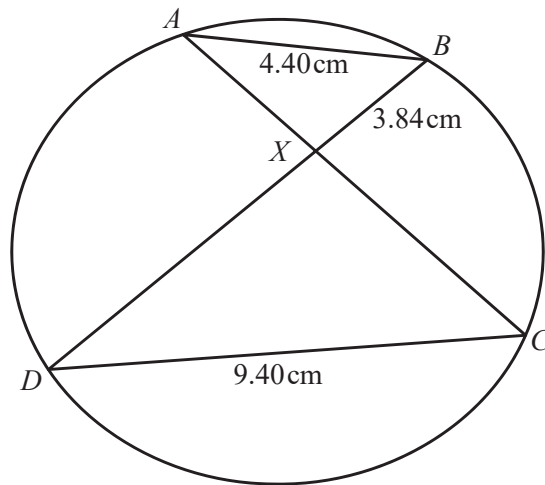
Solve for h_B :

$$\frac{1}{9} = \frac{100}{h_B^2}$$

$$h_B^2 = 900$$

$$h_B = 30\text{ cm}$$

Therefore, the height of cylinder B is 30 cm.

NOT TO
SCALE

A , B , C and D lie on a circle.
 AC and BD intersect at X .

- (a) Give a reason why angle BAX is equal to angle CDX . [1]

Angle BAX is equal to angle CDX because they are opposite angles of a cyclic quadrilateral.

Therefore, angle BAX is congruent to angle CDX .

- (b) $AB = 4.40$ cm, $CD = 9.40$ cm and $BX = 3.84$ cm. [2]

- (i) Calculate the length of CX . [2]

$$\frac{CX}{BX} = \frac{CD}{AB}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{CX}{3.84} = \frac{9.40}{4.40}$$

$$\Rightarrow CX = \frac{9.40 \times 3.84}{4.40}$$

$$\Rightarrow CX = 8.2$$

Thus, length of CX is 8.2 cm

- (ii) The area of triangle ABX is 5.41 cm^2 .

Calculate the area of triangle CDX . [2]

Since $\angle ABX = \angle CDX$, we can form a proportion of the corresponding sides:

$$\frac{BX}{CX} = \frac{AB}{CD}$$

Substituting in the given values, we get:

$$\frac{3.84}{CX} = \frac{4.40}{9.40}$$

Solving for CX , we get:

$$CX = \frac{3.84 \times 9.40}{4.40} = 8.32 \text{ cm}$$

Now, we can calculate the area of triangle CDX using the fact that it is similar to triangle ABX :

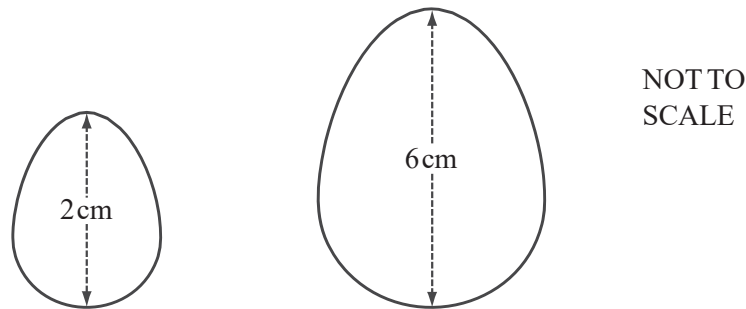
$$\frac{CDX}{ABX} = \left(\frac{CD}{AB}\right)^2$$

Substituting in the given values, we get:

$$\frac{CDX}{5.41} = \left(\frac{9.40}{4.40}\right)^2$$

Solving for CDX , we get:

$$CDX = 5.41 \cdot \left(\frac{9.40}{4.40}\right)^2 = 25.54 \text{ cm}^2$$



A company makes solid chocolate eggs and their shapes are mathematically similar.
The diagram shows eggs of height 2 cm and 6 cm.
The mass of the small egg is 4 g.

Calculate the mass of the large egg.

[2]

$$\frac{\text{Volume of Small Egg}}{\text{Volume of Large Egg}} = \left(\frac{\text{Height of Small Egg}}{\text{Height of Large Egg}} \right)^3$$

Given that the height of the small egg is 2 cm and the height of the large egg is 6 cm, the ratio is $\frac{2}{6} = \frac{1}{3}$.

$$\frac{\text{Volume of Small Egg}}{\text{Volume of Large Egg}} = \left(\frac{1}{3} \right)^3 = \frac{1}{27}$$

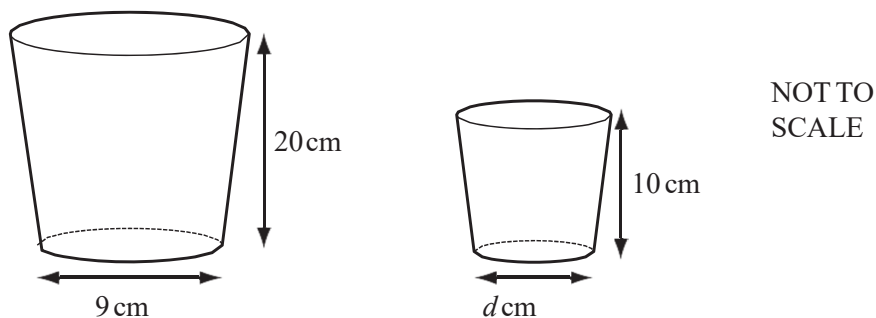
Since the mass is directly proportional to the volume for a given material, the mass ratio is also $\frac{1}{27}$.

Given that the mass of the small egg is 4 g, the mass of the large egg is:

$$\text{Mass of Large Egg} = 4 \times 27 = 108 \text{ g}$$

Therefore, the mass of the large egg is 108 g.

Exam Papers Practice



The diagrams show two mathematically similar containers.
 The larger container has a base with diameter 9 cm and a height 20 cm.
 The smaller container has a base with diameter d cm and a height 10 cm.

(a) Find the value of d .

[1]

$$\frac{d}{9} = \frac{10}{20}$$

Now, solve for d :

$$d = \frac{10}{20} \times 9$$

$$d = \frac{1}{2} \times 9$$

$$d = 4.5$$

Therefore, the value of d is 4.5 cm.

(b) The larger container has a capacity of 1600ml.

Calculate the capacity of the smaller container.

[2]

The ratio of volumes for similar shapes is the cube of the ratio of corresponding lengths. In this case, the corresponding length is the height.

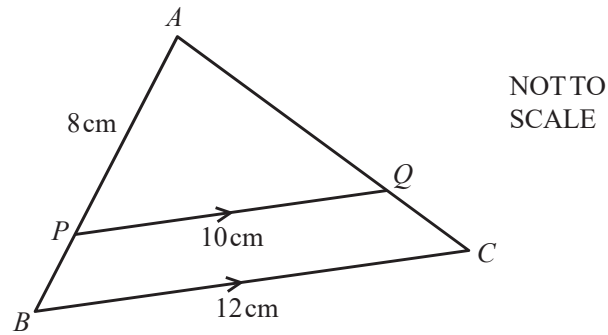
$$\text{Volume ratio} = \left(\frac{\text{height of larger container}}{\text{height of smaller container}} \right)^3$$

$$\text{Volume ratio} = \left(\frac{20}{10} \right)^3 = 2^3 = 8$$

Since the larger container has a capacity of 1600ml, the capacity of the smaller container is:

$$\text{Capacity of smaller container} = \frac{\text{Capacity of larger container}}{\text{Volume ratio}}$$

$$\text{Capacity of smaller container} = \frac{1600}{8} = 200\text{ml}$$



APB and AQC are straight lines. PQ is parallel to BC .
 $AP = 8$ cm, $PQ = 10$ cm and $BC = 12$ cm.
Calculate the length of AB .

[2]

$$\begin{aligned}AP/AB &= PQ/BC \\ \Rightarrow 8/AB &= 10/12 \\ \Rightarrow AB &= 8 \times 12/10 \\ \Rightarrow AB &= 9.6 \text{ cm} \\ \text{length of } AB &= 9.6 \text{ cm}\end{aligned}$$

Exam Papers Practice

A cylindrical glass has a radius of 3 centimetres and a height of 7 centimetres.
 A large cylindrical jar full of water is a similar shape to the glass.
 The glass can be filled with water from the jar exactly 216 times.
 Work out the radius and height of the jar.

[3]

Step 1: Find the volume of the glass

$$V \approx 63\pi\text{cm}^3$$

Step 2: Find the volume of the jar

$$V_{\text{jar}} = 216V_{\text{glass}} = 138,24\pi\text{cm}^3$$

Step 3: Find the radius and height of the jar

$$r_{\text{jar}} \approx 18 \text{ cm}$$

$$h_{\text{jar}} \approx 42 \text{ cm}$$

Therefore, the radius of the jar is 18 cm and the height of the jar is 42 cm.

Question 12

A car manufacturer sells a similar, scale model of one of its real cars.

- (a) The fuel tank of the real car has a volume of 64 litres and the fuel tank of the model has a volume of 0.125 litres.

Show that the length of the real car is 8 times the length of the model car.

[2]

The length of the real car is 8 times the length of the model car because the ratio of their fuel tank volumes is 512, which is the cube of 8.

Exam Papers Practice

- (b) The area of the front window of the model is 0.0175 m².
 Find the area of the front window of the real car.

Let r represent the scale factor.

$$\text{Area ratio} = r^2$$

Given that the area of the front window of the model is 0.0175 m², we can set up the equation:

$$0.0175 = r^2 \times \text{Area of front window of real car}$$

[2]

Solve for the area of the front window of the real car:

$$\text{Area of front window of real car} = \frac{0.0175}{r^2}$$

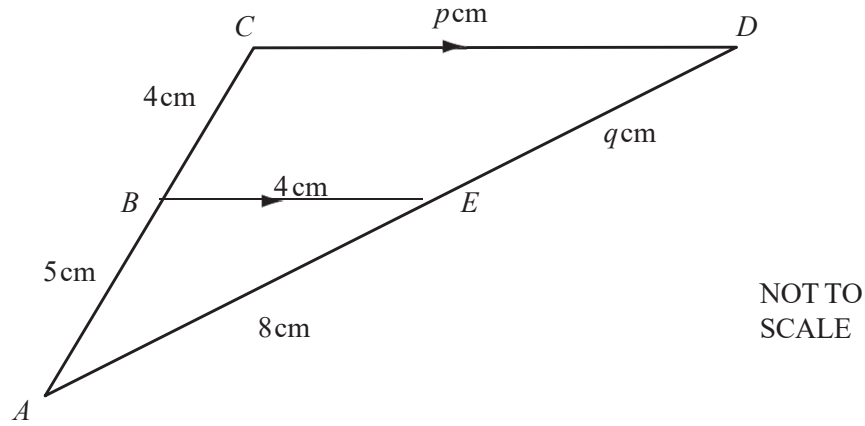
Without information about the specific scale factor r , we cannot provide a numerical answer.

Question 13



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(a)



In the diagram triangles ABE and ACD are similar.

BE is parallel to CD .

$AB = 5$ cm, $BC = 4$ cm, $BE = 4$ cm, $AE = 8$ cm, $CD = p$ cm and $DE = q$ cm.

Work out the values of p and q .

Answer:

$$p = 7.2$$

$$q = 6.4$$

Step-by-step explanation:

if the triangles are similar then the side lengths must be proportional :

$$AC/BA = CD/BE$$

$$9/5 = p/4 \text{ cross multiply expressions}$$

$$5p = 36 \text{ divide both sides by 5}$$

$$p = 7.2$$

same goes for q

$$9/5 = (q + 8)/8 \text{ cross multiply expressions}$$

$$72 = 5(q + 8) \text{ divide both sides by 5}$$

$$14.4 = q + 8 \text{ subtract 8 from both sides}$$

$$6.4 = q$$

[4]

(b) A spherical balloon of radius 3 metres has a volume of 36π cubic metres.

It is further inflated until its radius is 12 m.

Calculate its new volume, leaving your answer in terms of π .

The volume V of a sphere is given by the formula:

$$V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$$

Given that the initial radius r of the spherical balloon is 3 m and the initial volume is $36\pi\text{m}^3$, we can set up an equation:

$$36\pi = \frac{4}{3}\pi (3^3)$$

Now, solve for the scale factor (k):

$$k^3 = \frac{36\pi \times 3}{4\pi}$$

$$k^3 = 27$$

$$k = \sqrt[3]{27}$$

$$k = 3$$

Now, the new radius (r') is 12 m, so the new volume (V') is:

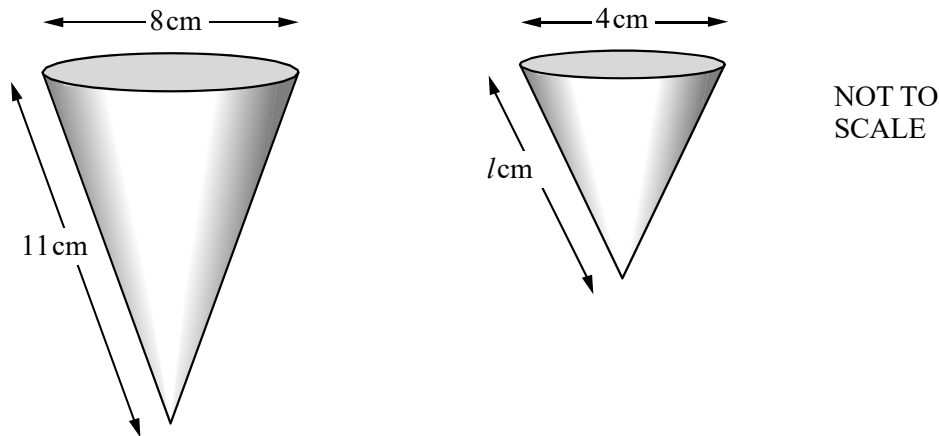
$$V' = \frac{4}{3}\pi (12^3)$$

$$V' = \frac{4}{3}\pi(1728)$$

$$V' = 2304\pi$$

[2]

Therefore, the new volume of the spherical balloon, when inflated to a radius of 12 m, is $2304\pi\text{m}^3$.



The two cones are similar.

(a) Write down the value of l .

[1]

Since both cones, as shown in the figure attached below, are similar, $11/8 = 1/4$

Cross multiply to find l

$$4 \cdot 11 = 8 \cdot l$$

$$44 = 8l$$

$$l = 44/8$$

$$l = 5.5 \text{ cm}$$

[2]

(b) When full, the larger cone contains 172 cm^3 of water.

How much water does the smaller cone contain when it is full?

b. Given the slant height and diameter of cone, volume of cone can be calculated using the formula $\frac{1}{3}\pi r^2 \cdot \sqrt{l^2 - r^2}$

Where, $r = \text{diameter} \div 2 = 4/2 = 2 \text{ cm}$

$l = 5.5 \text{ cm}$

$$\text{Volume of smaller cone} = \frac{1}{3} \cdot 3.142 \cdot 2^2 \cdot \sqrt{(5.5^2 - 2^2)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} \cdot 3.142 \cdot 4 \cdot \sqrt{30.25 - 4}$$

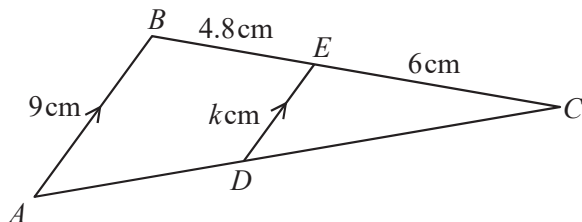
$$= \frac{1}{3} \cdot 12.568 \cdot \sqrt{26.25}$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} \cdot 12.568 \cdot 5.124$$

$$= 64.40/3$$

$$\text{Volume of small cone} = 21.5 \text{ cm}^3$$

(a)



NOT TO SCALE

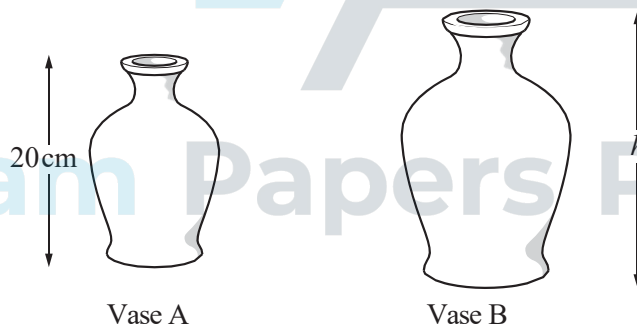
Triangles CBA and CED are similar.
 AB is parallel to DE .
 $AB = 9$ cm, $BE = 4.8$ cm, $EC = 6$ cm and $ED = k$ cm.

[2]

Work out the value of k .

$k = 5$ cm

(b)



NOT TO SCALE

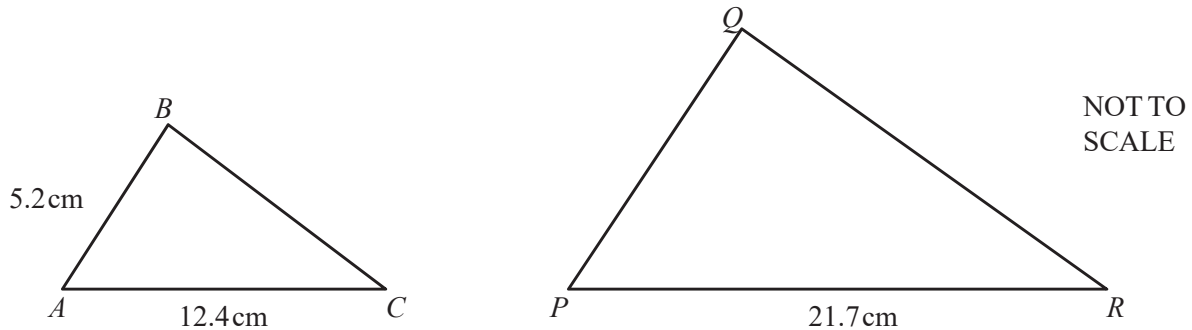
The diagram shows two mathematically similar vases.
 Vase A has height 20 cm and volume 1500 cm³.
 Vase B has volume 2592 cm³.

Calculate h , the height of vase B.

[3]

the height of vase b is 34.56 cm.

Triangle ABC is similar to triangle PQR .



Find PQ .

Answer: the two triangles are similar triangles..

So from the given information

$$ab/pq = ac/pr$$

$$5.2/pq = 12.4/21.7$$

$$52/10pq = 124/217$$

$$13/10pq = 31/217$$

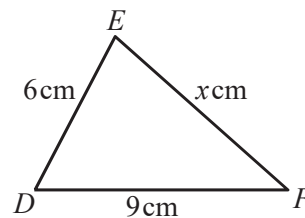
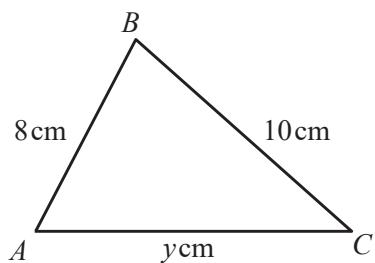
$$13/10pq = 1/7$$

$$Pq = 9.1 \text{ cm}$$

$$\text{So side } pq = 9.1 \text{ cm}$$

[2]

Exam Papers Practice

NOT TO
SCALE

Triangle ABC is similar to triangle DEF .

Calculate the value of

(a) x , Given $\triangle ABC \sim \triangle DEF$

By property of similar triangles,

$$\frac{AB}{DE} = \frac{BC}{EF} = \frac{AC}{DF}$$

$$\therefore \frac{8}{6} = \frac{10}{x} = \frac{y}{9}$$

Equating first and second ratios, we get,

$$\frac{8}{6} = \frac{10}{x}$$

$$\therefore 8x = 60$$

$$\therefore x = 7.5$$

[2]

(b) y .

Equating first and third ratios, we get,

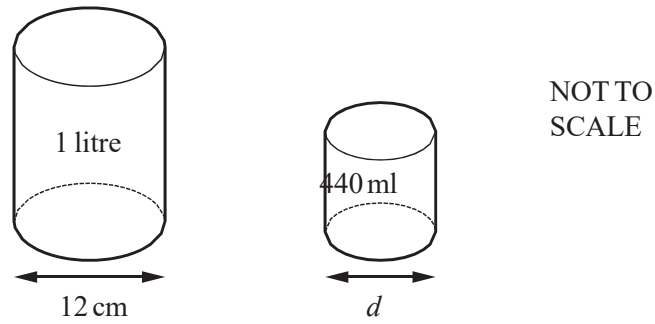
$$\frac{8}{6} = \frac{y}{9}$$

$$\therefore 6y = 72$$

$$\therefore y = 12$$

[2]

Exam Papers Practice



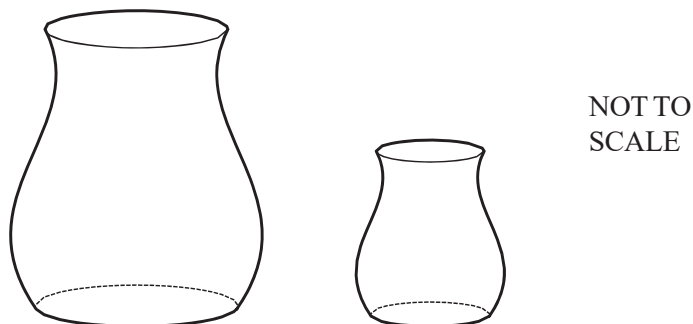
Two cylindrical cans are mathematically similar.
The larger can has a capacity of 1 litre and the smaller can has a capacity of 440ml.

Calculate the diameter, d , of the 440ml can.

[3]

The diameter of the smaller can is $\cong 9.14$ cm


Exam Papers Practice



The two containers are mathematically similar in shape.
 The larger container has a volume of 3456 cm^3 and a surface area of 1024 cm^2 .
 The smaller container has a volume of 1458 cm^3 .

Calculate the surface area of the smaller container.

[4]

$$\frac{V_l}{V_s} = k^3 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{A_l}{A_s} = k^2$$

Substituting in the given values, we can solve for k and then the surface area of the smaller container:

$$k = \sqrt[3]{\frac{3456}{1458}} = \frac{12}{9}$$

$$A_s = \frac{1024}{\left(\frac{12}{9}\right)^2} = 576 \text{ cm}^2$$

Exam Papers Practice

The volumes of two similar cones are $36\pi \text{ cm}^3$ and $288\pi \text{ cm}^3$.
The base radius of the smaller cone is 3 cm.

Calculate the base radius of the larger cone.

[3]

$$\left(\frac{r_{\text{larger}}}{3}\right)^3 = \frac{288\pi}{36\pi}$$

Solving for r_{larger} :

$$r_{\text{larger}} = 2 \times 3 = 6 \text{ cm}$$

So, the base radius of the larger cone is 6 cm.



Exam Papers Practice



A company sells cereals in boxes which measure 10 cm by 25 cm by 35 cm.

They make a special edition box which is mathematically similar to the original box.

The volume of the special edition box is $15\,120\text{ cm}^3$.

[3]

Work out the dimensions of this box.

The dimensions of the special edition box, which is mathematically similar to the original (10 cm by 25 cm by 35 cm) and has a volume of $15\,120\text{ cm}^3$, are approximately **18 cm by 45 cm by 63 cm**.


Exam Papers Practice