

This book has permission to use the "N&K method of COLORS".

Example: Coordinate Geometry, Coordinate Points

Question: You are given the coordinate points (-1,3), (3,0) and (6,4). Prove that they are the vertices of a right angle triangle? Solution 1 (Pythagorean Theorem)

For speed, while solving something similar, only THINK the words in blue; WRITE only the words in other COLORS.

Given: 1) the coordinate points (-1,3), (3,0) and (6,4).

Solve: Prove that they are the vertices of a right angle triangle?

Road Map of Solution:

If it is a right angle triangle, the Pythagorean theorem will work.

i.e. The square of the largest side is equal to the sum of the squares of the two smaller sides.

First Step: Find the length of the sides of the triangle. i.e. the distances between the points.

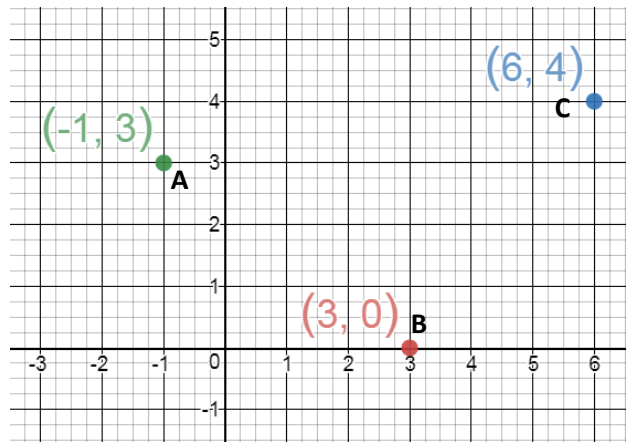
Second Step: Substitute the values in the Pythagorean Theorem.

First Step: Find the length of the sides of the triangle. i.e. the distances between the points.

$$\begin{aligned}
 AB &= \text{Distance between } (-1,3) \text{ \& } (3,0) \\
 &= \sqrt{(x_1 - x_2)^2 + (y_1 - y_2)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{(-1 - 3)^2 + (3 - 0)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{(-4)^2 + (3)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{16 + 9} \\
 AB &= \sqrt{25} \dots\dots\dots \text{equation \# 1}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 BC &= \text{Distance between } (3,0) \text{ \& } (6,4) \\
 &= \sqrt{(x_1 - x_2)^2 + (y_1 - y_2)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{(3 - 6)^2 + (0 - 4)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{(-3)^2 + (-4)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{9 + 16} \\
 BC &= \sqrt{25} \dots\dots\dots \text{equation \# 2}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 CA &= \text{Distance between } (-1,3) \text{ \& } (6,4) \\
 &= \sqrt{(x_1 - x_2)^2 + (y_1 - y_2)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{(-1 - 6)^2 + (3 - 4)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{(-7)^2 + (-1)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{49 + 1} \\
 CA &= \sqrt{50} \dots\dots\dots \text{equation \# 3} \quad \text{Distance obtained from Coordinate Geometry}
 \end{aligned}$$



Second Step: Substitute the values in the Pythagorean Theorem

Pythagorean Theorem

$$\begin{aligned}
 CA^2 &= AB^2 + BC^2 \\
 CA^2 &= (\sqrt{25})^2 + (\sqrt{25})^2 \\
 CA^2 &= 25 + 25 \\
 CA^2 &= 50
 \end{aligned}$$

$CA = \sqrt{50} \dots\dots\dots \text{equation \# 4} \quad \text{Distance obtained from Pythagorean Theorem}$

Since the length of CA from equation #s 3 & 4 are the same, we can conclude that the given points are the vertices of a right angle triangle.