

# Making Ideas Public— Part 1

- 1 TEACHER: Franci, you're going to be first. Let me get your picture up here. And  
2 we can kind of talk about it first.  
3
- 4 FRANCI: So basically, what we did was that we created the stadium first. And  
5 then we did it 10 by 20 inches. And then afterwards, we put one foot  
6 in the middle where it was 10 inches because since it was 20, it  
7 would be where the middle would be. We put Elliot. And then  
8 afterwards, you drew where the light would be, the light radius. And  
9 then afterwards, we found out that there was going to be a triangle  
10 within it. So we drew the line in the middle to show where the  
11 midpoint was. And then afterwards, we realized that it created two  
12 right angles. And then afterwards, when we realized that it was  
13 divided, we realized that there was two more right angles. So we  
14 realized that these two were similar because they both have right  
15 angles.  
16
- 17 MICHAEL MOORE: What does it mean for triangles to be similar? What do we need to  
18 know? Well, just in general, what's the definition of triangles being  
19 similar? Thank you. No.  
20
- 21 NOAH: Triangles that are alike, or in this case, triangles with the same  
22 angles and all three spots.  
23
- 24 MICHAEL MOORE: Nice—same angles in all three spots. So Franci definitely  
25 established we have a 90 degree that matches a 90 degree. But is  
26 that enough to know that these triangles are similar? My next  
27 presenter is going to show that we know all three angles are the  
28 same so that we can prove that these two triangles actually are  
29 similar triangles. All right, Lexi. Talk us through that next part  
30 proving that these are similar.  
31
- 32 LEXI: OK, so we did it in yards. But-- so that's 25 since it's cut in half by  
33 Elliot. And that's 12 yards. So it creates four triangles. These two  
34 triangles are the same. And then it makes these two triangles the  
35 same. But this triangle and this triangle are similar because they  
36 have the same angles. This triangle-- this angle and this angle is 90  
37 degrees. And then, like, the reflexive property, this angle is the same  
38 for this triangle and that triangle because it falls on the same line.  
39 And knowing that, like, all triangles add up to 180, what our group  
40 did was that we gave this angle a magical number. So we said that  
41 that's 90 and that's 30. So that adds up to 120. So that means that this  
42 and this have to be like the missing piece, which would be like 60 in  
43 our case. So that's why they're there because it's just like the final  
44 piece of the puzzle.  
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- 46 MICHAEL MOORE: Walk me through those three angles again-- congruent pair number  
47 one.  
48
- 49 LEXI: So the first pair is this purple angle. And that one--  
50
- 51 MICHAEL MOORE: And we know they're congruent because--  
52
- 53 LEXI: Because they're right angles.  
54
- 55 MICHAEL MOORE: They're both right angles-- nice congruent set number two.  
56
- 57 LEXI: This one because it's just like, there's only one angle. And it just  
58 falls on the same line. It's like reflexive.  
59
- 60 MICHAEL MOORE: Nice. It's that angle shared in common. And then the third one,  
61 again?  
62
- 63 LEXI: The third is the blue ones. Since you already have two angles, then  
64 you know that that's just like the third one because all triangles have  
65 three angles.  
66
- 67 MICHAEL MOORE: Nice. All triangles have three angles. What else do we know about  
68 those three angles?  
69
- 70 LEXI: They add up to 180.  
71
- 72 MICHAEL MOORE: They add up to 180. Does anybody have any questions for Lexi  
73 before she sits down about how those triangles are similar? Thank  
74 you, Lexi. Lexi did a wonderful job of proving here for us that we  
75 have similar triangles. And now I'm going to let Jerry take us home  
76 here in terms of that last part actually answering the question about  
77 how long Elliott's shadows are.  
78
- 79 JERRY: So we know the triangles are similar. And to figure out how long  $x$ ,  
80 which is the length of shadow, is, we need to know the scale factor  
81 of the small triangle, which has a length of  $x$ , and the big triangle,  
82 which has a length of 25 plus  $x$ . And we know that the height of the  
83 small triangle is two yards and the large triangle is 12 yards. And if  
84 we take 2 divided by 12, that's 6. So we know that the small triangle  
85 multiplied by a scale factor of 6 would give you the large triangle.  
86
- 87 MICHAEL MOORE: Cool.  
88
- 89 JERRY: And to figure out of the shadow, we could set the two bases to be  
90 equal to each other. So, well, we have  $6x$  times  $x$  plus 25, which I  
91 wrote down here. And then I subtracted  $x$  from both sides, which

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92 gave me  $5x$  equals 25, divided by 5, which gave me if  $x$  equals 5. So  
93 we know that each of the shadows are five yards long. So the total  
94 length of the shadows is 10 yards.  
95  
96 MICHAEL MOORE: The two shadows together are 10 yards, 5 on each side. Nice. What  
97 did Jerry introduce that maybe we didn't put into our problem?  
98 Franci?  
99  
100 FRANCI: Is it the scale factor?  
101  
102 MICHAEL MOORE: Nice. He identified a scale factor. What is a scale factor?  
103  
104 KWAME: Like, say you have a big triangle and a little triangle. It's like what  
105 you're dividing by to get the little triangle.