

For any triangle, if we know the length of two sides, and the angle between them, we can work out the missing side using the cosine rule.

The formula will be given and is $a^2 = b^2 + c^2 - 2bc \cos a$.

We can find the length of QR in this triangle, by putting the values we know into the cosine rule.

$QR^2 = QP^2 + PR^2 - 2 \times QP \times PR \times \cos \text{angle } QPR$.

$250^2 + 180^2 - 2 \times 250 \times 180 \times \cos 147$.

So, QR equals the square root of $250^2 + 180^2 - 2 \times 250 \times 180 \times \cos 147$ to get QR equals 412 point seven seven metres.

In this triangle, all the sides are given.

To find the missing angle use the cosine rule:

$\cos a = \frac{b^2 + c^2 - a^2}{2bc}$.

a^2 is always the side opposite the angle a to be found.

To find the angle YZX, substitute the values into the cosine rule:

$\cos YZX = \frac{8.5^2 + 7.2^2 - 6.3^2}{2 \times 8.5 \times 7.2}$.

So, YZX equals the inverse of the cosine function of $\frac{8.5^2 + 7.2^2 - 6.3^2}{2 \times 8.5 \times 7.2}$ and calculate to give 46 point four one, so the angle at Z is 46 point four one degrees.

Choose the cosine rule when three sides are given, or two sides and the included angle are given.

The rules are given on the formula sheet.