Points, Lines, and Planes

Undefined Terms

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The **undefined terms** of geometry are *point*, *line*, and *plane*.

They are considered undefined because we can not give a definition for them without using other geometric terms. We can, at best, describe them.

Points

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We name a point using a dot with a capital letter.

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• A

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We name lines using 2 points with a capital letter, such as \overrightarrow{AB} or \overrightarrow{BA} ,



or as a single lowercase letter such as m.



Planes

Description: Flat surface that extends without end.

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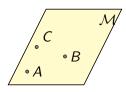
A plane contains infinitely many lines.

Planes

Description: Flat surface that extends without end.

A plane contains infinitely many lines.

We name a plane either by using a capital scripted letter such as \mathcal{M} , or by at least 3 points not on the same line such as ABC.



Defined Terms Based on Undefined Terms

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Collinear Points

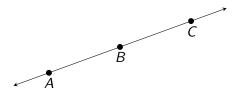
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Collinear Points

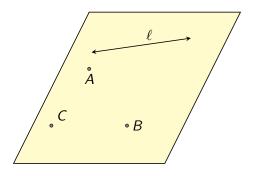
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Coplanar Points

Coplanar Points

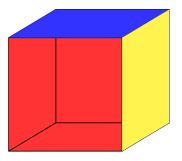
Coplanar points are points and lines that lie on the same plane.

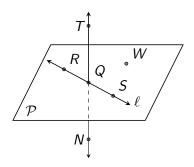


Space

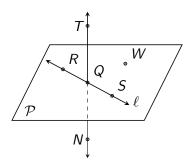
Space

Space is the set of all points in 3 dimensions.



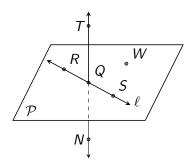


(a) What are two other ways to name \overleftrightarrow{QT} ?

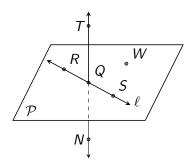


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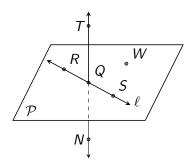
 \overleftrightarrow{QN} and \overleftrightarrow{TN}



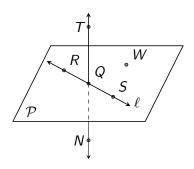
(b) What are two other ways to name \mathcal{P} ?



(b) What are two other ways to name \mathcal{P} ? plane RQW, plane RSW, and plane QSW

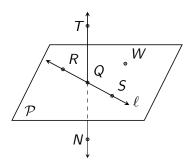


(c) What are the names of 3 collinear points?

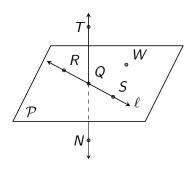


(c) What are the names of 3 collinear points?

R, Q, and S as well as T, Q, and N



(d) What are the names of 4 coplanar points?



(d) What are the names of 4 coplanar points?

R, Q, S, and W

Segments

Segment

A **segment** is a part of a line that contains 2 endpoints and all points in between them.

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We name segments by the 2 endpoints such as \overline{AB} or \overline{BA} .



Rays

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We name a ray by its endpoint and any point on the ray, such as \overrightarrow{AB} .



Rays

Ray

A ${f ray}$ is part of a line that consists of 1 endpoint and all the points on the line on one side of the endpoint.

We name a ray by its endpoint and any point on the ray, such as \overrightarrow{AB} .



Note: \overrightarrow{AB} is not the same as \overrightarrow{BA}

Opposite Rays

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Opposite rays are two rays that share an endpoint and form a line.

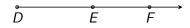
Opposite Rays

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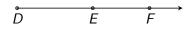
Opposite rays are two rays that share an endpoint and form a line.

We name opposite rays by their shared endpoint and any point on each ray such as \overrightarrow{CA} or \overrightarrow{CB} .



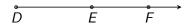


(a) What are the names of the segments in the figure?



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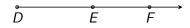
 $\overline{DE}, \overline{ED}, \overline{DF}, \overline{FD}, \overline{EF}, \overline{FE}$



(a) What are the names of the segments in the figure?

$$\overline{DE}$$
, \overline{ED} , \overline{DF} , \overline{FD} , \overline{EF} , \overline{FE}

(b) What are the names of the rays in the figure?

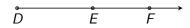


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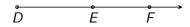


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(a) What are the names of the segments in the figure?

(b) What are the names of the rays in the figure?

$$\overrightarrow{DE}$$
, \overrightarrow{DF} , \overrightarrow{EF}

(c) What are the names of the opposite rays?

There aren't any

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Some Geometry Postulates:

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- If 2 different lines intersect, they intersect at a point.
- If 2 different planes intersect, they intersect at a line.

Postulates

A **postulate** (a.k.a. an **axiom**) is an accepted statement of fact.

- Through any two points there is a line.
- If 2 different lines intersect, they intersect at a point.
- If 2 different planes intersect, they intersect at a line.
- You can draw a plane through any 3 noncollinear points.