

Chapter 9: Some Applications of Trigonometry

What is this chapter about?

- You'll learn how **trigonometry** helps us in **real life**, like:
 - Finding **height** of buildings/towers
 - Calculating **distance** across rivers or roads
 - Using **angle of elevation** and **angle of depression**

Key Terms

1. **Line of Sight:** Line from the **observer's eye** to the **object being seen**
2. **Angle of Elevation:**
 - + When the object is **above horizontal level** (you look **up**)
 - Formed **between horizontal line and line of sight**
3. **Angle of Depression:**
 - When the object is **below horizontal level** (you look **down**)
 - Formed **between horizontal line and line of sight**

How to Apply Trigonometry?

Use right-angled triangle concepts to solve problems using these formulas:

$$\tan \theta = \text{Opposite} / \text{Adjacent}$$

$$\sin \theta = \text{Opposite} / \text{Hypotenuse}$$

$$\cos \theta = \text{Adjacent} / \text{Hypotenuse}$$

 Choose the correct ratio based on **known** and **unknown** sides.

Common Diagrams You May See

- Triangle formed by **tower/building, ground, and line of sight**
- Observer is either:
 - Standing on the ground
 - On a building
 - On a bridge looking down (depression)

Example Formulas Used

- **Height of tower:**
 - $\tan \theta = \text{height} / \text{distance from foot}$
 - $\Rightarrow \text{height} = \text{distance} \times \tan \theta$
- **Length of ladder or rope (hypotenuse):**
 - $\sin \theta = \text{height} / \text{length}$
 - $\Rightarrow \text{length} = \text{height} / \sin \theta$

- **Distance between objects:**
- $\tan \theta = \text{height} / \text{distance}$
- $\Rightarrow \text{distance} = \text{height} / \tan \theta$

🔥 Most Important Concepts from Examples

- ♦ Find height using **angle of elevation** and distance
- ♦ Find length of ladder/rope using **angle & height**
- ♦ Use **angle of depression** when object is **below** observer
- ♦ Combine two triangles when two angles or two heights are involved
- ♦ Convert answers to decimal using:
- $\sqrt{3} \approx 1.732$
- $\sqrt{2} \approx 1.414$

✅ Formulas to Remember

$\tan \theta = \text{Opposite} / \text{Adjacent}$

$\sin \theta = \text{Opposite} / \text{Hypotenuse}$

$\cos \theta = \text{Adjacent} / \text{Hypotenuse}$

📊 Previous Year Question Pattern

Type of Question	Frequency
Find height using angle and distance	★★★★★
Use two angles (e.g., 30° & 45°) to find unknown	★★★★★
Angle of depression problems (lighthouse, bridge)	★★★★★
Two slides/ropes with different angles	★★★

📄 Summary

- Line of sight = line from eye to object
- Angle of elevation = look **up**
- Angle of depression = look **down**
- Use **trigonometric ratios** in right triangles to find heights, lengths, and distances

