Topic: Loci and Constructions

Topic/Skill	Definition/Tips	Example
1. Parallel	Parallel lines never meet.	
		
2.	Perpendicular lines are at right angles.	
Perpendicular	There is a 90° angle between them.	
		vertex
3. Vertex	A corner or a point where two lines meet.	vertex
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4 Anglo	Angle Bisector: Cuts the angle in half.	В
4. Angle Bisector	Angle disector. Cuts the angle in han.	
Discetor	1. Place the sharp end of a pair of	X
	compasses on the vertex.	
	2. Draw an arc, marking a point on each	
	line.	
	3. Without changing the compass put the	Angle Bisector
	compass on each point and mark a centre	
	point where two arcs cross over.	
	4. Use a ruler to draw a line through the	
	vertex and centre point.	
5.	Perpendicular Bisector: Cuts a line in	\ /
Perpendicular	half and at right angles.	
Bisector		
	1. Put the sharp point of a pair of	Line Bisector
	compasses on A.	
	2. Open the compass over half way on the	A B
	line.	v v
	3. Draw an arc above and below the line.4. Without changing the compass, repeat	
	from point B.	
	5. Draw a straight line through the two	~ 1 \
	intersecting arcs.	
6.	The perpendicular distance from a point	
Perpendicular	to a line is the shortest distance to that	P
from an	line.	<u> </u>
External Point		
	1. Put the sharp point of a pair of	
	compasses on the point. 2. Draw an arc that crosses the line twice.	
	3. Place the sharp point of the compass on	*
	one of these points, open over half way and	
	draw an arc above and below the line.	
	4. Repeat from the other point on the line.	
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	5. Draw a straight line through the two	
	intersecting arcs.	
7.	Given line PQ and point R on the line:	
Perpendicular		
from a Point	1. Put the sharp point of a pair of	
on a Line	compasses on point R.	
	2. Draw two arcs either side of the point of	
	equal width (giving points S and T)	P S R T Q
	3. Place the compass on point S, open over	
	halfway and draw an arc above the line.	
	4. Repeat from the other arc on the line	
	(point T).	
	5. Draw a straight line from the intersecting	
	arcs to the original point on the line.	
8. Constructing	1. Draw the base of the triangle using a	/ /
Triangles	ruler.	
(Side, Side,	2. Open a pair of compasses to the width of	
Side)	one side of the triangle.	
,	3. Place the point on one end of the line and	
	draw an arc.	
	4. Repeat for the other side of the triangle	
	at the other end of the line.	
	5. Using a ruler, draw lines connecting the	
	ends of the base of the triangle to the point	
	where the arcs intersect.	
9. Constructing	1. Draw the base of the triangle using a	Α
Triangles	ruler.	\sim
(Side, Angle,	2. Measure the angle required using a	
Side)	protractor and mark this angle.	4cm/
Side)	3. Remove the protractor and draw a line of	
	the exact length required in line with the	B 50°
	angle mark drawn.	7cm
	4. Connect the end of this line to the other	
	end of the base of the triangle.	
10.	1. Draw the base of the triangle using a	
Constructing	ruler.	×
Triangles	2. Measure one of the angles required using	
<u> </u>		
(Angle, Side,	a protractor and mark this angle.	
Angle)	3. Draw a straight line through this point	y /42° 51° 7
	from the same point on the base of the	8.3cm
	triangle.	5.55.,,
	4. Repeat this for the other angle on the	
	other end of the base of the triangle.	

11. Constructing an Equilateral Triangle (also makes a 60° angle)	 Draw the base of the triangle using a ruler. Open the pair of compasses to the exact length of the side of the triangle. Place the sharp point on one end of the line and draw an arc. Repeat this from the other end of the line. Using a ruler, draw lines connecting the ends of the base of the triangle to the point 	A MathBits.com
12. Loci and	where the arcs intersect. A locus is a path of points that follow a	
Regions	rule.	
		A B
	For the locus of points closer to B than A,	
	create a perpendicular bisector between A and B and shade the side closer to B.	
	and D and snade the side closer to D.	Points Closer to B than A.
	For the locus of points equidistant from A , use a compass to draw a circle , centre A.	A 2cm A
		Points less than Points more than 2cm from A 2cm from A
	For the locus of points equidistant to line X and line Y, create an angle bisector.	X Y
		<u></u>
	For the locus of points a set distance from a line , create two semi-circles at either end joined by two parallel lines .	Ď Ě
13. Equidistant	A point is equidistant from a set of objects if the distances between that point and each of the objects is the same.	