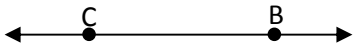
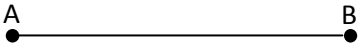
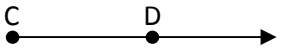
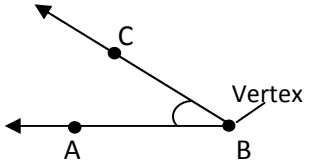
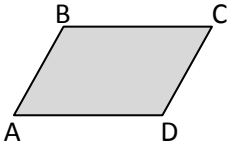
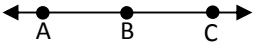
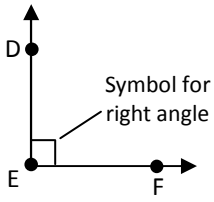
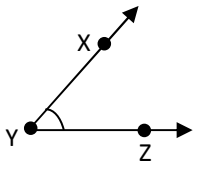
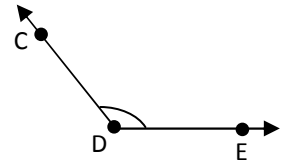
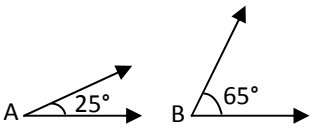
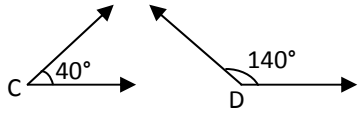
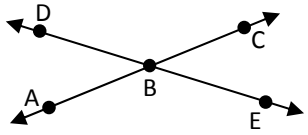
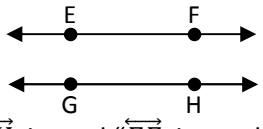
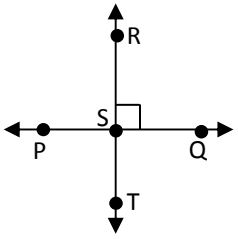
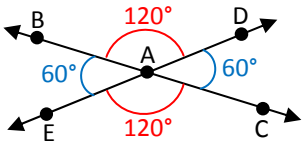
Basic Geometric Terms

Definition	Example
Point – an exact location in space. A point has no dimension.	 (read "point A")
Line – a collection of points along a straight path that extends endlessly in both directions.	 $\overleftrightarrow{CB}$ (read "line CB")
Line Segment – a part of a line having two endpoints.	 $\overline{AB}$ (read "line segment AB") The length of $\overline{AB}$ is denoted AB.
Ray – a part of a line having only one endpoint.	 $\overrightarrow{CD}$ (read "ray CD") The endpoint is **always** the first letter.
Angle – consists of two rays that have a common endpoint called the **vertex** of the angle.	 $\angle ABC$ (read "angle ABC") The vertex is always the middle letter. $\angle ABC$ can also be written as $\angle CBA$ or just $\angle B$.
Plane – a flat surface that extends endlessly in all directions.	 Plane $ABCD$
Straight Angle – an angle whose measure is 180°.	 $\angle ABC$ is a straight angle.
Right Angle – an angle whose measure is 90°.	 $\angle DEF$ is a right angle.

Acute Angle – an angle whose measure is less than 90°.	 $\angle XYZ$ is an acute angle.
Obtuse Angle – an angle whose measure is more than 90° and less than 180°.	 $\angle CDE$ is an obtuse angle.
Two angles are complementary if the sum of their measures is 90°.	 $m\angle A + m\angle B = 25° + 65° = 90°$ $\angle A$ and $\angle B$ are complementary angles.
Two angles are supplementary if the sum of their measures is 180°.	 $m\angle C + m\angle D = 40° + 140° = 180°$ $\angle C$ and $\angle D$ are supplementary angles.
Intersecting Lines – two lines that cross.	 $\overleftrightarrow{AC}$ intersects $\overleftrightarrow{DE}$ at point B.
Parallel Lines – two lines in the same plane that do not intersect.	 $\overleftrightarrow{EF} \parallel \overleftrightarrow{GH}$ is read "$\overleftrightarrow{EF}$ is parallel to $\overleftrightarrow{GH}$."
Perpendicular Lines – two lines that intersect to form right angles.	 $\overleftrightarrow{RT} \perp \overleftrightarrow{PQ}$ is read "$\overleftrightarrow{RT}$ is perpendicular to $\overleftrightarrow{PQ}$." $\angle RSP, \angle RSQ, \angle PST,$ and $\angle QST$ are all right angles.
Vertical Angles – two angles with equal measure formed by two intersecting lines.	 $\angle BAE$ and $\angle DAC$ are vertical angles. $\angle BAD$ and $\angle EAC$ are vertical angles.