

History of Trigonometry

Trigonometry · Practice Test · 8 Questions

1. Which ancient Greek mathematician is widely considered the 'father of trigonometry' for creating the first known table of chords?

- A) Euclid
- B) Hipparchus
- C) Archimedes
- D) Pythagoras

2. The word 'sine' originates from a mistranslation of the Sanskrit word 'jya', which was first used in the mathematical works of which Indian astronomer?

- A) Aryabhata
- B) Brahmagupta
- C) Bhaskara II
- D) Varahamihira

3. Who was the first mathematician to treat trigonometry as a distinct branch of mathematics, separate from astronomy, in his 1595 work 'Trigonometria'?

- A) Leonhard Euler
- B) Isaac Newton
- C) Bartholomaeus Pitiscus
- D) Johannes Kepler

4. The first known use of the secant and cosecant functions in a trigonometric table can be attributed to which civilization?

- A) Ancient Egyptians
- B) Islamic Golden Age mathematicians
- C) Ancient Mayans
- D) Han Dynasty Chinese

5. Which 16th-century mathematician introduced the use of the decimal system for trigonometric tables, greatly increasing their precision?

- A) Georg Joachim Rheticus
- B) Regiomontanus
- C) François Viète
- D) John Napier

6. Who is credited with being the first to define the six trigonometric functions as ratios of sides of a right-angled triangle rather than as lines in a circle?

- A) Thomas Fincke
- B) Georg Joachim Rheticus
- C) Leonhard Euler
- D) Claudius Ptolemy

7. In his work 'De Triangulis omnimodis', which mathematician provided the first systematic treatment of plane and spherical trigonometry in Europe?

- A) Regiomontanus
- B) Gerolamo Cardano
- C) Nicolaus Copernicus
- D) Simon Stevin

8. Which mathematician was the first to use the modern abbreviations 'sin', 'cos', and 'tan' in his published writings?

- A) Carl Friedrich Gauss
- B) Leonhard Euler
- C) Thomas Hobbes
- D) Blaise Pascal