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Trig. Equations Worksheet 1

Solve for θ in the interval: $0 \leq \theta < 360^\circ$

$$1. \cos \theta + 1 = 0$$

$$\theta = 180^\circ$$

$$2. \sin^2 \theta = 0$$

$$\theta = 0^\circ$$

$$3. 2\cos \theta - \sqrt{3} = 0$$

$$\theta = 30^\circ$$

$$4. \cos \theta (\tan^2 \theta - 3) = 0$$

$$\theta = 90^\circ, \theta = 60^\circ, \theta = -60^\circ$$

$$5. 2\cos^2 \theta = 3\cos \theta - 1$$

$$\theta = 0^\circ, \theta = 60^\circ$$

$$6. 2\cos^2 \theta - \cos \theta = 1$$

$$\theta = 0^\circ, \theta = 120^\circ$$

Solve for ALL values of θ using degrees

$$7. 3\tan^2 \theta - 1 = 0$$

$$\theta = 30^\circ + 180^\circ K, \theta = -30^\circ + 180^\circ K$$

$$8. 4\cos^2 \theta - 1 = 2$$

$$\theta = 30^\circ + 360^\circ K, \theta = -30^\circ + 360^\circ K$$

$$9. 6\sin^2 \theta + 5 = 8$$

$$\theta = 45^\circ + 360^\circ K, \theta = -45^\circ + 360^\circ K$$

Solve for θ in $[0, 2\pi)$

$$10. 2\cos \theta + 4 = 5$$

$$\theta = \frac{\pi}{3}$$

$$11. 5\sin \theta - \sqrt{3} = 3\sin \theta$$

$$\theta = \frac{\pi}{3}$$

$$12. 4\sin^2 \theta - 2 = 0$$

$$\theta = \frac{\pi}{4}, \theta = -\frac{\pi}{4}$$

$$13. 6\sin^2 \theta = 5\sin \theta + 4$$

$$\theta = \frac{\pi}{6}$$

Solve for ALL values of θ using radians

$$14. \sin^2 \theta - 4\sin \theta - 5 = 0$$

$$\theta = \frac{3\pi}{2} + 2\pi K$$

$$15. 16\cos^2 \theta - 8 = 0$$

$$\theta = \frac{\pi}{3} + 2\pi K, \theta = -\frac{\pi}{3} + 2\pi K$$

SIN Q1+Q4

COS Q1 + Q2

TAN Q1 + Q4

Precalculus Notes – Solving Trig Equations

Let's now use the strategies learned in Algebra 2 for solving linear, quadratic and cubic equations to for solving trigonometric equations.

EX 1: Solve $2\cos\theta = -1$.

$$\cos\theta = -\frac{1}{2}$$

$$\theta = \text{an unknown angle}$$

$$\cos^{-1}\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) = 120^\circ$$

You try: Solve $2\sin x + \sqrt{3} = 0$

$$2\sin x = -\sqrt{3}$$

$$\sin x = -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

$$x = -60^\circ$$

EX 2: Solve $2\sin^2 x = 1$.

$$\sqrt{\sin^2 x} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\sin x = \pm \frac{\sqrt{1}, \sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{2}}$$

$$\sin x = \pm \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

2 ANSWERS
take square root both
both

$$\begin{cases} x = 45^\circ \\ x = -45^\circ \end{cases}$$

You try: $4\cos^2 x = 1$

$$\sqrt{\cos^2 x} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{4}} = \frac{\sqrt{1}}{\sqrt{4}}$$

$$\cos x = \pm \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\therefore x = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$\begin{cases} x = 60^\circ \\ x = -60^\circ \end{cases}$$

EX 3: Solve $2\cos^2\theta - \sqrt{3}\cos\theta = 0$

Alternate strategy

$$2x^2 - \sqrt{3}x = 0 \quad \text{GCF!}$$

$$x(2x - \sqrt{3}) = 0 \quad \text{ZPP}$$

$$\begin{cases} x = 0 \\ 2x - \sqrt{3} = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \cos\theta = 0 \\ \cos^{-1}(0) = 90^\circ \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} x = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ x = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \cos\theta = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) = 30^\circ \end{cases}$$

You try: $3\tan^2\theta - \sqrt{3}\tan\theta = 0 \quad \text{GCF!}$

$$\tan\theta(3\tan\theta - \sqrt{3}) = 0$$

$$\tan\theta = 0 \quad 3\tan\theta - \sqrt{3} = 0$$

$$\tan^{-1}(0) = 0^\circ \quad 3\tan\theta = \sqrt{3}$$

$$\tan\theta = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} \quad \theta = 30^\circ$$

EX 4: Solve $2\sin^2 x + 7\sin x = 4$

$$2\sin^2 x + 7\sin x - 4 = 0$$

$$(2\sin x + 8)(\sin x - 1) = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} \sin x = -4 \\ \sin x = \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$

$$\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 30^\circ$$

$$\sin^{-1}(-4)$$

$$\sin x = \frac{1}{2}$$

Put in standard form.

You try: $5\cos^2 x - 8\cos x = -3$

$$5\cos^2 x - 8\cos x + 3 = 0$$

$$\begin{matrix} 15 & \\ -5 & -3 \\ \hline 5 & -8 \end{matrix}$$

$$\cos^{-1}(1) = 0^\circ \quad \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{3}{5}\right) = 53.1^\circ$$

$$\cos x = 1 \quad \cos x = \frac{3}{5}$$

EX 5: Solve $\sin\theta\cos\theta(\tan\theta - 1) = 0$

$$\begin{cases} \sin\theta = 0 \\ \cos\theta = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \sin^{-1}(0) = 0^\circ \\ \cos^{-1}(0) = 90^\circ \end{cases}$$

$$\tan\theta - 1 = 0$$

$$\tan\theta = 1$$

$$\tan^{-1}(1) = 45^\circ$$

You try: $(2\cos\theta - 1)(2\sin\theta + \sqrt{3}) = 0$

$$2\cos\theta - 1 = 0 \quad 2\sin\theta + \sqrt{3} = 0$$

$$2\cos\theta = 1 \quad 2\sin\theta = -\sqrt{3}$$

$$\cos\theta = \frac{1}{2} \quad \sin\theta = -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

$$\cos^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 60^\circ \quad \sin^{-1}\left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) = -60^\circ$$

This equation is already factored! Apply the Zero Product Property.

$$1. \cos \theta + 1 = 0$$

$$\cos \theta = -1$$

$$\cos^{-1}(-1) = \boxed{180^\circ}$$

$$2. \sin^2 \theta = 0$$

$$\sin \theta = 0$$

$$\sin^{-1}(0) = \boxed{0^\circ}$$

$$3. 2 \cos \theta - \sqrt{3} = 0$$

$$2 \cos \theta = \sqrt{3}$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \boxed{30^\circ}$$

$$4. \cos \theta (\tan^2 \theta - 3) = 0$$

$$\cos \theta = 0 \quad \tan^2 \theta = 3$$

$$\cos^{-1}(0) = \boxed{90^\circ} \quad \tan \theta = \pm \sqrt{3}$$

$$\begin{cases} \theta = 60^\circ \\ -60^\circ \end{cases}$$

$$5. 2 \cos^2 \theta = 3 \cos \theta - 1$$

$$2 \cos^2 \theta - 3 \cos \theta + 1 = 0$$

$$\begin{array}{c} 2 \\ \cancel{-2} \\ -2 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} -1 \\ \cancel{-1} \\ 2 \end{array}$$

$$\cos \theta = 1 \quad \cos \theta = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\cos^{-1}(1) = \boxed{0^\circ} \quad \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \boxed{60^\circ}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -2 \\ \cancel{-2} \\ -2 \end{array} \begin{array}{r} +1 \\ \cancel{-1} \\ 2 \end{array}$$

$$\cos \theta = 1 \quad \cos \theta = \frac{-1}{2}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}(1) \quad \theta =$$

$$\begin{cases} \theta = 0^\circ \\ \theta = 120^\circ \end{cases} \quad \begin{array}{c} \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \\ \cos^{-1}\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) \end{array}$$

$$7. 3 \tan^2 \theta - 1 = 0$$

$$3 \tan^2 \theta = 1$$

$$\tan^2 \theta = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\tan \theta = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$\theta = \pm \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\right)$$

$$\boxed{\theta = 30^\circ, -30^\circ}$$

$$8. 4 \cos^2 \theta - 1 = 2$$

$$4 \cos^2 \theta = 3$$

$$\cos^2 \theta = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$\cos \theta = \pm \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}}$$

$$\theta = \pm \cos^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}}$$

$$\boxed{\theta = 30^\circ, -30^\circ}$$

$$9. \quad 6\sin^2\theta + 5 = 8$$

$$10. \quad 2\cos\theta + 4 = 5$$

$$6 \sin^2 \theta = 3$$

$$2 \cos \theta = 1$$

$$\sin^2 \theta = \frac{3}{6}$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\sin^2 \theta = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$Q = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$\sin \theta = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\theta = \pm \sin^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\theta = 45^\circ, -45^\circ$$

$$Q = \frac{\pi}{3}$$

$$11. \quad 5 \sin \theta - \sqrt{3} = 3 \sin \theta$$

$$12. \quad 4 \sin^2 \theta - 2 = 0$$

$$2 \sin \theta - \sqrt{3} = 0$$

$$4 \sin^2 \theta = 2$$

$$2 \sin \alpha = \sqrt{3}$$

$$\sin^2 \theta = \frac{2}{4}$$

$$\theta = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)$$

$$\theta = \frac{\pi}{3}$$

$$\sin \theta = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\theta = \pm \sin^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\theta = \pm \sin^{-1} \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

$$\theta = \frac{\pi}{4} \text{ and } \theta = -\frac{\pi}{4}$$

$$13. \quad 6 \sin^2 \alpha = 5 \sin \alpha + 4$$

$$6 \sin^2 \theta - 5 \sin \theta - 4 = 0$$

$$\sin \theta = -\frac{4}{3} \quad \sin \theta = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\theta = \sin^{-1}\left(-\frac{4}{3}\right)$$

unp

$$\boxed{\theta = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}$$

$$14. \sin^2\theta - 4\sin\theta - 5 = 0$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \cancel{-5} \\ -5 \cancel{+1} \\ -4 \end{array} \quad (\sin\theta - 5)(\sin\theta + 1) = 0$$
$$\sin\theta - 5 = 0 \quad \sin\theta + 1 = 0$$
$$\sin\theta = 5 \quad \sin\theta = -1$$
$$\theta = \sin^{-1}(5)$$
$$\text{UND}$$
$$\boxed{\theta = \frac{3\pi}{2}}$$

$$15. 16\cos^2\theta - 8 = 0$$

$$16\cos^2\theta = 8$$

$$\cos^2\theta = \frac{8}{16}$$

$$\cos^2\theta = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\cos\theta = \pm\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\boxed{\theta = \frac{\pi}{3} \text{ and } \theta = -\frac{\pi}{3}}$$

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Let's now use the strategies learned in Algebra 2 for solving linear, quadratic and cubic equations to for solving trigonometric equations.

EX 1: Solve $2\cos\theta = -1$.	You try: Solve $2\sin x + \sqrt{3} = 0$
EX 2: Solve $2\sin^2 x = 1$.	You try: $4\cos^2 x = 1$
EX 3: Solve $2\cos^2\theta - \sqrt{3}\cos\theta = 0$	You try: $3\tan^2\theta - \sqrt{3}\tan\theta = 0$
EX 4: Solve $2\sin^2 x + 7\sin x = 4$	You try: $5\cos^2 x - 8\cos x = -3$
EX 5: Solve $\sin\theta\cos\theta(\tan\theta - 1) = 0$	You try: $(2\cos\theta - 1)(2\sin\theta + \sqrt{3}) = 0$

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