

Vector Terms

Answer the following questions.

1. A vector is a graphical representation of a _____
2. Vectors have 2 quantities they are _____ and _____
3. In our text book vector concepts are _____ so they can be identified as vectors.
4. A drawing of a vector has 2 parts 1 is the arrow at the end which is called the _____. This part represents the _____ quantity. The second part is the line which is called the _____ which represents the _____ quantity.
5. 2 vectors that have the same _____ but are 180° apart are called _____ vectors.
6. The sum of a set of vectors is called the _____.
7. The opposite of the answer to number six is the _____.

Vector Notes

Vector quantity - any quantity that has both magnitude (a size, an amount) and direction (that amount is directed somewhere). The direction can be a bearing direction, such as north, south, etc., or an angular measurement, such an angle with respect to a fixed coordinate system. Examples are displacement, velocity, acceleration, force, weight, momentum).

Scalar quantity - any quantity that has magnitude only. Examples are mass, length, time, electric charge, density, volume, temperature.

6 Parts of a Vector Quantity:

Conceptual

1. magnitude
2. direction

Graphical

1. origin - point
2. terminal - arrowhead

Mathematical

1. polar
2. rectangular

Methods of Vector Algebra:

Method 1. Graphical Method.

1. Draw a Cartesian coordinate plane. Label x and y axes.
2. Choose a convenient scale factor, such as 1 cm = 1 km. Do example with actual values.
3. Draw the vectors with a ruler and protractor.
4. Measure lengths of vectors using your scale factor. Ex. 1 cm = 1 km (left # = map/scale length, right # = REAL/scaled length)

Discuss unit circle and angle measurements.

Incorporate bearing directions (primary, secondary, tertiary) into unit circle discussion.

Vectors forms:

1. **Polar Form** - the vector can be written in terms of its magnitude and direction (bearing angle), such as a generic vector
 $= [R, \theta] = R @ \theta$ Example. $\mathbf{R} = [4, 40^\circ]$ or $R = 4 @ 40^\circ$.