

HOTS Questions on Class 10 Maths Chapter 8 'Introduction to Trigonometry'

Question 1: If $\operatorname{cosec} \theta = 3x$ and $\cot \theta = 3/x$, find the value of $(x^2 - 1/x^2)$.

Solution:

Using the identity $\operatorname{cosec}^2 \theta - \cot^2 \theta = 1$:

$$(3x)^2 - (3/x)^2 = 1 \quad 9x^2 - 9/x^2 = 1$$

Factor out 9:

$$9(x^2 - 1/x^2) = 1 \quad x^2 - 1/x^2 = 1/9$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 - 1/x^2 = 1/9$$

Question 2: Prove: $(\sin \theta - \cos \theta + 1) / (\sin \theta + \cos \theta - 1) = 1 / (\sec \theta - \tan \theta)$

Solution:

Take LHS: $(\sin \theta - \cos \theta + 1) / (\sin \theta + \cos \theta - 1)$

Divide numerator and denominator by $\cos \theta$:

$$= (\tan \theta - 1 + \sec \theta) / (\tan \theta + 1 - \sec \theta)$$

Rearrange numerator: $(\sec \theta + \tan \theta - 1)$.

Replace the 1 using the identity:

$$1 = \sec^2 \theta - \tan^2 \theta = (\sec \theta - \tan \theta)(\sec \theta + \tan \theta)$$

$$\text{So: } \sec \theta + \tan \theta - 1 = \sec \theta + \tan \theta - (\sec \theta - \tan \theta)(\sec \theta + \tan \theta)$$

$$= (\sec \theta + \tan \theta)[1 - (\sec \theta - \tan \theta)]$$

$$\text{Denominator: } \tan \theta + 1 - \sec \theta = 1 - (\sec \theta - \tan \theta).$$

Let $S = \sec \theta - \tan \theta$:

$$\text{LHS} = (\sec \theta + \tan \theta)(1 - S) / (1 - S) = \sec \theta + \tan \theta$$

But we need $1/(\sec \theta - \tan \theta)$.

Rationalise:

$$\sec \theta + \tan \theta = (\sec \theta + \tan \theta)(\sec \theta - \tan \theta) / (\sec \theta - \tan \theta)$$

$$= (\sec^2 \theta - \tan^2 \theta) / (\sec \theta - \tan \theta) = 1 / (\sec \theta - \tan \theta) = \text{RHS}$$

LHS = RHS.

Proved.

Question 3: Prove: $(\operatorname{cosec} \theta - \sin \theta)(\sec \theta - \cos \theta) = 1 / (\tan \theta + \cot \theta)$

Solution:

Simplify each bracket on LHS:

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{cosec}\theta - \sin\theta &= 1/\sin\theta - \sin\theta \\ &= (1 - \sin^2\theta)/\sin\theta \\ &= \cos^2\theta/\sin\theta \sec\theta - \cos\theta \\ &= 1/\cos\theta - \cos\theta = (1 - \cos^2\theta)/\cos\theta = \sin^2\theta/\cos\theta \end{aligned}$$

Multiply the two results:

$$\text{LHS} = (\cos^2\theta/\sin\theta) \times (\sin^2\theta/\cos\theta) = \sin\theta \cdot \cos\theta$$

Now simplify RHS: $1/(\tan\theta + \cot\theta)$:

$$\begin{aligned} \tan\theta + \cot\theta &= \sin\theta/\cos\theta + \cos\theta/\sin\theta \\ &= (\sin^2\theta + \cos^2\theta)/(\sin\theta \cos\theta) = 1/(\sin\theta \cos\theta) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So RHS} = 1 \div [1/(\sin\theta \cos\theta)] = \sin\theta \cos\theta$$

$$\text{LHS} = \sin\theta \cos\theta = \text{RHS}$$

Proved.

Question 4: Prove: $(\tan\theta + \sec\theta - 1) / (\tan\theta - \sec\theta + 1) = (1 + \sin\theta) / \cos\theta$

Solution:

$$\text{Take LHS} = (\tan\theta + \sec\theta - 1) / (\tan\theta - \sec\theta + 1).$$

Replace 1 in numerator using $\sec^2\theta - \tan^2\theta$:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Numerator} &= \tan\theta + \sec\theta - (\sec^2\theta - \tan^2\theta) \\ &= \tan\theta + \sec\theta - (\sec\theta - \tan\theta)(\sec\theta + \tan\theta) \\ &= (\sec\theta + \tan\theta)[1 - (\sec\theta - \tan\theta)] \\ &= (\sec\theta + \tan\theta)(1 - \sec\theta + \tan\theta) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Denominator} = \tan\theta - \sec\theta + 1 = 1 - \sec\theta + \tan\theta$$

Cancel $(1 - \sec\theta + \tan\theta)$:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LHS} &= (\sec\theta + \tan\theta)(1 - \sec\theta + \tan\theta) / (1 - \sec\theta + \tan\theta) \\ &= \sec\theta + \tan\theta = 1/\cos\theta + \sin\theta/\cos\theta \\ &= (1 + \sin\theta)/\cos\theta = \text{RHS} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{LHS} = (1 + \sin\theta)/\cos\theta = \text{RHS.}$$

Proved.

Question 5: Evaluate $\sin 18^\circ / \cos 72^\circ + \sqrt{3} (\tan 10^\circ \cdot \tan 30^\circ \cdot \tan 60^\circ \cdot \tan 80^\circ)$

Solution:

For the first part: $18^\circ + 72^\circ = 90^\circ$, so $\sin 18^\circ = \cos 72^\circ$.

$$\sin 18^\circ / \cos 72^\circ = \cos 72^\circ / \cos 72^\circ = 1$$

For the second part: $10^\circ + 80^\circ = 90^\circ$, so $\tan 80^\circ = \cot 10^\circ$.

$$\tan 10^\circ \times \tan 80^\circ = \tan 10^\circ \times \cot 10^\circ = \tan 10^\circ \times (1/\tan 10^\circ) = 1$$

Also, $\tan 30^\circ = 1/\sqrt{3}$, $\tan 60^\circ = \sqrt{3}$:

$$\tan 30^\circ \times \tan 60^\circ = (1/\sqrt{3})(\sqrt{3}) = 1$$

The product $\tan 10^\circ \times \tan 30^\circ \times \tan 60^\circ \times \tan 80^\circ = (\tan 10^\circ \times \tan 80^\circ) \times (\tan 30^\circ \times \tan 60^\circ) = 1 \times 1 = 1$

$$\text{Full expression} = 1 + \sqrt{3} \times 1 = 1 + \sqrt{3}$$

Question 6: If $\sin 3A = \cos(A - 26^\circ)$, where $3A$ is an acute angle, find the value of A .

Solution:

Since $\sin X = \cos Y$ implies $X + Y = 90^\circ$ (for acute angles):

$$3A + (A - 26^\circ) = 90^\circ$$

$$4A - 26^\circ = 90^\circ$$

$$4A = 116^\circ$$

$$A = 29^\circ$$

Question 7: If $x \sin^3\theta + y \cos^3\theta = \sin \theta \cos \theta$, and $x \sin \theta = y \cos \theta$, prove that: $x^2 + y^2 = 1$

Solution:

From $x \sin \theta = y \cos \theta$:

$$x/y = \cos \theta / \sin \theta = \cot \theta$$

$$\text{So: } x = y \cos \theta / \sin \theta$$

Substitute into $x \sin^3\theta + y \cos^3\theta = \sin \theta \cos \theta$:

$$(y \cos \theta / \sin \theta)(\sin^3\theta) + y \cos^3\theta = \sin \theta \cos \theta$$

$$y \cos \theta \sin^2\theta + y \cos^3\theta = \sin \theta \cos \theta$$

$$y \cos \theta (\sin^2\theta + \cos^2\theta) = \sin \theta \cos \theta$$

$$y \cos \theta (1) = \sin \theta \cos \theta \quad y = \sin \theta$$

$$\text{Then } x = y \cos \theta / \sin \theta = \sin \theta \cdot \cos \theta / \sin \theta = \cos \theta.$$

Therefore:

$$x^2 + y^2 = \cos^2\theta + \sin^2\theta = 1$$

$$x^2 + y^2 = 1.$$

Proved.

Question 8: If $\tan \theta + \sin \theta = m$ and $\tan \theta - \sin \theta = n$, show that: $m^2 - n^2 = 4\sqrt{mn}$

Solution:

$$m + n = 2 \tan \theta \quad \text{and} \quad m - n = 2 \sin \theta$$

$$m^2 - n^2 = (m+n)(m-n):$$

$$= (2 \tan \theta)(2 \sin \theta) = 4 \tan \theta \sin \theta$$

$$mn = (\tan \theta + \sin \theta)(\tan \theta - \sin \theta) = \tan^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta:$$

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

$$\frac{\sin^2 \theta}{\cos^2 \theta} = \sin^2 \theta \tan^2 \theta$$

Therefore $4\sqrt{(mn)}$:

$$4\sqrt{(mn)} = 4\sqrt{(\sin^2 \theta \tan^2 \theta)} = 4 \sin \theta \tan \theta$$

$$\text{So } m^2 - n^2 = 4 \tan \theta \sin \theta = 4 \sin \theta \tan \theta = 4\sqrt{(mn)}$$

