

6.2 THALES THEOREM (BASIC PROPORTIONALITY THEOREM)

Statement: If a line is drawn parallel to one side of a triangle to intersect the other sides in distinct points, then the other two sides are divided in the same ratio.

Given: A triangle ABC in which a line parallel to side BC intersects other two sides AB and AC at D and E respectively.

To Prove : $\frac{AD}{DB} = \frac{AE}{EC}$

Construction : Join BE and CD and draw $DM \perp AC$ and $EN \perp AB$.

Proof : Area of $\triangle ADE$ ($= \frac{1}{2} \text{base} \times \text{height}$) $= \frac{1}{2} AD \times EN$.

Area of $\triangle ADE$ is denoted as are (ADE)

$$\text{So, } \text{ar}(\triangle ADE) = \frac{1}{2} DB \times EN$$

$$\text{And } \text{ar}(\triangle BDE) = \frac{1}{2} DB \times EN,$$

$$\text{Therefore, } \frac{\text{ar}(\triangle ADE)}{\text{ar}(\triangle BDE)} = \frac{\frac{1}{2} AD \times EN}{\frac{1}{2} DB \times EN} = \frac{AD}{DB} \quad \dots(i)$$

$$\text{Similarly, } \text{ar}(\triangle ADE) = \frac{1}{2} AE \times DM \text{ and } \text{ar}(\triangle DEC) = \frac{1}{2} EC \times DM.$$

$$\text{And } \frac{\text{ar}(\triangle ADE)}{\text{ar}(\triangle DEC)} = \frac{\frac{1}{2} AE \times DM}{\frac{1}{2} EC \times DM} = \frac{AE}{EC} \quad \dots(ii)$$

Note that $\triangle BDE$ and $\triangle DEC$ are on the same base DE and between the two parallel lines BC and DE.

$$\text{So, } \text{ar}(\triangle BDE) = \text{ar}(\triangle DEC) \quad \dots(iii)$$

Therefore, from (i), (ii) and (iii), we have :

$$\frac{AD}{DB} = \frac{AE}{EC}$$

Hence Proved.

Corollary :

If in a $\triangle ABC$, a line $DE \parallel BC$, intersects AB in D and AC in E, then

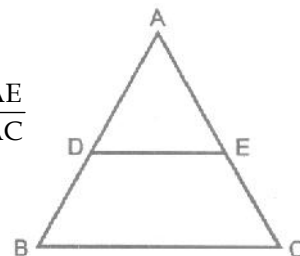
$$(i) \frac{DB}{AD} = \frac{EC}{AE}$$

$$(ii) \frac{AB}{AD} = \frac{AC}{AE}$$

$$(iii) \frac{AD}{AB} = \frac{AE}{AC}$$

$$(iv) \frac{AB}{DB} = \frac{AC}{EC}$$

$$(v) \frac{DB}{AB} = \frac{EC}{AC}$$



Converse of Basic Proportionality Theorem :

If a line divides any two sides of a triangle in the same ratio, then the line must be parallel to the third side.

Some Important Results and Theorems :

- (i) The internal bisector of an angle of a triangle divides the opposite side internally in the ratio of the sides containing the angle.
- (ii) In a triangle ABC , if D is a point on BC such that D divides BC in the ratio $AB : AC$, then AD is the bisector of $\angle A$.
- (iii) The external bisector of an angle of a triangle divides the opposite sides externally in the ratio of the sides containing the angle.
- (iv) The line drawn from the mid-point of one side of a triangle parallel to another side bisects the third side.
- (v) The line joining the mid-points of two sides of a triangle is parallel to the third side.
- (vi) The diagonals of a trapezium divide each other proportionally.
- (vii) If the diagonals of a quadrilateral divide each other proportionally, then it is a trapezium.
- (viii) Any line parallel to the parallel sides of a trapezium divides the non-parallel sides proportionally.
- (ix) If three or more parallel lines are intersected by two transversal, then the intercepts made by them on the transversal are proportional.

ILLUSTRATIONS:

Ex.1 In a $\triangle ABC$, D and E are points on the sides AB and AC respectively such that $DE \parallel BC$. If $AD = 4x - 3$, $AE = 8x - 7$, $BD = 3x - 1$ and $CE = 5x - 3$, find the value of x .

[CBSE - 2006]

Sol. In $\triangle ABC$, we have

$$DE \parallel BC$$

$$\therefore \frac{AD}{DB} = \frac{AE}{EC} \quad [\text{By Basic Proportionality Theorem}]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{4x-3}{3x-1} = \frac{8x-7}{5x-3}$$

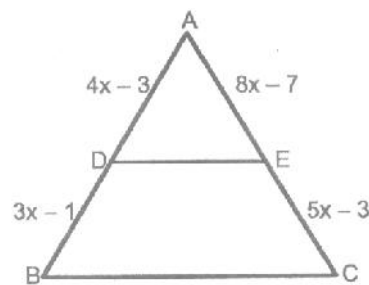
$$\Rightarrow 20x^2 - 15x - 12x + 9 = 24x^2 - 21x - 8x + 7$$

$$\Rightarrow 20x^2 - 27x + 9 = 24x^2 - 29x + 7$$

$$\Rightarrow 4x^2 - 2x - 2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x^2 - x - 1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (2x + 1)(x - 1) = 0$$



$$\Rightarrow x = 1 \text{ or } x = -\frac{1}{2}$$

So, the required value of x is 1.

$[x = -\frac{1}{2}$ is neglected as length can not be negative].

Ex.2 D and E are respectively the points on the sides AB and AC of a $\triangle ABC$ such that $AB = 12$ cm, $AD = 8$ cm, $AE = 12$ cm and $AC = 18$ cm, show that $DE \parallel BC$.

Sol. We have,

$AB = 12$ cm, $AC = 18$ m, $AD = 8$ cm and $AE = 12$ cm.

$$\therefore BD = AB - AD = (12 - 8) \text{ cm} = 4 \text{ cm}$$

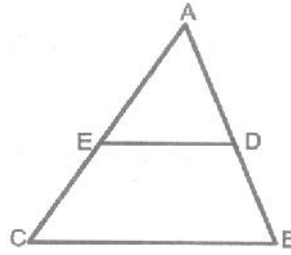
$$CE = AC - AE = (18 - 12) \text{ cm} = 6 \text{ cm}$$

$$\text{Now, } \frac{AD}{BD} = \frac{8}{4} = \frac{2}{1}$$

$$\text{And, } \frac{AE}{CE} = \frac{12}{6} = \frac{2}{1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{AD}{BD} = \frac{AE}{CE}$$

Thus, DE divides sides AB and AC of $\triangle ABC$ in the same ratio. Therefore, by the converse of basic proportionality theorem we have $DE \parallel BC$.



Ex.3 In a trapezium ABCD $AB \parallel DC$ and $DC = 2AB$. EF drawn parallel to AB cuts AD in F and BC in E such that $\frac{BE}{EC} = \frac{3}{4}$. Diagonal DB intersects EF at G. Prove that $7FE = 10AB$.

Sol. In $\triangle DFG$ and $\triangle DAB$,

$$\angle 1 = \angle 2 \quad [\text{Corresponding } \angle s \therefore AB \parallel FG]$$

$$\angle FDG = \angle ADB \quad [\text{Common}]$$

$$\therefore \triangle DFG \sim \triangle DAB \quad [\text{By AA rule of similarity}]$$

$$\therefore \frac{DF}{DA} = \frac{FG}{AB} \quad \dots (i)$$

Again in trapezium ABCD

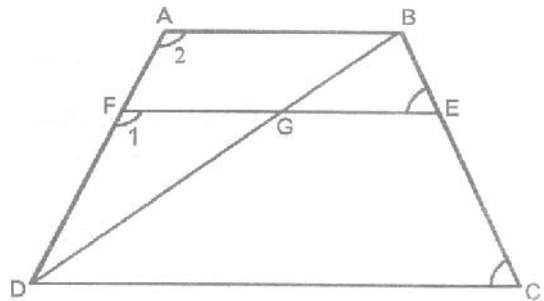
$$EF \parallel AB \parallel DC$$

$$\therefore \frac{AF}{DF} = \frac{BE}{EC}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{AF}{DF} = \frac{3}{4} \quad \left[\because \frac{BE}{EC} = \frac{3}{4} \text{ (given)} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{AF}{DF} = 1 = \frac{3}{4} + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{AF + DF}{DF} = \frac{7}{4}$$



$$\Rightarrow \frac{AD}{DF} = \frac{7}{4}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{DF}{AD} = \frac{4}{7} \quad \text{.....(ii)}$$

From (i) and (ii), we get

$$\frac{FG}{AB} = \frac{4}{7} \quad \text{i.e. } FG = \frac{4}{7} AB \quad \text{.....(iii)}$$

In $\triangle BEG$ and $\triangle BCD$, we have

$$\angle BEG = \angle BCD \quad [\text{Corresponding angle } \therefore EG \parallel CD]$$

$$\angle GBE = \angle DBC \quad [\text{Common}]$$

$$\therefore \triangle BEG \sim \triangle BCD \quad [\text{By AA rule of similarity}]$$

$$\therefore \frac{BE}{BC} = \frac{EG}{CD}$$

$$\therefore \frac{3}{7} = \frac{EG}{CD} \quad \left[\because \frac{BE}{EG} = \frac{3}{7} \text{ i.e. } \frac{EC}{BE} = \frac{4}{3} \Rightarrow \frac{EC+BE}{BE} = \frac{4+3}{3} \right] \Rightarrow \frac{BC}{BE} = \frac{7}{3}$$

$$\therefore EG = \frac{3}{7} CD = \frac{3}{7} (2AB) \quad [\because CD = 2AB \text{ (given)}]$$

$$\therefore EG = \frac{6}{7} AB \quad \text{.....(iv)}$$

Adding (iii) and (iv), we get

$$FG + EG = \frac{4}{7} AB + \frac{6}{7} AB = \frac{10}{7} AB$$

$$\Rightarrow EF = \frac{10}{7} AB \text{ i.e., } 7EF = 10AB.$$

Hence proved.

Ex.4 In $\triangle ABC$, if AD is the bisector of $\angle A$, prove that $\frac{\text{Area}(\triangle ABD)}{\text{Area}(\triangle ACD)} = \frac{AB}{AC}$

Sol. In $\triangle ABC$, AD is the bisector of $\angle A$.

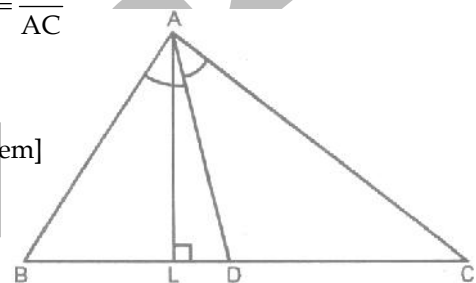
$$\therefore \frac{AB}{AC} = \frac{BD}{DC} \quad \text{....(i) [By internal bisector theorem]}$$

From A draw $AL \perp BC$

$$\therefore \frac{\text{Area}(\triangle ABD)}{\text{Area}(\triangle ACD)} = \frac{\frac{1}{2} BD \cdot AL}{\frac{1}{2} DC \cdot AL} = \frac{BD}{DC} = \frac{AB}{AC}$$

[From (i)]

Hence Proved.



Ex.5 $\angle BAC = 90^\circ$, AD is its bisector. If $DE \perp AC$, prove that $DE \times (AB + AC) = AB \times AC$.

Sol. It is given that AD is the bisector of $\angle A$ of $\triangle ABC$.

$$\therefore \frac{AB}{AC} = \frac{BD}{DC}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{AB}{AC} + 1 = \frac{BD}{DC} + 1 \quad [\text{Adding 1 on both sides}]$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{AB+AC}{AC} = \frac{BD+DC}{DC}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{AB+AC}{AC} = \frac{BC}{DC} \quad \dots(i)$$

In Δ 's CDE and CBA, we have

$$\angle DCE = \angle BCA \quad [\text{Common}]$$

$$\angle DEC = \angle BAC \quad [\text{Each equal to } 90^\circ]$$

So, by AA-criterion of similarity

$$\Delta CDE \sim \Delta CBA$$

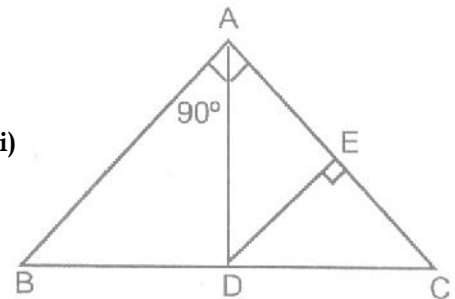
$$\Rightarrow \frac{CD}{CB} = \frac{DE}{BA}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{AB}{DE} = \frac{BC}{DC} \quad \dots(ii)$$

From (i) and (ii), we have

$$\Rightarrow \frac{AB+AC}{AC} = \frac{AB}{DE}$$

$$\Rightarrow DE \times (AB + AC) = AB \times AC.$$



Ex.6 In the given figure, PA, QB and RC are each perpendicular to AC. Prove that $\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{z} = \frac{1}{y}$

Sol. In ΔPAC , we have $BQ \parallel AP$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{BQ}{AP} = \frac{CB}{CA} \quad [\because \Delta CBQ \sim \Delta CAP]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{y}{x} = \frac{CB}{CA} \quad \dots(i)$$

In ΔACR , we have $BQ \parallel CR$

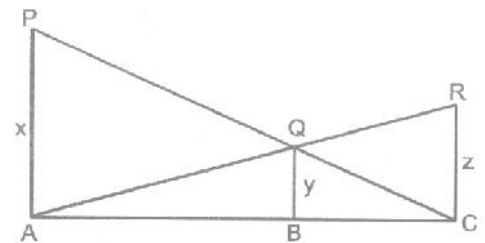
$$\Rightarrow \frac{BQ}{CR} = \frac{AB}{AC} \quad [\because \Delta ABQ \sim \Delta ACR]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{y}{z} = \frac{AB}{AC} \quad \dots(ii)$$

Adding (i) and (ii), we get

$$\frac{y}{x} + \frac{y}{z} = \frac{CB}{AC} + \frac{AB}{AC}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{y}{x} + \frac{y}{z} = \frac{AB+BC}{AC} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{y}{x} + \frac{y}{z} = \frac{AC}{AC}$$



$$\Rightarrow \frac{y}{x} + \frac{y}{z} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{z} = \frac{1}{y}$$

Hence Proved.

Ex.7 In the given figure, $AB \parallel CD$. Find the value of x .

Sol. Since the diagonals of a trapezium divide each other proportionally.

$$\therefore \frac{AO}{OC} = \frac{BO}{OD}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{3x-19}{x-3} = \frac{x-4}{4}$$

$$\Rightarrow 12x - 76 = x^2 - 4x - 3x + 12$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 - 19x + 88 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 - 11x - 8x + 88 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (x-8)(x-11) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 8 \text{ or } x = 11.$$

