Answer on Question #57924 - Math – Trigonometry

Task 1. Fill in the blank.

The light from a lamppost casts a shadow of a man who is standing 15 feet away from the lamppost. The man's shadow is 5 feet long. The angle of elevation from the tip of the shadow to the lamp is 50 degrees. To the nearest foot, the lamppost is _____ feet tall.





AB – the lamppost;

CD – the man;

CF – the shadow of the man;

So, AC = 15 feet, CE = 5 feet, $\angle AEB = 50^{\circ}$.

AE = AC + CE = 15 + 5 = 20 feet.

ABE – a right triangle.

Using the definition of Tangent:

$$\tan \angle AEB = \frac{AB}{AE}$$

Therefore:

$$AB = AE \cdot \tan \angle AEB$$

So,

 $AB = 50 \cdot \tan 50^{\circ} \approx 59.59 \approx 60$ feet.

Answer: 60 feet.

Task 2. The Pythagorean theorem is true for all similar triangles

A: True

B: False

Solution.

We can use the Pythagorean theorem only for all right triangles.

Answer: B: False.