

Trigonometric Identities

Trig Identities Worksheet: 1-6 all, 9, 13, 15, 19

I. Reciprocal Identities

A) $\sin \theta = \frac{1}{\csc \theta}$ D) $\csc \theta = \frac{1}{\sin \theta}$
 B) $\cos \theta = \frac{1}{\sec \theta}$ E) $\sec \theta = \frac{1}{\cos \theta}$
 C) $\tan \theta = \frac{1}{\cot \theta}$ F) $\cot \theta = \frac{1}{\tan \theta}$

II. Quotient Identities

A) $\tan \theta = \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta}$
 B) $\cot \theta = \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta}$

III. Pythagorean Identities

A) $\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1$
 B) $\tan^2 \theta + 1 = \sec^2 \theta$
 C) $\cot^2 \theta + 1 = \csc^2 \theta$

Simplify each expression.

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

2. $(1 - \sin x)(1 + \sin x)$
 $= 1 - \sin^2 x$
 $= \cos^2 x$

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

4. $\cos \theta \tan \theta \csc \theta$
 $= \frac{\cos \theta}{1} \left(\frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta}\right) \left(\frac{1}{\sin \theta}\right)$
 $= 1$

5. $\frac{\csc \theta}{1 + \cot^2 \theta}$
 $= \frac{1}{\sin \theta}$
 $= \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \cdot \frac{1 + \cos^2 \theta}{1 + \cos^2 \theta}$
 $= \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \cdot \frac{1 + \cos^2 \theta}{1 + \cos^2 \theta}$
 $= \frac{1}{\sin \theta} = \csc \theta$

6. $\frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} - \frac{1}{\tan^2 \theta}$
 $= \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} - \frac{1}{\frac{\sin^2 \theta}{\cos^2 \theta}}$
 $= \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} - \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{\sin^2 \theta}$
 $= \frac{1 - \cos^2 \theta}{\sin^2 \theta}$
 $= \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{\sin^2 \theta}$
 $= 1$

7. $\sin^2 x + \sin^2 x \cot^2 x$
 $= \sin^2 x (1 + \cot^2 x)$
 $= \sin^2 x \left(1 + \frac{\cos^2 x}{\sin^2 x}\right)$
 $= \sin^2 x + \cos^2 x$
 $= 1$

I. Guidelines for Verifying Trig Identities

- A. Begin with the most complicated side
- B. Work on one side only
- C. Rewrite sums or differences of quotients as one single quotient
- D. Rewrite in terms of sine and cosine only
- E. Factor (GCF or Difference of Squares)
- F. Multiply (Foil or Distributive Property)

Verify each identity.

1. $\csc \theta \sin \theta - \sin^2 \theta = \cos^2 \theta$
 LS = $\frac{1}{\sin \theta} (\sin \theta) - \sin^2 \theta$ RS = $\cos^2 \theta$
 $= 1 - \sin^2 \theta$
 $= \cos^2 \theta$

2. $\sin \theta (\cot \theta + \tan \theta) = \sec \theta$
 LS = $\sin \theta \left(\frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta} + \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} \right)$
 $= \cos \theta + \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{\cos \theta}$
 $= \frac{\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta}{\cos \theta} = \frac{1}{\cos \theta}$

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

3. $(\csc \theta + \cot \theta)(\csc \theta - \cot \theta) = 1$
 RS = 1
 $= \csc^2 \theta - \cot^2 \theta$
 $= \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} - \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{\sin^2 \theta}$
 $= \frac{1 - \cos^2 \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} = \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} = 1$

4. $\csc^4 \theta - \csc^2 \theta = \cot^4 \theta + \cot^2 \theta$
 LS = $\csc^2 \theta (\csc^2 \theta - 1)$
 $= \csc^2 \theta \left(\frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} - \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} \right)$
 $= \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \left(\frac{\cos^2 \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} \right)$
 $= \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{\sin^4 \theta}$

RS = $\frac{\cos^4 \theta}{\sin^4 \theta} + \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{\sin^2 \theta}$
 $= \frac{\cos^4 \theta}{\sin^4 \theta} + \frac{\cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \theta}{\sin^4 \theta}$
 $= \frac{\cos^2 \theta (\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta)}{\sin^4 \theta}$
 $= \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{\sin^4 \theta}$

5. $\csc x + \cot x = \frac{\sin x}{1 - \cos x}$
 LS = $\frac{1}{\sin x} + \frac{\cos x}{\sin x}$ RS = $\frac{\sin x}{1 - \cos x} \cdot \frac{\sin x}{\sin x}$
 $= \frac{1 + \cos x}{\sin x}$
 $= \frac{1 - \cos^2 x}{\sin x (1 - \cos x)}$
 $= \frac{(1 + \cos x)(1 - \cos x)}{\sin x (1 - \cos x)}$
 $= \frac{1 + \cos x}{\sin x}$

6. $8 \csc^2 \theta - 3 \cot^2 \theta = 3 + 5 \csc^2 \theta$
 LS = $\frac{8}{\sin^2 \theta} - 3 \left(\frac{\cos^2 \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} \right)$
 $= \frac{8 - 3 \cos^2 \theta}{\sin^2 \theta}$
 $= \frac{8 - 3(1 - \sin^2 \theta)}{\sin^2 \theta}$
 $= \frac{8 - 3 + 3 \sin^2 \theta}{\sin^2 \theta}$
 $= \frac{5 + 3 \sin^2 \theta}{\sin^2 \theta}$

RS = $3 + \frac{5}{\sin^2 \theta}$
 $= \frac{3 \sin^2 \theta + 5}{\sin^2 \theta}$

7. $\frac{1}{1 - \sec \theta} + \frac{1}{1 + \sec \theta} = -2 \cot^2 \theta$
 LS = $\frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{\cos \theta}} + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{\cos \theta}}$
 $= \frac{1}{\frac{\cos \theta - 1}{\cos \theta}} + \frac{1}{\frac{\cos \theta + 1}{\cos \theta}}$
 $= \frac{\cos \theta}{\cos \theta - 1} + \frac{\cos \theta}{\cos \theta + 1}$

$\frac{\cos \theta (\cos \theta + 1) + \cos \theta (\cos \theta - 1)}{\cos^2 \theta - 1}$
 $= \frac{\cos^2 \theta + \cos \theta + \cos^2 \theta - \cos \theta}{-\sin^2 \theta} = \frac{-2 \cos^2 \theta}{-\sin^2 \theta}$

RS = $-2 \cot^2 \theta$
 $= \frac{-2 \cos^2 \theta}{\sin^2 \theta}$