Date _____

Special Triangles and the Unit Circle - Guided Lesson Explanation

Explanation#1

This is a right triangle with two equal sides so it must be a 45°- 45°- 90° triangle.

You are given that the both the sides are 12. If the first and second value of the ratio n .n .n $\sqrt{2}$ is 12 then the length of the third side is $12\sqrt{2}$.

The length of the hypotenuse is $12\sqrt{2}$ inches.

Explanation#2

Test the ratio of the lengths to see if it fits the n.n $\sqrt{3}$.2n ratio.

8.
$$8\sqrt{3}$$
: ? = n:n $\sqrt{3}$:2n

Calculate the third side.

$$2n = 2 \times 8 = 16$$

The length of the hypotenuse is 16 inches.

Explanation#3

The triangle ABC is a right triangle with two equal sides.

Thus, it is a 45° - 45° - 90° triangle.

The lengths of the sides of the triangle are in the ratio 1:1: $\sqrt{2}$.

Thus, if one side is 9 inches, then the length of the hypotenuse is $9\sqrt{2}$ inches is 12.73 cm.