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*Straight Lines - Lesson 3*

## Collinearity

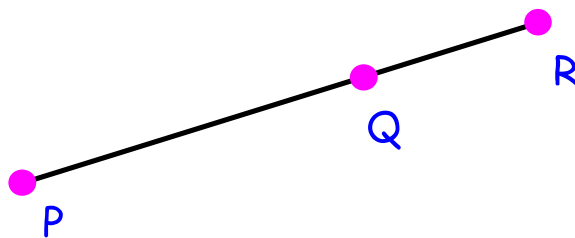
LI

- Determine whether or not 3 points are collinear.
- Find gradients of parallel and perpendicular lines.

SC

- Calculate gradients.

Points are **collinear** if they lie on the same straight line



To show that 3 points are collinear :

- Show that 2 gradients are equal.
- Identify a common point.

To show that 3 points are not collinear :

- Show that 2 gradients with a common point are not equal.

Example 1

Show that the points  $F(2, 7)$ ,  $G(3, 5)$  and  $H(6, -1)$  are collinear.

$$m_{FG} = \frac{5 - 7}{3 - 2} = \frac{-2}{1} \Rightarrow \underline{m_{FG} = -2}$$

$$m_{GH} = \frac{-1 - 5}{6 - 3} = \frac{-6}{3} \Rightarrow \underline{m_{GH} = -2}$$

Since  $m_{FG} = m_{GH}$  and  $G$  is a common point,  $F, G$  and  $H$  are collinear.

Example 2

Show that the points P (3, 6), Q (7, 12) and R (11, 17) are not collinear.

$$m_{PQ} = \frac{12 - 6}{7 - 3} = \frac{6}{4} \Rightarrow \underline{m_{PQ} = \frac{3}{2}}$$
$$m_{QR} = \frac{17 - 12}{11 - 7} = \frac{5}{4} \Rightarrow \underline{m_{QR} = \frac{5}{4}}$$

Since  $m_{PQ} \neq m_{QR}$  and Q is a common point, P, Q and R are not collinear.

## CfE Higher Maths

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