Areas of Plane Figures between Parallel Lines

By studying this lesson you will be able to

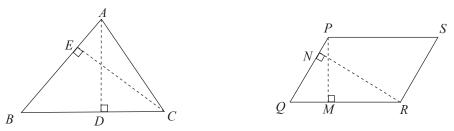
identify the theorems on the relationships between the areas of triangles and parallelograms on the same base and between the same pair of parallel lines, and solve problems related to them.

Introduction

You have already learnt about various plane figures and how the areas of certain special plane figures are found. Let us now recall how the areas of triangles and parallelograms are found.

When finding the areas of triangles and parallelograms, the terms altitude and base are used. Let us first recall what these terms mean.

Let us consider the given triangle ABC and the parallelogram PQRS.



When finding the area of a triangle, any one of its sides can be considered as the base. For example, the side BC of the triangle ABC can be considered as the base. Then AD is the corresponding altitude; that is, the perpendicular dropped from the vertex A to the side BC.

We know that,

area of triangle $ABC = \frac{1}{2} \times BC \times AD$.

Similarly, if we consider the side AB to be the base, the corresponding altitude is CE. Accordingly, we can also write,

area of triangle
$$ABC = \frac{1}{2} \times AB \times CE$$
.

We can similarly find the area of the triangle ABC by taking AC as the base and drawing the corresponding altitude from the vertex B.

Now let us consider the parallelogram *PQRS*. Here too, the area can be found by considering any one of the sides as the base. If we consider the side QR as the base, the corresponding altitude is the line segment *PM*. The length of *PM* is the distance between the two parallel straight line segments QR and *PS*, the side opposite QR.

We know that,

the area of parallelogram $PQRS = QR \times PM$.

Similarly, if we consider the side PQ as the base, the corresponding altitude is RN. Therefore we can also write,

the area of parallelogram $PQRS = PQ \times RN$.

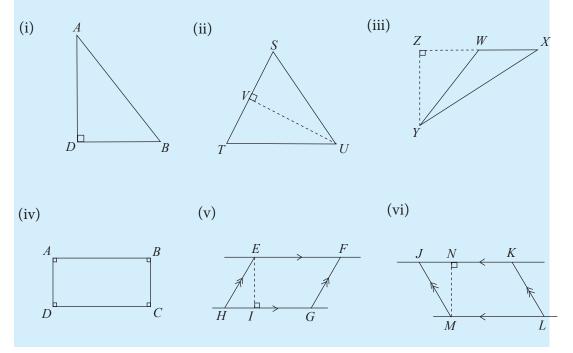
Note

The length of the altitude of a triangle or a parallelogram is also often called the altitude.

To recall what has been learnt earlier regarding finding the areas of parallelograms and triangles, do the following exercise by applying the above facts.

Review Exercise

1. Complete the given table by using the data in each of the figures given below.

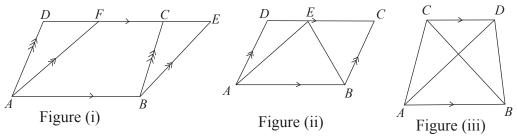


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Figure	Base	Corresponding Altitude	Area (As a product of lengths)
 (i) Triangle ABD (ii) Triangle STU (iii) Triangle WXY (iv) Rectangle ABCD (v) Parallelogram EFGH (v) Parallelogram JKLM 			

8.1 Parallelograms and triangles on the same base and between the same pair of parallel lines

Let us first see what is meant by parallelograms and triangles on the same base and between the same pair of parallel lines. Consider the following figures.



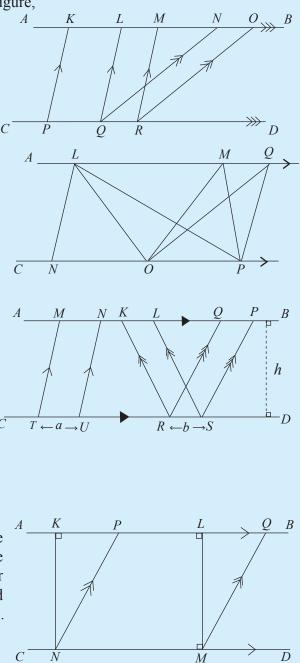
Both the parallelograms ABCD and ABEF in figure (i) lie between the pair of straight lines AB and DE. What is meant here by the word "between" is that a pair of opposite sides of each of the parallelograms lies on the straight lines AB and DE. Further, the side AB is common to both parallelograms. In such a situation, we say that the two parallelograms are on the same base and between the same pair of parallel lines. Here, the common side AB has been considered as the base. It is clear that corresponding to this common base, both the parallelograms have the same altitude. This is equal to the perpendicular distance between the two parallel lines AB and DE.

Figure (ii) depicts a parallelogram and a triangle which lie on the same base and between the same pair of parallel lines *AB* and *DC*. The parallelogram is *ABCD* and the triangle is *ABE*. The common base is *AB*. Observe that in this case, one side of the triangle lies on one of the parallel lines while the opposite vertex lies on the other line.

Figure (iii) depicts two triangles on the same base and between the same pair of parallel lines. The two triangles are *ABC* and *ABD*.

Exercise 8.1

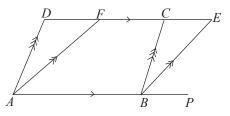
- 1. Based on the information in the figure,
 - (i) name four parallelograms.
 - (ii) name the two parallelograms with the same base *QR* which lie between the pair of parallel lines *AB* and *CD*.
- 2. Write down all the triangles with the same base OP that lie between the pair of parallel straight lines AQ and CP in the given figure.
- **3.** In the given figure, the perpendicular distance between the pair of parallel straight lines *AB* and *CD* is denoted by *h* and the base lengths of the parallelograms by *a* and \bar{C} . Write down the areas of the parallelograms *PQRS*, *KLSR* and *MNUT* in terms of these symbols.
- 4. The rectangle *KLMN* and the parallelogram *PQMN* in the given figure lie between the pair of parallel straight lines *AB* and *CD*. NM = 10 cm and LM = 8 cm.



- (i) Find the area of the rectangle *KLMN*.
- (ii) Find the area of the parallelogram PQMN.
- (iii) What is the relationship between the area of the rectangle *KLMN* and the parallelogram *PQMN* ?

8.2 The areas of parallelograms on the same base and between the same pair of parallel lines

Next we look at the relationship between the areas of parallelograms on the same base and between the same pair of parallel lines. Consider the given parallelograms.



Let us see whether the areas of the parallelograms *ABCD* and *ABEF* are equal.

Observe that,

area of parallelogram ABCD = area of trapezium ABCF + area of triangle AFD area of parallelogram ABEF = area of trapezium ABCF + area of triangle BEC

Therefore it is clear that, if

the area of triangle AFD = the area of triangle BEC,

then the areas of the two parallelograms will be equal.

In fact, these two triangles are congruent. Therefore their areas are equal. The congruence of the two triangles under the conditions of SAS can be shown as follows.

In the two triangles AFD and BEC,

AD = BC (opposite sides of a parallelogram) AF = BE (opposite sides of a parallelogram)

Also, since $D\hat{A}B = C\hat{B}P$ (corresponding angles) and $F\hat{A}B = E\hat{B}P$ (corresponding angles), by subtracting these equations we obtain

 $D\hat{AF} = C\hat{BE}.$

Accordingly, the two triangles *AFD* and *BEC* are congruent under the conditions of SAS.

Therefore we obtain,

area of parallelogram *ABCD* = area of parallelogram *ABEF*.

We can write this as a theorem as follows.

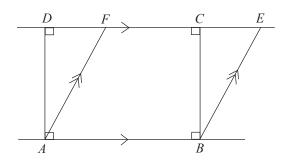
Theorem: Parallelograms on the same base and between the same pair of parallel lines are equal in area.

Now let us obtain an important result using this theorem. You have used the following formula when finding the area of a parallelogram in previous grades and in the above exercise.

Area of a parallelogram = Base × Perpendicular height

Have you ever thought about how this result was obtained? We can now use the above theorem to prove this result.

The figure depicts a rectangle *ABCD* (that is, a parallelogram) and a parallelogram *ABEF* on the same base and between the same pair of parallel lines. According to the above theorem, their areas are equal.



We know that,

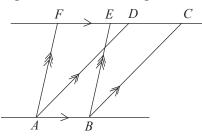
area of the parallelogram ABEF = Area of the rectangle ABCD= $AB \times AD$

- $= AB \times \text{perpendicular distance between the}$ two parallel lines
- = base of the parallelogram × perpendicular height

Let us now consider how calculations are done using this theorem.

Example 1

The area of the parallelogram *ABEF* in the figure is 80 cm² while AB = 8 cm.



- (i) Name the parallelograms in the figure that lie on the same base and between the same pair of parallel lines.
- (ii) What is the area of the parallelogram *ABCD*?
- (iii) Find the perpendicular distance between the parallel lines AB and FC.

Now let us answer these questions.

- (i) ABEF and ABCD.
- (ii) Since the parallelograms *ABEF* and *ABCD* lie on the same base *AB* and between the same pair of parallel lines *AB* and *FC*, their areas are equal. Therefore, the area of $ABCD = 80 \text{ cm}^2$.
- (iii) Let us take the perpendicular distance between the pair of parallel lines as h centimetres.

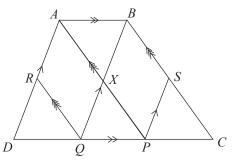
Then,

area of $ABEF = AB \times h$. $80 = 8 \times h$ $\therefore h = 10$

 \therefore the perpendicular distance between the parallel lines is 10 cm.

Now, by considering an example, let us see how riders are proved using this theorem.

Example 2



According to the information in the above figure,

(i) show that *ABQD* and *ABCP* are parallelograms.

- (ii) show that the parallelograms *ABQD* and *ABCP* are of the same area.
- (iii) prove that $\triangle SPC \equiv \triangle RDQ$.
- (iv) prove that, area of parallelogram AXQR = area of parallelogram BXPS.
- (i) In the quadrilateral *ABQD AB//DQ* (given) *AD//BQ* (given)

Since a quadrilateral with pairs of opposite sides parallel, is a parallelogram, ABQD is a parallelogram. Similarly, since AB // PC and AP // BC, we obtain that ABCP is a parallelogram.

- (ii) Since the parallelograms *ABQD* and *ABCP* lie on the same base *AB* and between the same pair of parallel lines *AB* and *DC*, by the above theorem, their areas are equal.
 - \therefore area of parallelogram *ABQD* = area of parallelogram *ABCP*.

(iii) In the triangles SPC and RDQ in the figure,

 $S\hat{P}C = R\hat{D}Q$ (since SP //AD, corresponding angles) $S\hat{C}P = R\hat{Q}D$ (since SC //RQ, corresponding angles) Further, AB = PC (opposite sides of the parallelogram ABCP) AB = DQ (opposite sides of the parallelogram ABQD) Therefore, PC = DQ. $\therefore \Delta SPC \equiv \Delta RDQ$. (AAS)

(iv) Area of parallelogram ABQD = area of parallelogram ABCP (proved) Area of $\triangle RDQ$ = area of $\triangle SPC$ (since $\triangle RDQ \equiv \triangle SPC$)

Therefore,

area of
$$ABQD$$
 – area of $\triangle RDQ$ = area of $ABCP$ – area of $\triangle SPC$.

Then, according to the figure,

area of trapezium ABQR = area of trapezium ABSP.

Therefore,

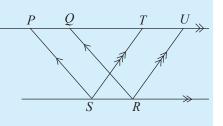
by subtracting the area of the triangle ABX from both sides, we get

area of trapezium – area of $\triangle ABX =$ area of trapezium – area of $\triangle ABX$ ABQR ABSP

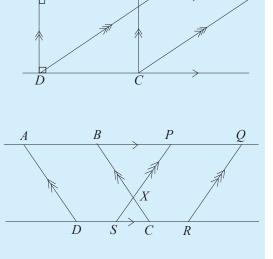
 \therefore area of parallelogram *AXQR* = area of parallelogram *BXPS*.

Exercise 8.2

 The figure shows two parallelograms that lie between the pair of parallel lines *PU* and *SR*. The area of the parallelogram *PQRS* is 40 cm². With reasons, write down the area of the parallelogram *TURS*.

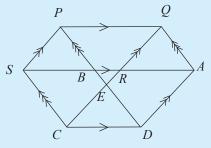


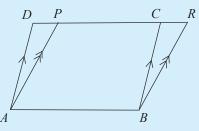
- 2. A rectangle *ABCD* and a parallelogram *CDEF* are given in the figure. If AD = 7 cm and CD = 9 cm, with reasons, write down the area of the parallelogram *CDEF*.
- **3.** The figure shows two parallelograms *ABCD* and *PQRS* that lie between the pair of parallel lines AQ and DR. It is given that DS = CR.
 - (i) Show that DC = SR.
 - (ii) Prove that the area of the pentagon *ABXSD* is equal to the area of the pentagon *PQRCX*.
 - (iii) Prove that the area of the trapezium *APSD* is equal to the area of the trapezium *BQRC*.
- **4.** Based on the information in the figure,
 - (i) name two parallelograms which are equal in area to the area of the parallelogram *PQRS*.
 - (ii) name two parallelograms which are equal in area to the area of the parallelogram *ADCR*.
 - (iii) prove that the area of the parallelogram *PECS* is equal to the area of the parallelogram *QADE*.
- **5.** Based on the information in the figure, prove that the area of triangle *ADP* is equal to the area of triangle *BRC*.
- 6. Construct the parallelogram *ABCD* such that AB = 6 cm, $D\hat{A}B = 60^{\circ}$ and AD = 5 cm. Construct the rhombus *ABEF* equal in area to the area of *ABCD* and lying on the same side of *AB* as the parallelogram. State the theorem that you used for your construction.



B E

A





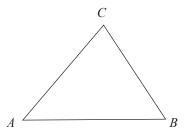
8.3 The areas of parallelograms and triangles on the same base and between the same pair of parallel lines

You have used the following formula in previous grades to find the area of a triangle.

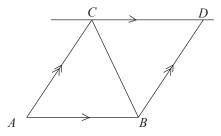
Area of the triangle = $\frac{1}{2} \times \text{Base} \times \text{Altitude}$

Now we will explain why this formula is valid.

Let us consider the following triangle ABC.



Now let us draw a line parallel to AB through the point C, as shown in the figure, and mark the point D on this line such that ABDC is a parallelogram. In other words let us mark the intersection point of the line drawn through B parallel to AC and the line drawn through C parallel to AB, as D.



The area of the triangle *ABC* is exactly half the area of the parallelogram *ABDC*. This is because the diagonals of a parallelogram divide the parallelogram into two congruent triangles. We learnt this in the lesson on parallelograms in Grade 10.

Therefore,

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area of triangle
$$ABC = \frac{1}{2}$$
 the area of parallelogram $ABDC$
= $\frac{1}{2} \times AB \times$ perpendicular distance between AB and CD
= $\frac{1}{2} \times AB \times$ perpendicular height

We have obtained the familiar formula for the area of a triangle.

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Consider again the result that we observed here;

area of triangle $ABC = \frac{1}{2}$ the area of parallelogram ABDC.

In section 8.2 of this lesson, we learnt that the areas of parallelograms on the same base and between the same pair of parallel lines are equal. Therefore, in relation to the above figure, the area of any parallelogram that lies on the same base AB and between the same pair of parallel lines AB and CD is equal to the area of ABDC. Therefore,

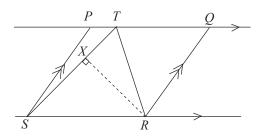
area of triangle $ABC = \frac{1}{2} \times$ (area of any parallelogram with base AB lying between the parallel lines AB and CD).

This result is given below as a theorem.

Theorem: If a triangle and a parallelogram lie on the same base and between the same pair of parallel lines, then the area of the triangle is exactly half the area of the parallelogram.

Let us now consider how calculations are performed using this theorem.





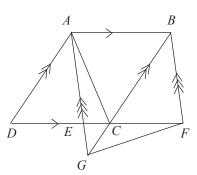
The figure illustrates a parallelogram PQRS and a triangle STR on the same base and between the same pair of parallel lines. The area of the parallelogram PQRS is 60 cm².

- (i) Find the area of the triangle *STR*. Give reasons for your answer.
- (ii) If ST = 6 cm, find the length of the perpendicular *RX* from *R* to *ST*.
- (i)The parallelogram *PQRS* and the triangle *STR* lie on the same base and between the same pair of parallel lines. Therefore the area of triangle *STR* is half the area of parallelogram *PQRS*.
- \therefore area of $\triangle STR = 30 \text{ cm}^2$

(ii) Area of
$$\triangle STR = \frac{1}{2} \times ST \times RX$$

 $\therefore 30 = \frac{1}{2} \times 6 \times RX$
 $\therefore RX = 10 \text{ cm}$

Example 2



E is a point on the side *DC* of the parallelogram *ABCD*. The straight line drawn through *B* parallel to *AE*, meets *DC* produced at *F*. *AE* produced and *BC* produced meet at *G*.

Prove that,

- (i) *ABFE* is a parallelogram.
- (ii) the areas of the parallelograms ABCD and ABFE are equal.
- (iii) the area of $\triangle ACD$ = the area of $\triangle BFG$.
- (i) In the quadrilateral *ABFE*, *AE* // *BF* (data) *AB* // *EF* (data)
- ... *ABFE* is a parallelogram (since pairs of opposite sides are parallel)
- (ii) The parallelograms *ABCD* and *ABFE* lie on the same base *AB* and between the same pair of parallel lines *AB* and *DF*.
- \therefore according to the theorem, area of parallelogram *ABCD* = area of parallelogram *ABFE*
- (iii) The parallelogram *ABCD* and the triangle *ACD* lie on the same base *DC* and between the same pair of parallel lines *AB* and *DC*.
- : according to the theorem,
- $\frac{1}{2}$ the area of parallelogram ABCD = area of triangle ACD.

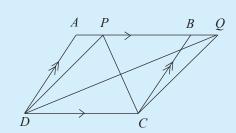
Similarly,

the parallelogram ABFE and the triangle BFG lie on the same base BF and between the same pair of parallel lines BF and AG. Therefore,

$$\frac{1}{2}$$
 the area of parallelogram $ABFE$ = area of triangle BFG
Since, area of parallelogram $ABCD$ = area of parallelogram $ABFE$,
 $\frac{1}{2}$ the area of parallelogram $ABCD = \frac{1}{2}$ the area of parallelogram $ABFE$
 \therefore area of $\triangle ACD$ = area of $\triangle BFG$

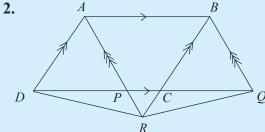
Exercise 8.3

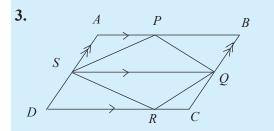
1. The area of the parallelogram ABCD in the figure is 50 cm².





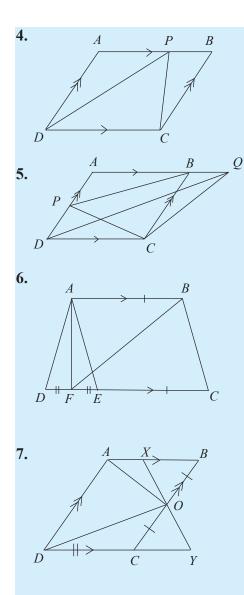
(ii) What is the area of triangle *DCQ*?





The point *P* lies on the side *DC* of the parallelogram *ABCD*. The straight line drawn through *B* parallel to *AP* meets *DC* produced at *Q*. Further, *AP* produced and *BC* produced meet at *R*. Prove that *Q* the area of triangle *ADR* is equal to the area of triangle *BQR*.

In the figure, SQ has been drawn parallel to the side AB of the parallelogram ABCD, such that it meets the side AD at S and the side BC at Q. Prove that the area of the quadrilateral PQRS is exactly half the area of the parallelogram ABCD.



P is any point on the side AB of the parallelogram ABCD. Prove that,

area or	+	area or	=	area or
ΔAPD		ΔBPC		ΔDPC

In the figure, the point *P* lies on the side *AD* of the parallelogram *ABCD*, and the point *Q* lies on *AB* produced. Prove that, area of $\triangle CPB = \text{area of } \triangle CQD$.

AB//DC and DC > AB in the trapezium ABCD.

The point *E* lies on the side *CD* such that AB = CE. The point *F* lies on the side *DE* such that the area of the triangle *AFE* is equal to the area of the triangle *ADF*. Prove that the area of the trapezium *ABFD* is exactly half the area of the trapezium *ABCD*.

O is the midpoint of the side *BC* of the parallelogram *ABCD* and *X* is an arbitrary point on *AB*. Also, *XO* produced and *DC* produced meet at *Y*.

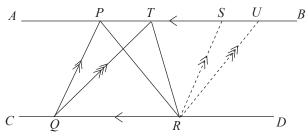
Prove that,

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- (i) the area of $\triangle BOX$ = the area of $\triangle COY$
- (ii) the area of trapezium AXYD = the area of parallelogram ABCD.
- (iii) the area of trapezium AXYD is twice the area of triangle ADO.

8.4 Triangles on the same base and between the same pair of parallel lines

Now let us consider the two triangles *PQR* and *TQR* that lie on the same base *QR* and between the same pair of parallel lines *AB* and *CD*.



As discussed in section 8.3 the parallelogram related to the triangle *PQR* is *PQRS*, and the parallelogram related to the triangle *TQR* is *TQRU*.

Since the parallelogram related to the triangle *PQR* is *PQRS*, area of triangle $PQR = \frac{1}{2}$ the area of parallelogram *PQRS*. Since the parallelogram related to the triangle *TQR* is *TQRU*,

area of triangle $TQR = \frac{1}{2}$ the area of parallelogram TQRU.

However, since the parallelograms PQRS and TQRU lie on the same base QR and between the same pair of parallel lines, by the theorem, area of parallelogram PQRS = area of parallelogram TQRU.

 $\therefore \frac{1}{2}$ the area of parallelogram $PQRS = \frac{1}{2}$ the area of parallelogram TQRU

That is, area of triangle PQR = area of triangle TQR.

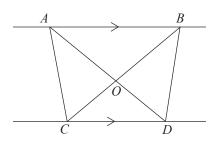
As stated previously, the areas of the two triangles PQR and TQR which lie on the same base QR and between the same pair of parallel lines AB and CD are equal in area.

Triangles which satisfy the above given conditions in this manner are equal in area. This is stated as a theorem as follows.

Theorem: Triangles on the same base and between the same pair of parallel lines are equal in area.

Let us now consider through the following examples how problems are solved using this theorem.

Example 1



In the given figure, *AB//CD*.

- (i) Name a triangle that has the same area as triangle *ACD*. Write down the theorem that your answer is based on.
- (ii) If the area of triangle ABC is 30 cm², find the area of triangle ABD.
- (iii) Prove that the area of triangle AOC is equal to the area of triangle BOD.

(i) Triangle *BCD*.

Triangles on the same base and between the same pair of parallel lines are equal in area.

(ii) Area of triangle $ABD = 30 \text{ cm}^2$.

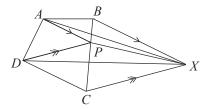
(iii) Area of $\triangle ACD$ = Area of $\triangle BCD$. (On the same base CD and AB//CD.)

According to the figure, the triangle *COD* is common to both these triangles. When this portion is removed,

area of $\triangle ACD$ – area of $\triangle COD$ = area of $\triangle BCD$ – area of $\triangle COD$ \therefore area of $\triangle AOC$ = area of $\triangle BOD$

Example 2

The point *P* lies on the side *BC* of the quadrilateral *ABCD*. The line drawn though *B* parallel to *AP* meets the line drawn through *C* parallel to *DP* at *X*. Prove that the area of triangle *ADX* is equal to the area of quadrilateral *ABCD*.



Proof: Since the triangles *APB* and *APX* lie on the same base *AP* and between the same pair of parallel lines *AP* and *BX*, according to the theorem,

 $\Delta APB = \Delta APX$ (1)

Similarly, since DP//CX,

$$\Delta DPC = \Delta DPX - (2)$$

From (1) + (2), $\triangle ABP + \triangle DPC = \triangle APX + \triangle DPX$.

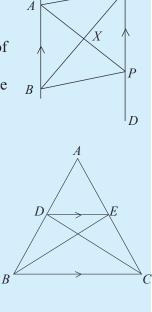
Let us add the area of triangle ADP to both sides.

Then, $\triangle ABP + \triangle DPC + \triangle ADP = \triangle APX + \triangle DPX + \triangle ADP$

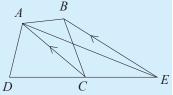
 \therefore area of quadrilateral *ABCD* = area of the triangle *ADX*

Exercise 8.4

- 1. The area of triangle ABP which lies between the parallel lines AB and CD in the figure is 25 cm².
 - (i) What is the area of triangle *ABC*?
- (ii) If the area of triangle *ABX* is 10 cm², what is the area of triangle *ACX*?
- (iii) Explain with reasons what the relationship between the areas of the triangles *ACX* and *BPX* is.
- 2. In the figure, *DE* is drawn parallel to the side *BC* of the triangle *ABC*, such that it touches the side *AB* at *D* and the side *AC* at *E*.
 - (i) Name a triangle which is equal in area to the triangle *BED*.
 - (ii) Prove that the triangles *ABE* and *ADC* are equal in area.
- **3.** The straight line drawn through the point *B* parallel to the diagonal AC of the quadrilateral ABCD, meets the side DC produced at *E*.
 - (i) Name a triangle which is equal in area to the triangle *ABC*. Give reasons for your answer.
 - (ii) Prove that the area of the quadrilateral *ABCD* is equal to the area of the triangle *ADE*.



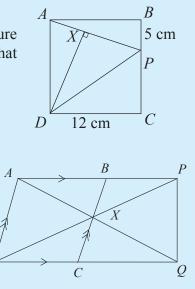
C



- 4. *ABCD* is a parallelogram. A straight line drawn from *A* intersects the side *DC* at *Y* and *BC* produced at *X*.
 Prove that,
 (i) the triangles *DYX* and *AYC* are equal in area.
- (ii) the triangles *BCY* and *DYX* are equal in area.
- **5.** The point *Y* lies on the side *BC* of the parallelogram *ABCD*. The side *AB* produced and *DY* produced meet at *X*. Prove that the area of triangle *AYX* is equal to the area of triangle *BCX*.
- 6. *BC* is a fixed straight line segment of length 8 cm. With the aid of a sketch, describe the locus of the point *A* such that the area of triangle ABC is 40 cm².
- 7. Construct the triangle *ABC* such that AB = 8 cm, AC = 7 cm and BC = 4 cm. Construct the triangle *PAB* which is equal in area to the triangle *ABC*, with *P* lying on the same side of *AB* as *C*, and *PA* = *PB*.

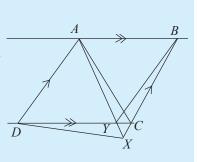
Miscellaneous Exercise

- 1. The length of a side of the square *ABCD* in the figure is 12 cm. The point *P* lies on the side *BC* such that BP = 5 cm. Find the length of *DX*.
- 2. X is a point on the side BC of the parallelogram ABCD. The side AB produced and DX produced meet at P and the side DC produced and AX produced meet at Q. Prove that the area of the triangle PXQ is exactly half of the area of the parallelogram ABCD.



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- **3.** The diagonals of the parallelogram *PQRS* intersect at *O*. The point *A* lies on the side *SR*. Find the ratio of the area of the triangle *POQ* to that of the triangle *PAQ*.
- **4.** *ABCD* and *ABEF* are two parallelograms, unequal in area, drawn on either side of *AB*.

Prove that,

- (i) *DCEF* is a parallelogram.
- (ii) the area of the parallelogram *DCEF* is equal to the sum of the areas of the parallelograms *ABCD* and *ABEF*.
- **5.** *ABCD* is a parallelogram. *EF* has been drawn parallel to *BD* such that it intersects the side *AB* at *E* and the side *AD* at *F*.

Prove that,

(i) the triangles *BEC* and *DFC* are equal in area.

(ii) the triangles AEC and AFC are equal in area.

