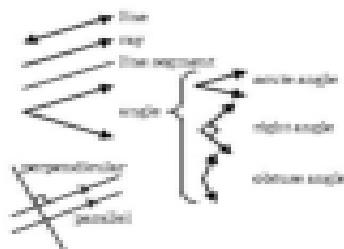


ESL for Geometry

In all ESL classes, people learn how to read numbers and do simple math. However, the math classes here at VCC often use more complicated vocabulary to describe what's going on. The teacher will expect students to know basic math vocabulary and might not explain it. This worksheet will help you learn some of the vocabulary for geometry (dgeo metri), the study of shapes.

PARTS OF SHAPES

In math, the word **line** has a special meaning. It refers to a line that continues in both directions forever. We show this in a diagram by putting arrows on both ends of the line. If a line only continues in one direction, but stops in the other, then it is called a **ray**. If the line doesn't continue in any direction, and it stops at both ends ways, it is called a **line segment**.



When two lines or rays come together to make a corner, they make an **angle**. We measure angles in degrees. We take a circle and cut it into 360 pieces, and each piece is one degree (1°). If an angle is less than 90° , then it is called an **acute angle**. If it is exactly 90° , then it is a **right angle**, and we often mark right angles with a box, as shown in the diagram. If an angle is between 90° and 180° , then it is an **obtuse angle** [abtus]. We can compare lines by the angle they make as well. If two lines cross to make a right angle (90°), then they are **perpendicular** [per pen'duk ju lar] lines. Lines are **parallel** [par'ə ləl] when they run side by side at equal distance apart.

SHAPES

A **polygon** [po-lig'on] is any shape that is drawn with straight lines only, and no curves. We give more specific names to particular polygons based on the number of sides they have.