Unit 5: Right Triangle Trigonometry Day 7: Angles of Elevation and Depression

An angle of elevation is the angle measured from the horizontal upward to an object.

An angle of depression is the angle measured From the horizontal down to an object.

These two angles are often used to solve many real world problems.

## Solving Applied Trigonometry Problems

Step 1 Draw a sketch and label it with the given information. Label the unknown with a variable.

Step 2 Use the sketch to write an equation relating the given quantities and the variable.

Step 3 Solve the equation. Check to make sure your answer makes sense.

Example 1: Describe $\angle 1$ and $\angle 2$ as they relate to the situation shown.


Example 2: A surveyor stands 200 ft from a building to measure its height with a $5-\mathrm{ft}$ tall theodolite measuring instrument. The angle of elevation to the top of the building is $35^{\circ}$. How tall is the building?

Top of
Building
$35^{\circ}$

Example 3: A 12-meter flagpole casts a 12-meter shadow. Find the angle of elevation to the sun.


Example 4: An airplane flying 3500 ft above ground begins a $2^{\circ}$ descent to land at an airport. How many miles from the airport is the airplane when it starts its descent?

Example 5: A 13.5-meter fire truck ladder is leaning against a wall. Find the distance the ladder goes up the wall if it makes an angle of $43^{\circ}$ with the ground.


