Teaching Triangles to Visual Learners

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Participants receive folders with Cornell Notes sheets with a grid to record information presented.
Cornell Notes
Problem #1

Given the following coordinates:

• A (1, 2)
• B (3, 4)
• C (3, 1)

Find the perimeter of triangle ABC.
Participant 1 volunteered to find the distance from point A to point B using the distance formula.

\[
\begin{align*}
AB & \quad (1,2) \quad (3,4) \\
\text{d} &= \sqrt{(x_2-x_1)^2 + (y_2-y_1)^2} \\
&= \sqrt{(3-1)^2 + (4-2)^2} \\
&= \sqrt{2^2 + 2^2} \\
&= \sqrt{4 + 4} \\
&= \sqrt{8} \\
&\approx 2.8
\end{align*}
\]
Participant 2 volunteered to find the distance from point A to point C using the distance formula.
Participant 3 volunteered to find the distance from point A to point C using the Pythagorean Theorem.

The three distances were then added to find the perimeter of Triangle ABC.
Problem #2

Given the coordinates:
A (-5, 4)
B (3, 7)
C (3, 4)
Find the perimeter of Triangle ABC.
This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under Grant No. 1556006.

Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.