MATHEMATICS · KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 3

Position and direction

Difficulty level: Easy

Mathematics: Kindergarten to Grade 3

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Overview of the concept

This is how you give directions someone can actually follow, like telling a friend to turn left at the corner and go two blocks north. Good directions use clear landmarks and clear turns, so the person following them never has to guess. A delivery driver, a tourist asking the way, and a friend meeting you at a park all depend on the same thing. Clear position words and clear direction words are what turn a vague wave of the hand into directions that work.

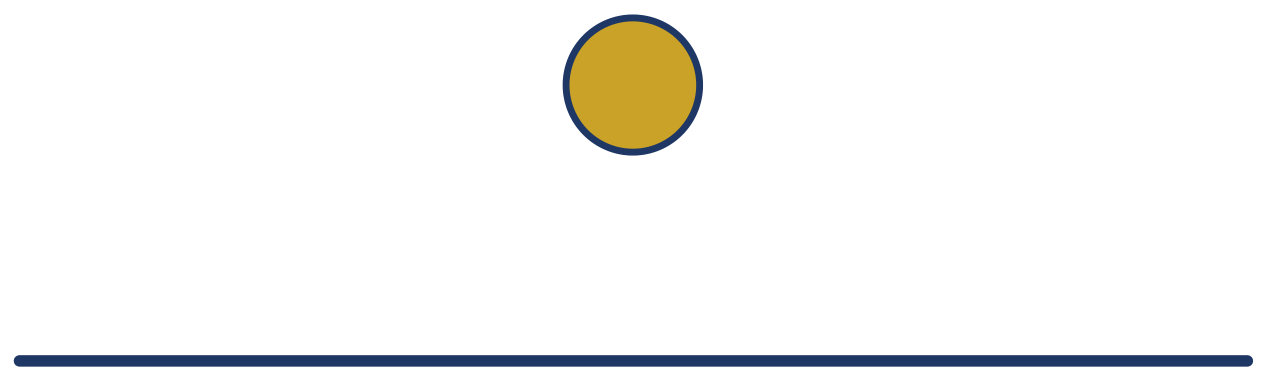


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Worked examples

EXAMPLE 1

Q Where is the dot: above or below the line?



SOLUTION

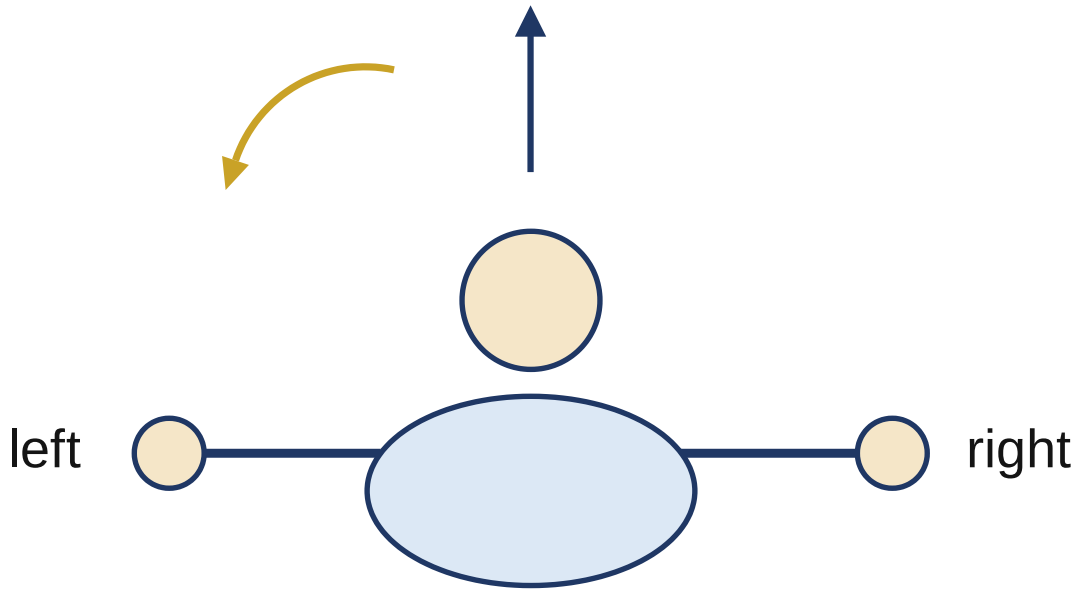
Above means higher up on the page. The dot sits higher than the line.

So the dot is above the line.

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EXAMPLE 2

Q Face north, then turn toward your left hand. Which way do you face now?



SOLUTION

Stand facing north and hold out your left hand. Your left hand points west.

So a turn toward that side faces you west.

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Practice questions

1 A book sits on a table. Is the book above or below the table? Write above or below.

- A Above
- B Below

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2 You hold a pencil in your left hand and a pen in your right hand. Which hand holds the pencil?

- A Left
- B Right

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3 A cat sits next to a dog on a mat. Is the cat beside the dog or far away? Write beside or far away.

- A Beside
- B Far away

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4 Face north, then turn toward your right hand. Which way do you face now? Write the direction.

- A East
- B West

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5 Face west. Which direction is directly behind you?

- A East
- B West

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6 **A star is drawn next to the title of the page. Is the star at the top or the bottom of the page? Write top or bottom.**

A Top

B Bottom

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7 **A star sits with one moon on each side of it. Where is the star: between the moons or above the moons? Write between or above.**

A Between

B Above

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8 **A toy is in the toy box with the lid closed. Is the toy inside or outside? Write inside or outside.**

A Inside

B Outside

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9 **A bird hides on the far side of a tree, away from you. Is the bird in front or behind? Write in front or behind.**

A In front

B Behind

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10 **On a 3 × 3 grid, a counter sits in the middle row, first column. Which row and column is it in?**

- A Row 2, column 1
- B Row 1, column 2
- C Row 2, column 2
- D Row 3, column 1

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ANSWER KEY

1. Above

2. Left

3. Beside

4. East

5. East

6. Top

7. Between

8. Inside

9. Behind

10. Row 2, column 1

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