

Describing Three-Dimensional Figures

NCTM Standards 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10



- 1 Choose a three-dimensional figure and record its letter here: _____

Describe the faces of your three-dimensional figure and tell if any faces appear to be *congruent*, *parallel*, or *perpendicular*.

- 2 Complete the chart to show how many faces, vertices, and edges your three-dimensional figure has.

Faces	
Vertices	
Edges	

Add the number of faces and vertices:

$$F + V = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

From that sum, subtract the number of edges:

$$F + V - E = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$



3 Find out what other students got as their answer for Problem 2. Are you surprised? Based on what you find out, write a sentence or two stating a possible conclusion about polyhedra.

4 Pick any prism. Choose one vertex of that prism. Count how many faces meet at that vertex.

A Is there any vertex of that prism at which a *different* number of faces meet? _____



B Would your answer be different if you chose a prism with a different base? Explain why. _____

5 Pick any pyramid that has one non-triangular face. Choose one vertex of that pyramid. Count how many faces meet at that vertex.

A Is there any vertex of that pyramid at which a *different* number of faces meet? _____



B Would your answer be different if you chose a pyramid with a different non-triangular base? Explain why. _____

6 Challenge Sketch one of the three-dimensional figures you used on this page.