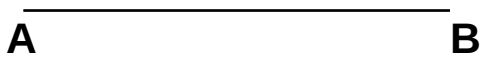
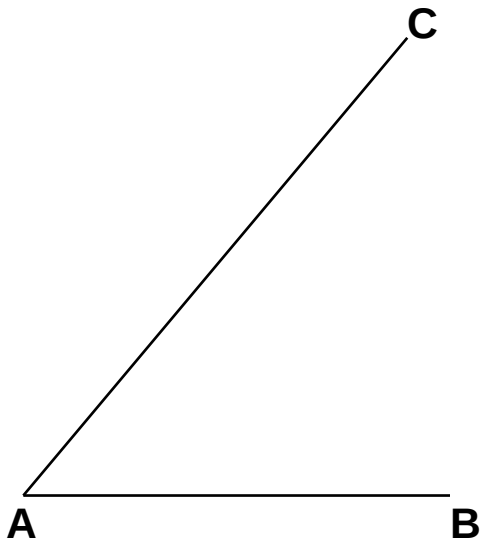
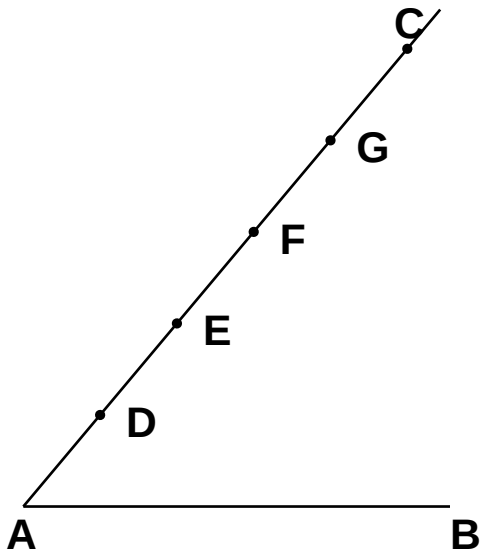


Given AB, we want to cut off a prescribed one fifth of the line

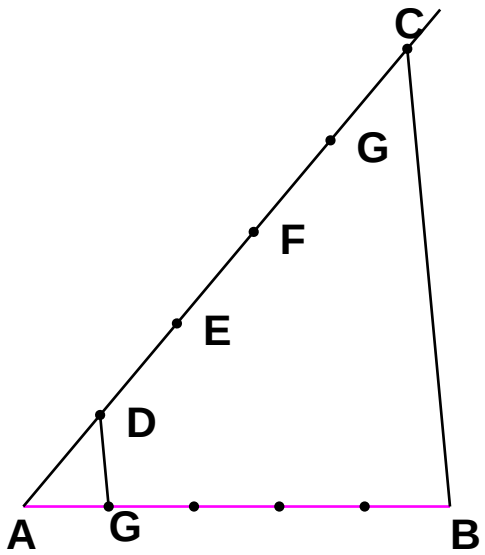


Draw AC, where CAB is any angle



Choose D at random, and choose E, F, G so

that DE, EF, FG, and HC equal to AD



Connect CB, then connect D a parallel line to AB.

Since DG is parallel to CB, a side of the triangle ABC,

then AD is proportional to DC as AG is to GB.

DC is quadruple AD, therefore GB is also quadruple AG,

therefore AB is five times AG. Therefore given the straight

line AB, the prescribed fifth part AG has been cut off.