

History of Mathematical Ideas Quiz 2

Name: _____

You have 10 minutes to complete this quiz. If you have a question raise your hand and remain seated. In order to receive full credit your answer must be **complete**, **legible** and **correct**. Show your work, and give adequate explanations.

Define the following words and phrases.

1. *rational point* (of a plane curve).

A *rational point* of a plane curve is a point on the curve whose coordinates are rational numbers.

2. *Pythagorean triple*.

A *Pythagorean triple* is a triple (a, b, c) of positive whole numbers satisfying $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$.

3. *commensurable*.

Segments a and b are *commensurable* if they are “measured by the same standard”, which means that there is a segment c and positive integers m and n such that $|a| = m|c|$ and $|b| = n|c|$.