Geometry Practice G.CO.C.9: Indirect Proofs www.jmap.org

NAME:

- 1. Write an indirect proof to show that $\sqrt{18} \neq 3\sqrt{6}$.
- 2. Write an indirect proof. Given: $m \angle 1 = 126$ and $m \angle 2 = 125$ Prove: $a \swarrow b$



- 3. Given points A(2, 3) and B(-2, 5), explain how you would use an indirect argument to show that point C(0, 3) is *not* the midpoint of \overline{AB} .
- 4. Use an indirect proof to show that two rectangular prisms with congruent bases but different heights do not have the same volume.
- 5. Write a paragraph outlining the steps involved in using indirect proof.

Suppose that $\sqrt{18} = 3\sqrt{6}$, then $(\sqrt{18})^2 = (3\sqrt{6})^2$. This result 18 = 54 is false,

[1] so the assumption is false; thus $\sqrt{18} \neq 3\sqrt{6}$.

Assume $a \parallel b$. If two parallel lines are cut by a transversal, then alternate interior angles are congruent. This contradicts the given information since $m \ge 1 \ne m \ge 2$. The assumption that $a \parallel b$ is false. Thus [2] $a \not \mid b$.

Assume *C* is the midpoint and that AC = BC. Determine *AC* and *BC*. If $AC \neq BC$, then that contradicts [3] the assumption, so *C* is not the midpoint.

Assume they do have the same volume and let the two prisms have length, width, and height *a*, *b*, *c* and *d*, *e*, *f*, respectively. Then $V_1 = V_2$, so abc = def. But ab = de because the bases are congruent, which [4] implies c = f, a contradiction. So, the prisms do not have the same volume.

You must assume that the opposite of what you want to prove is true. Then you must use logical reasoning to reach a contradiction of an earlier statement. Then state that the assumption you made was false. Then you must state that what you want does must be true.

[5] false. Then you must state that what you wanted to prove must be true.