Unit 4B – Similarity

Tonics on the test:
 Identifying corresponding parts (by
mapping) and Solving.
 Congruent Angles
 Proportional Sides
Similarity Postulates
Midsegment
 Transversals/Linear Pairs (Angle
Relationships)
Exterior Angle Theorem

Tips for Solving Proofs:

- 1. Use what is given and make your markings.
- 2. Notice what you have. Sides? Angles? Try to determine what postulates you may be using and look for the additional components (Vertical angles? Reflexive Angle?)
- 3. Once you find your postulate you have proved the triangles are similar!
- 4. Did you prove what you needed to? Was it just that the triangles are similar? Or was it that sides are proportional? Angles are congruent? Make sure you finish the proof! (If you are looking for proportional sides or congruent angles your justification or reasoning is the definition of similarity.

Making Markings on our triangles:



Proportional sides and Scale Factor:

- Make sure you pay special attention the triangle similarity statement. This will help you match the correct sides.
- Look at what direction it states to find the scale factor.
 - If we go from a bigger shape to a smaller shape our scale factor should be a fraction less than 1.
 - If we go from a smaller shape to a bigger shape, our scale factor should be a fraction greater than 1.
 - Also, think "STARTED FROM THE BOTTOM, NOW WERE HERE."
 - The pre-image side goes on the bottom of the fraction (denominator) and the image goes on the top of the fraction (the numerator.)

Similarity Postulates:

Angle – Angle Similarity (AA~)	Two angles in the triangle are congruent.
Side – Angle –Side Similarity (SAS~)	Two corresponding sides are proportional and
	the angles in between are congruent.
Side – Side – Side Similarity (SSS~)	All Corresponding sides are proportional to one
	another. Their ratios, or reduced fractions are
	equal.