## **SIMILAR FIGURES AND SOLIDS ON TAKS**

Below are examples of similar figure and solid problems in multiple choice format. Try solving the problems before looking at the solutions. (Cover the solutions with a piece of paper.) Then check your solutions against the ones given.

1. Which pair of polygons are similar?



2. Which dimensions correspond to a rectangular prism that is similar to the one shown below?



- **F** 3 cm by 9 cm by 16 cm
- **G** 6 cm by 12 cm by 16 cm
- **H** 18 cm by 24 cm by 72 cm
- J 21 cm by 63 cm by 84 cm

## **Solution**

Two polygons are similar if corresponding angles are congruent and corresponding side lengths are proportional.

TEXAS TAKS PRACTICE

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Choice A: The rectangles are not similar because 14  $_{\perp}$  6

$$\frac{1}{7} \neq \frac{3}{4}$$

Choice B: The triangle on the right has angles measuring 66°, 66°, and  $180^{\circ} - 2(66^{\circ}) = 48^{\circ}$ . Because none of these angle measures is 42°, the two triangles cannot be similar.

Choice D: The rectangles are not similar because  $\frac{75}{50} \neq \frac{20}{30}$ .

Choice C: The third angle in the triangle on the left measures  $180^{\circ} - 43^{\circ} - 85^{\circ} = 52^{\circ}$ . The two triangles both have  $85^{\circ}$  and  $52^{\circ}$  angles, so they are similar by the Angle-Angle Similarity Postulate.

The correct answer is C.

**A B C D** 

## **Solution**

Two rectangular prisms are similar if corresponding edge lengths are proportional.

Choice F is not similar because  $\frac{12}{3} \neq \frac{48}{16}$ . Choice G is not similar because  $\frac{12}{6} \neq \frac{36}{12}$ . Choice H is not similar because  $\frac{36}{24} \neq \frac{48}{72}$ . Choice J is similar because  $\frac{12}{21} = \frac{36}{63} = \frac{48}{84}$ . The correct answer is J.

 F
 G
 H
 J