Geometry Practice G.CO.C.10: Triangle Proofs www.jmap.org

NAME:

1. Write a paragraph proof of the following theorem: If a triangle is a right triangle, then the acute angles are complementary.

2. Write a flow proof to prove that the perpendicular bisector of the side of a scalene triangle is parallel to the altitude to that side.

By the definition of right angle, $m \angle F = 90$ and $m \angle E + m \angle F + m \angle G = 180$ by the Triangle Angle-Sum Theorem. Hence $m \angle E + 90 + m \angle G = 180$ by substitution. By the Subtraction Property of Equality, [1] $m \angle E + m \angle G = 90$, so $\angle E$ and $\angle G$ are complementary by definition.

Check students' work. They should show that since both are perpendicular to the same line, they form $[2] 90^{\circ}$ angles with the line. By the converse of the Corresponding Angles Postulate, the lines are parallel.