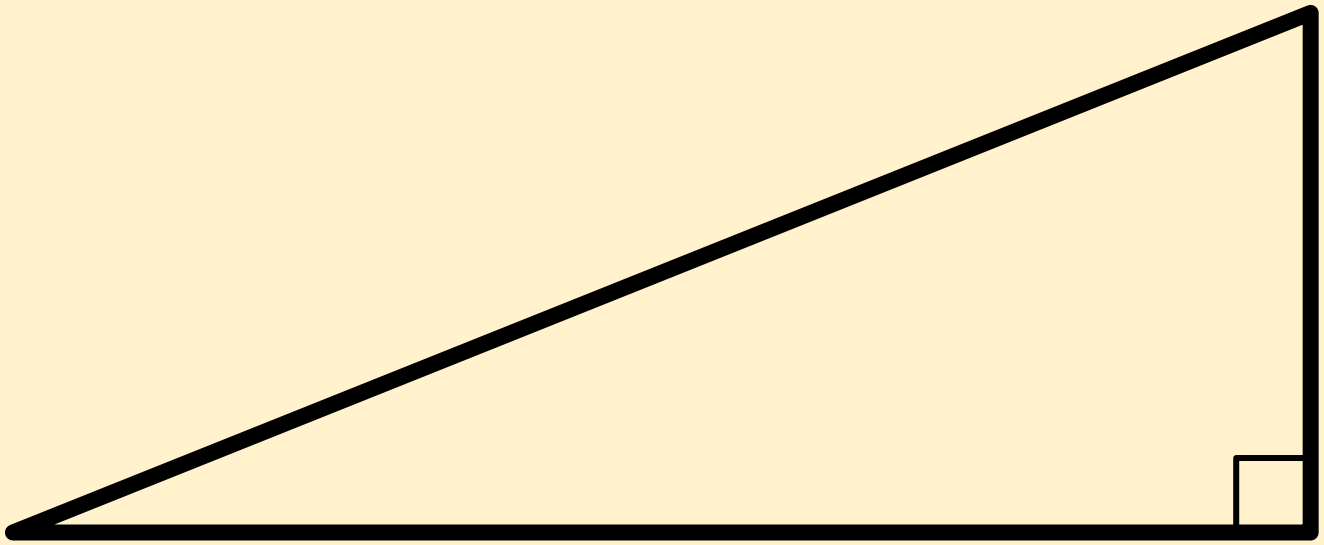
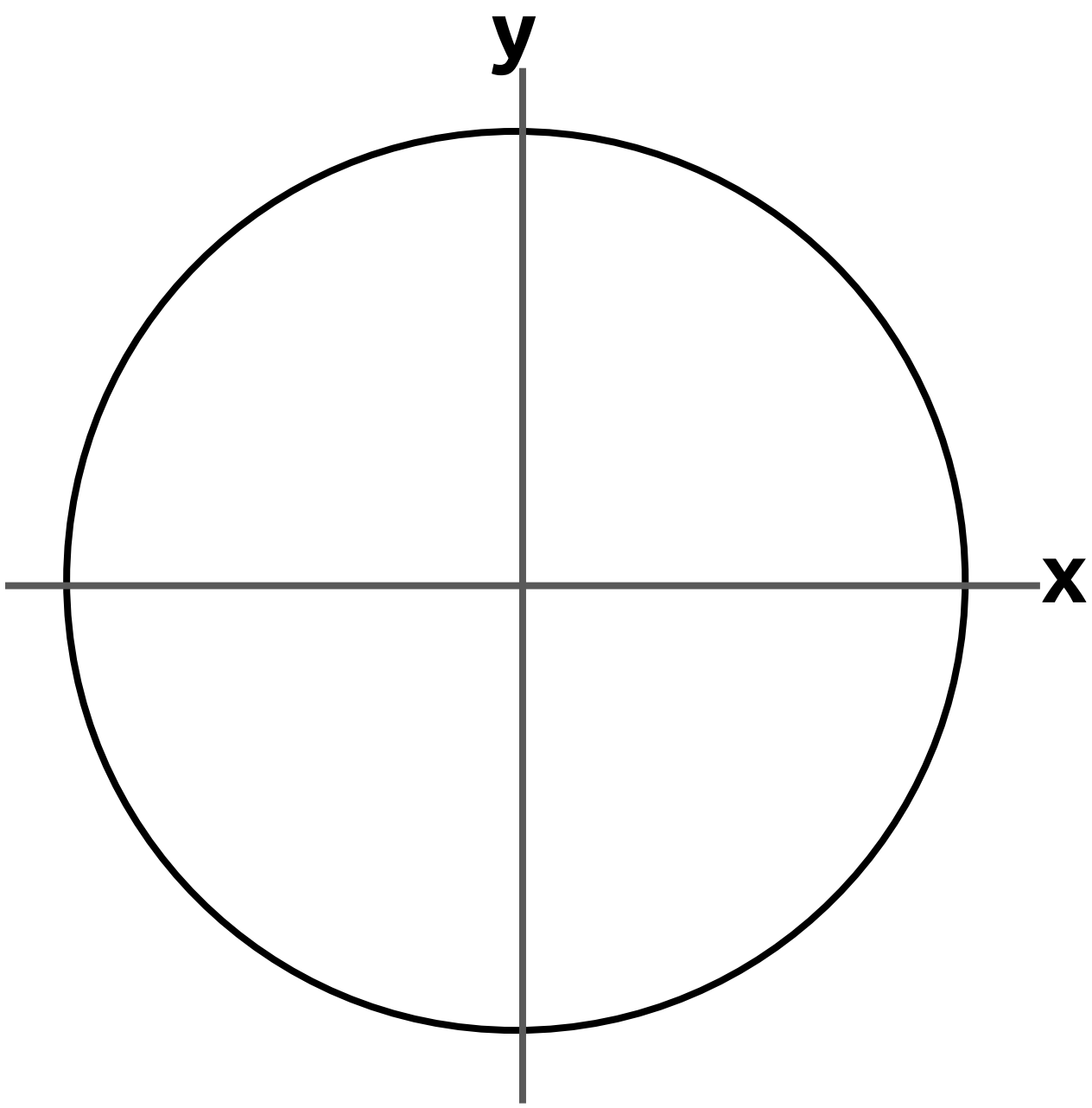
Using Reference Angles



Cos (120°)

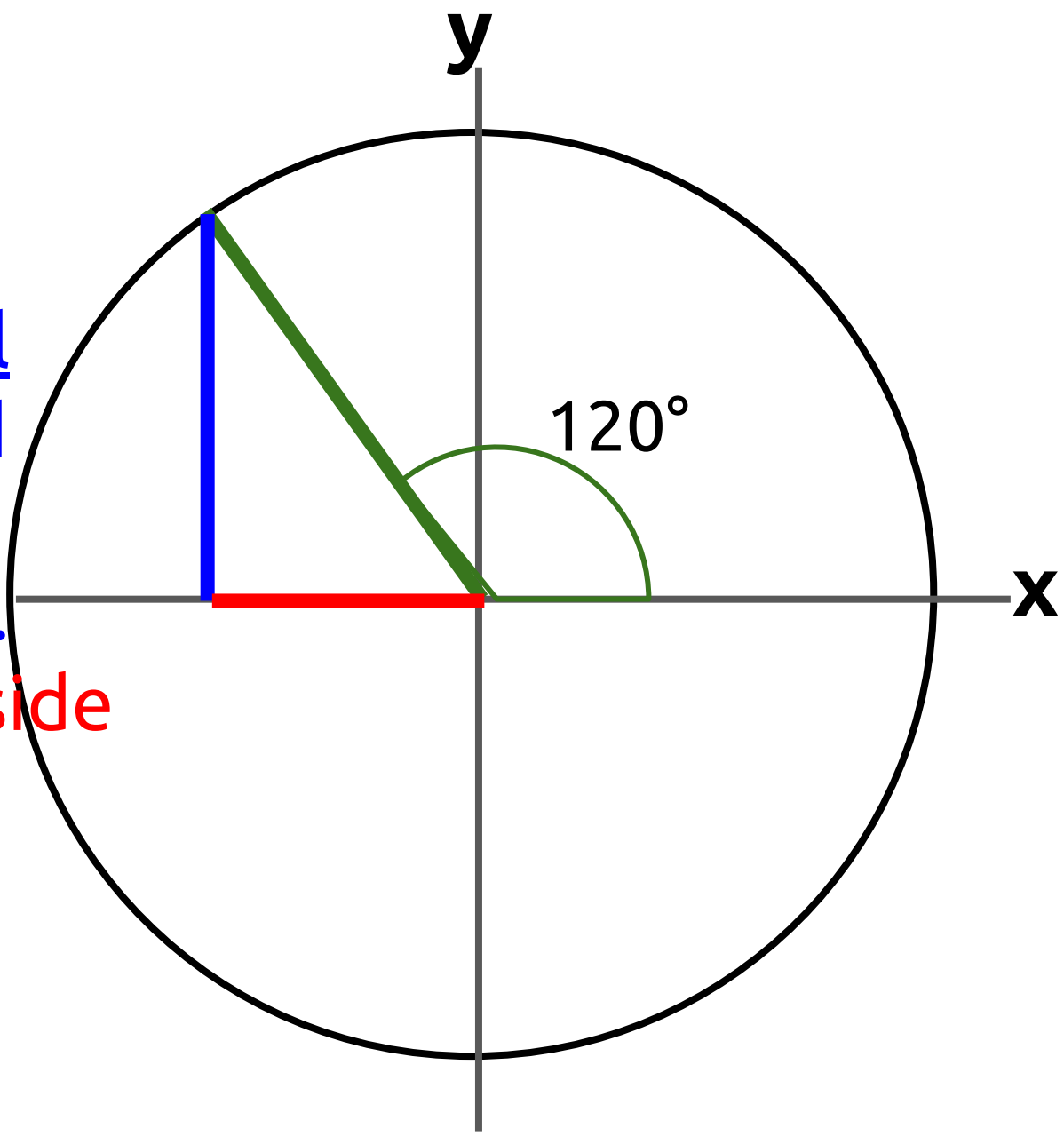


Cos (120°)

1) Draw your terminal side.

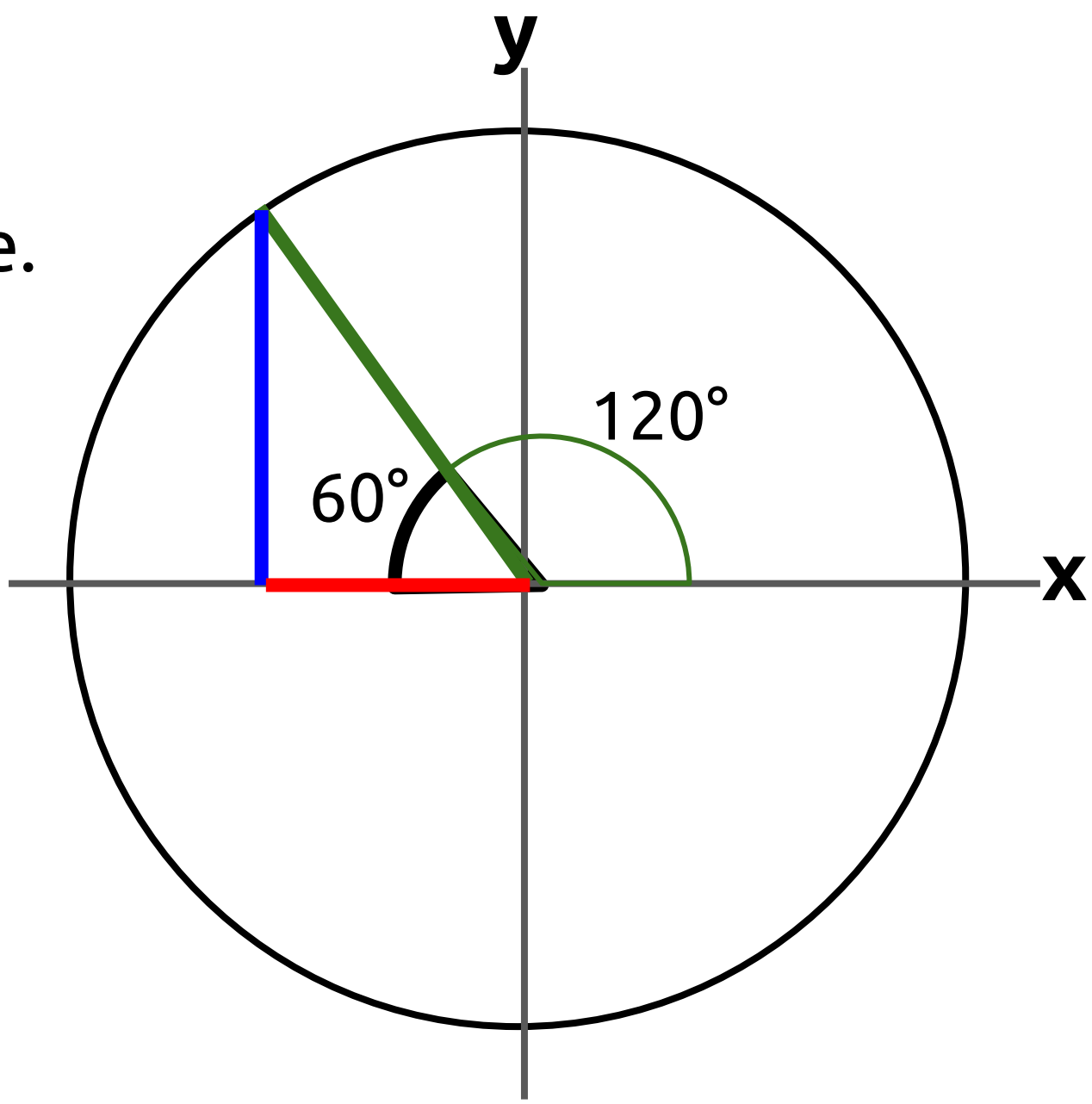
2) Draw a vertical line from the end of your terminal side to the x-axis.

3) Draw the last side of your triangle on the x-axis.



Cos (120°)

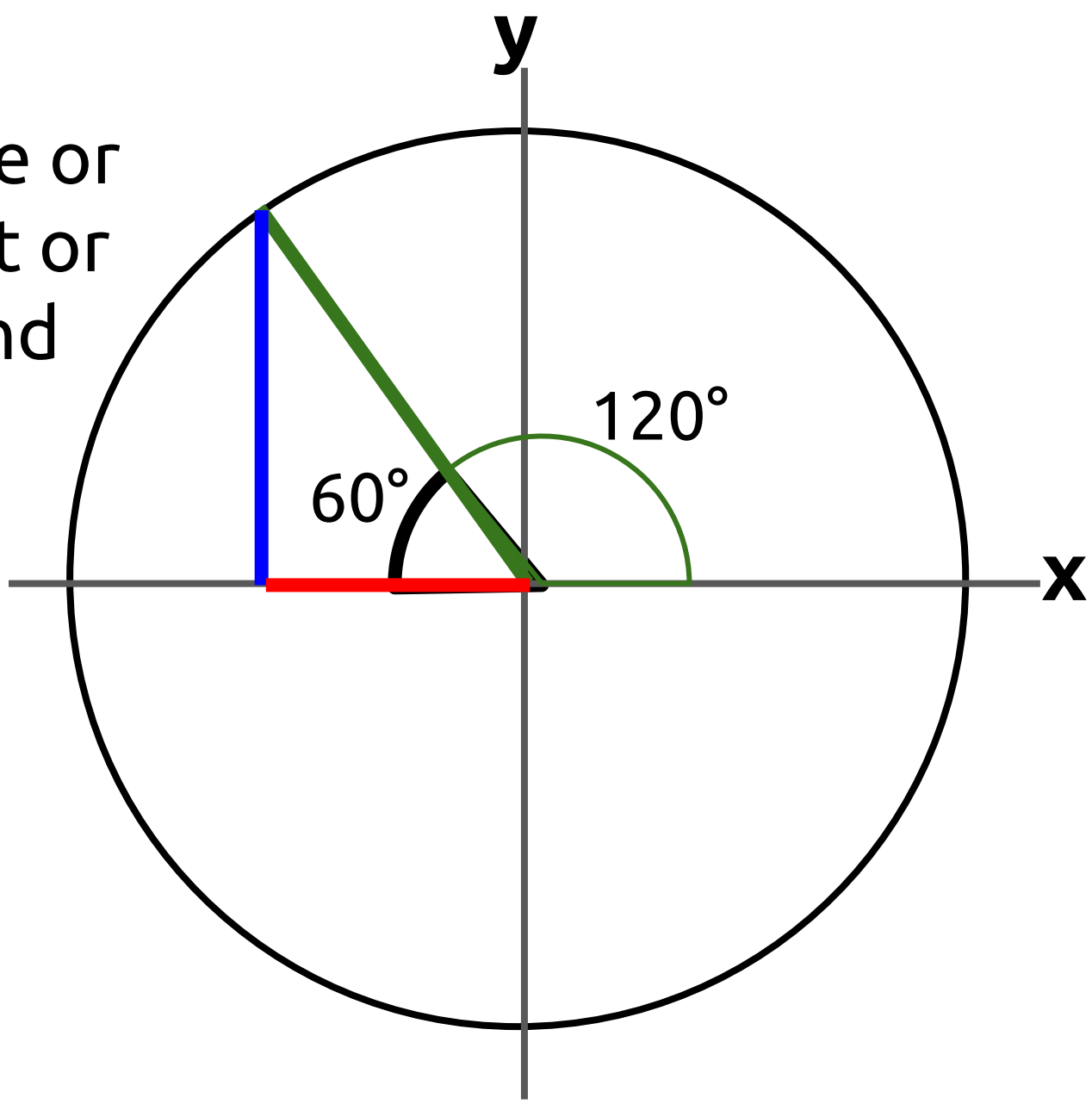
4) Find your reference angle.



Cos (120°)

5) Use a triangle or reference sheet or calculator to find cos(60°)

cos(60°) = 0.5

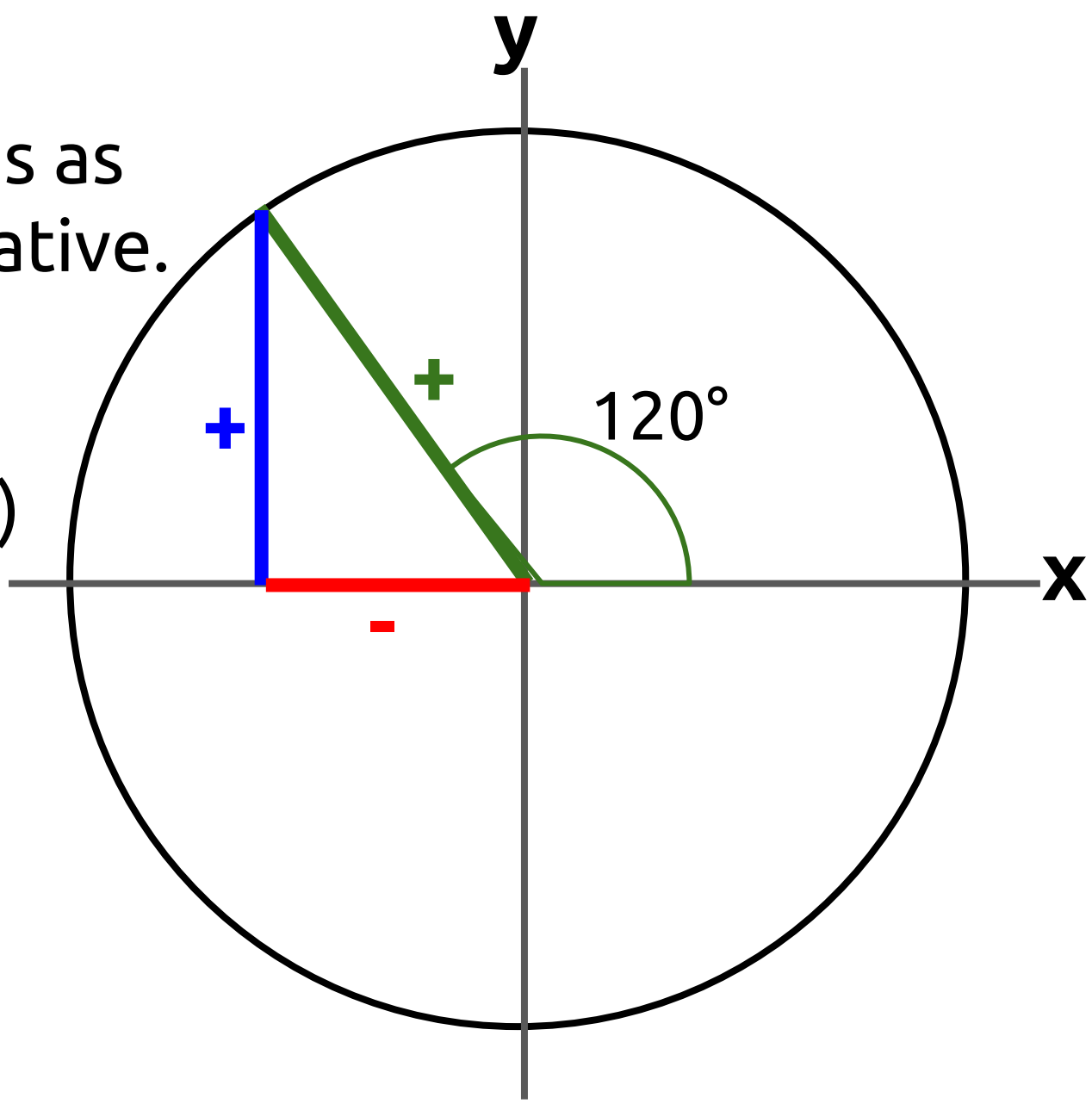


Cos (120°)

6) Label all sides as positive or negative.

(Hypotenuse is always positive)

cos(60°) = 0.5



Cos (120°)

7) Determine whether your answer will be positive or negative.

cos(60°) = 0.5

cos = **adj**/**hyp**

-/**+** = **-**

cos(120°)= -0.5