Trigonometry Basics

There are a few basic things about trigonometry that we need to keep in mind:

1. There are six parts to any triangle we'll be working with: 3 sides and 3 angles.

2. To figure out what all angles and sides are (if possible) we need to have at least half of the information. This means I have to have at least three measures given.

3. One of those three measures has to be a side.
   We must have the measure of at least one side in order to find the rest of the measures of a triangle. This is because there are an infinite number of triangles having congruent angles. (They are all similar!)

4. It is not possible to make a triangle out of any three measures given.
   Sometimes the third side or third angle is too large to accommodate the other two measures.

5. The Pythagorean Theorem only works with right triangles. Do not attempt to use it on oblique triangles.

6. SSA still does not guarantee a single solution!