

8. [5 points] The *I-Love-Functions Dog Hotel* has a one-of-a-kind Doggie Ferris Wheel for its residents to use on special occasions. The hotel residents board the Doggie Ferris Wheel at its lowest point, from a platform that is 5 feet high. The Doggie Ferris Wheel is 34 feet in diameter.

- a. [3 points] If each full rotation takes 1 minute, how high off of the ground is a dog when she is exactly 20 seconds into the ride?

Show all work (including any pictures). Give your final answer in decimal form, NOT exact form.

*Solution:* There were multiple ways to approach this problem! One way was to first model the height of a dog using a sinusoidal function. Since this function starts at its minimum value (when the dog boards), our simplest starting function will be  $\cos(x)$ . Then factoring in the amplitude, period, and shift, we end up with the following height formula as a function of time  $t$  in seconds:

$$h(t) = -17 \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{60}t\right) + 22$$

To compute the dog's height at 20 seconds, we can plug  $t = 20$  into the above formula and get  $h(20) = 30.5$ .

We need to consider whether or calculator should be in radians or degrees when we do this. The coefficient  $2\pi/60$  was implicitly assuming we were starting with a  $\cos$  function with period  $2\pi$ , so our calculator should be in radians to use this formula. If we didn't realize that and it was in degrees, then we'd get 5.011 feet. However, since they're boarding at 5 feet and going all the way up to 39 feet, it doesn't make sense that 20 seconds into a 60-second rotation would have the dog just slightly above the boarding height—so we could catch our own mistake this way.

There is a totally different way of answer this problem. Consider a Ferris Wheel with center  $(0, 22)$  and let's figure out where on the Ferris Wheel we'd be at 20 seconds. Since 20 seconds is a third of a 60-second rotation, it would put the dog at  $360^\circ/3 = 120^\circ$  from the boarding point, so at  $30^\circ$  above the horizontal point ("3 o'clock position"). The height at this angle above the "3 o'clock position" will be  $\sin(30^\circ) \cdot 17 = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 17 = 8.5$  feet. If we add this to a starting height at the 3 o'clock position of 22 feet, we get the same height as the method above: 30.5 feet.

Height:                     **30.5**                     feet

- b. [2 points] What length of the Doggie Ferris Wheel's arc is traversed by a passenger dog in 47 seconds of riding?

Show all work (including any pictures). Give your final answer in decimal form, NOT exact form.

*Solution:* The total circumference of the Ferris Wheel is  $2\pi \cdot 17 = 34\pi \approx 106.81$  feet. The dog is riding for  $\frac{47}{60}$  of a full rotation, so a total of  $\frac{47}{60} \cdot 34\pi = 83.671$  feet.

Length of arc:                     **83.671**                     feet