

# NCERT Solutions for Class 11 Maths Chapter 12

## Introduction to Three Dimensional Geometry Class 11

Chapter 12 Introduction to Three Dimensional Geometry Exercise 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, miscellaneous Solutions

**Exercise 12.1** : Solutions of Questions on Page Number : 271

**Q1 :**

**A point is on the x-axis. What are its y-coordinates and z-coordinates?**

**Answer :**

If a point is on the x-axis, then its y-coordinates and z-coordinates are zero.

**Q2 :**

**A point is in the XZ-plane. What can you say about its y-coordinate?**

**Answer :**

If a point is in the XZ plane, then its y-coordinate is zero.

**Q3 :**

**Name the octants in which the following points lie:**

**(1, 2, 3), (4, -2, 3), (4, -2, -5), (4, 2, -5), (-4, 2, -5), (-4, 2, 5),**

**(-3, -1, 6), (2, -4, -7)**

**Answer :**

The x-coordinate, y-coordinate, and z-coordinate of point (1, 2, 3) are all positive. Therefore, this point lies in octant **I**.

The x-coordinate, y-coordinate, and z-coordinate of point (4, -2, 3) are positive, negative, and positive respectively. Therefore, this point lies in octant **IV**.

The x-coordinate, y-coordinate, and z-coordinate of point (4, -2, -5) are positive, negative, and negative respectively. Therefore, this point lies in octant **VIII**.

The x-coordinate, y-coordinate, and z-coordinate of point (4, 2, -5) are positive, positive, and negative respectively. Therefore, this point lies in octant **V**.

The x-coordinate, y-coordinate, and z-coordinate of point (-4, 2, -5) are negative, positive, and negative respectively. Therefore, this point lies in octant **VI**.

The x-coordinate, y-coordinate, and z-coordinate of point (-4, 2, 5) are negative, positive, and positive respectively. Therefore, this point lies in octant **II**.

The x-coordinate, y-coordinate, and z-coordinate of point (-3, -1, 6) are negative, negative, and positive respectively. Therefore, this point lies in octant **III**.

The x-coordinate, y-coordinate, and z-coordinate of point (2, -4, -7) are positive, negative, and negative respectively. Therefore, this point lies in octant **VIII**.

**Q4 :**

**Fill in the blanks:**

**Answer :**

(i) The x-axis and y-axis taken together determine a plane known as XY – plane.

(ii) The coordinates of points in the XY-plane are of the form (x, y, 0).

(iii) Coordinate planes divide the space into eight octants.

**Exercise 12.2 : Solutions of Questions on Page Number : 273**

**Q1 :**

**Find the distance between the following pairs of points:**

(i) (2, 3, 5) and (4, 3, 1) (ii) (-3, 7, 2) and (2, 4, -1)

(iii) (-1, 3, -4) and (1, -3, 4) (iv) (2, -1, 3) and (-2, 1, 3)

**Answer :**

The distance between points  $P(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  and  $P(x_2, y_2, z_2)$  is given

by 
$$PQ = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

(i) Distance between points (2, 3, 5) and (4, 3, 1)

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sqrt{(4-2)^2 + (3-3)^2 + (1-5)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{(2)^2 + (0)^2 + (-4)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{4+16} \\ &= \sqrt{20} \\ &= 2\sqrt{5} \end{aligned}$$

(ii) Distance between points (-3, 7, 2) and (2, 4, -1)

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sqrt{(2+3)^2 + (4-7)^2 + (-1-2)^2} \\
&= \sqrt{(5)^2 + (-3)^2 + (-3)^2} \\
&= \sqrt{25+9+9} \\
&= \sqrt{43}
\end{aligned}$$

(iii) Distance between points  $(-1, 3)$  and  $(1, -3, 4)$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sqrt{(1+1)^2 + (-3-3)^2 + (4+4)^2} \\
&= \sqrt{(2)^2 + (-6)^2 + (8)^2} \\
&= \sqrt{4+36+64} = \sqrt{104} = 2\sqrt{26}
\end{aligned}$$

(iv) Distance between points  $(2, -1, 3)$  and  $(-2, 1, 3)$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sqrt{(-2-2)^2 + (1+1)^2 + (3-3)^2} \\
&= \sqrt{(-4)^2 + (2)^2 + (0)^2} \\
&= \sqrt{16+4} \\
&= \sqrt{20} \\
&= 2\sqrt{5}
\end{aligned}$$

**Q2 :**

**Show that the points  $(-2, 3, 5)$ ,  $(1, 2, 3)$  and  $(7, 0, -1)$  are collinear.**

**Answer :**

Let points  $(-2, 3, 5)$ ,  $(1, 2, 3)$ , and  $(7, 0, -1)$  be denoted by P, Q, and R respectively.

Points P, Q, and R are collinear if they lie on a line.

$$\begin{aligned}
 PQ &= \sqrt{(1+2)^2 + (2-3)^2 + (3-5)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{(3)^2 + (-1)^2 + (-2)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{9+1+4} \\
 &= \sqrt{14}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 QR &= \sqrt{(7-1)^2 + (0-2)^2 + (-1-3)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{(6)^2 + (-2)^2 + (-4)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{36+4+16} \\
 &= \sqrt{56} \\
 &= 2\sqrt{14}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 PR &= \sqrt{(7+2)^2 + (0-3)^2 + (-1-5)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{(9)^2 + (-3)^2 + (-6)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{81+9+36} \\
 &= \sqrt{126} \\
 &= 3\sqrt{14}
 \end{aligned}$$

Here,  $PQ + QR = \sqrt{14} + 2\sqrt{14} = 3\sqrt{14} = PR$

Hence, points P(2, 3, 5), Q(1, 2, 3), and R(7, 0, -1) are collinear.

**Q3 :**

**Verify the following:**

- (i) (0, 7, -10), (1, 6, -6) and (4, 9, -6) are the vertices of an isosceles triangle.
- (ii) (0, 7, 10), (-1, 6, 6) and (-4, 9, 6) are the vertices of a right angled triangle.
- (iii) (-1, 2, 1), (1, -2, 5), (4, -7, 8) and (2, -3, 4) are the vertices of a parallelogram.

**Answer :**

- (i) Let points (0, 7, -10), (1, 6, -6), and (4, 9, -6) be denoted by A, B, and C respectively.

$$\begin{aligned}
 AB &= \sqrt{(1-0)^2 + (6-7)^2 + (-6+10)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{(1)^2 + (-1)^2 + (4)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{1+1+16} \\
 &= \sqrt{18} \\
 &= 3\sqrt{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 BC &= \sqrt{(4-1)^2 + (9-6)^2 + (-6+6)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{(3)^2 + (3)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{9+9} = \sqrt{18} = 3\sqrt{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 CA &= \sqrt{(0-4)^2 + (7-9)^2 + (-10+6)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{(-4)^2 + (-2)^2 + (-4)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{16+4+16} = \sqrt{36} = 6
 \end{aligned}$$

Here,  $AB = BC \neq CA$

Thus, the given points are the vertices of an isosceles triangle.

(ii) Let  $(0, 7, 10)$ ,  $(-1, 6, 6)$ , and  $(-4, 9, 6)$  be denoted by A, B, and C respectively.

$$\begin{aligned}
 AB &= \sqrt{(-1-0)^2 + (6-7)^2 + (6-10)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{(-1)^2 + (-1)^2 + (-4)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{1+1+16} = \sqrt{18} \\
 &= 3\sqrt{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 BC &= \sqrt{(-4+1)^2 + (9-6)^2 + (6-6)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{(-3)^2 + (3)^2 + (0)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{9+9} = \sqrt{18} \\
 &= 3\sqrt{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 CA &= \sqrt{(0+4)^2 + (7-9)^2 + (10-6)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{(4)^2 + (-2)^2 + (4)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{16+4+16} \\
 &= \sqrt{36} \\
 &= 6
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Now, } AB^2 + BC^2 = (3\sqrt{2})^2 + (3\sqrt{2})^2 = 18 + 18 = 36 = AC^2$$

Therefore, by Pythagoras theorem, ABC is a right triangle.

Hence, the given points are the vertices of a right-angled triangle.

(iii) Let  $(-1, 2, 1)$ ,  $(1, -2, 5)$ ,  $(4, -7, 8)$ , and  $(2, -3, 4)$  be denoted by A, B, C, and D respectively.

$$\begin{aligned}
 AB &= \sqrt{(1+1)^2 + (-2-2)^2 + (5-1)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{4+16+16} \\
 &= \sqrt{36} \\
 &= 6
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 BC &= \sqrt{(4-1)^2 + (-7+2)^2 + (8-5)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{9+25+9} = \sqrt{43}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 CD &= \sqrt{(2-4)^2 + (-3+7)^2 + (4-8)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{4+16+16} \\
 &= \sqrt{36} \\
 &= 6
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 DA &= \sqrt{(-1-2)^2 + (2+3)^2 + (1-4)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{9+25+9} = \sqrt{43}
 \end{aligned}$$

Here,  $AB = CD = 6$ ,  $BC = AD = \sqrt{43}$

Hence, the opposite sides of quadrilateral ABCD, whose vertices are taken in order, are equal.

Therefore, ABCD is a parallelogram.

Hence, the given points are the vertices of a parallelogram.

**Q4 :**

Find the equation of the set of points which are equidistant from the points (1, 2, 3) and (3, 2, -1).

**Answer :**

Let P (x, y, z) be the point that is equidistant from points A(1, 2, 3) and B(3, 2, -1).

Accordingly, PA = PB

$$\Rightarrow PA^2 = PB^2$$

$$\Rightarrow (x-1)^2 + (y-2)^2 + (z-3)^2 = (x-3)^2 + (y-2)^2 + (z+1)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 - 2x + 1 + y^2 - 4y + 4 + z^2 - 6z + 9 = x^2 - 6x + 9 + y^2 - 4y + 4 + z^2 + 2z + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow -2x - 4y - 6z + 14 = -6x - 4y + 2z + 14$$

$$\Rightarrow -2x - 6z + 6x - 2z = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 4x - 8z = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x - 2z = 0$$

Thus, the required equation is  $x - 2z = 0$ .

**Q5 :**

Find the equation of the set of points P, the sum of whose distances from A (4, 0, 0) and B (-4, 0, 0) is equal to 10.

**Answer :**

Let the coordinates of P be (x, y, z).

The coordinates of points A and B are (4, 0, 0) and (-4, 0, 0) respectively.

It is given that PA + PB = 10.

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{(x-4)^2 + y^2 + z^2} + \sqrt{(x+4)^2 + y^2 + z^2} = 10$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{(x-4)^2 + y^2 + z^2} = 10 - \sqrt{(x+4)^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$

On squaring both sides, we obtain

$$\Rightarrow (x-4)^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 100 - 20\sqrt{(x+4)^2 + y^2 + z^2} + (x+4)^2 + y^2 + z^2$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 - 8x + 16 + y^2 + z^2 = 100 - 20\sqrt{x^2 + 8x + 16 + y^2 + z^2} + x^2 + 8x + 16 + y^2 + z^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 20\sqrt{x^2 + 8x + 16 + y^2 + z^2} = 100 + 16x$$

$$\Rightarrow 5\sqrt{x^2 + 8x + 16 + y^2 + z^2} = (25 + 4x)$$

On squaring both sides again, we obtain

$$25(x^2 + 8x + 16 + y^2 + z^2) = 625 + 16x^2 + 200x$$

$$\Rightarrow 25x^2 + 200x + 400 + 25y^2 + 25z^2 = 625 + 16x^2 + 200x$$

$$\Rightarrow 9x^2 + 25y^2 + 25z^2 - 225 = 0$$

Thus, the required equation is  $9x^2 + 25y^2 + 25z^2 - 225 = 0$ .

**Exercise 12.3 :** Solutions of Questions on Page Number : 277

**Q1 :**

Find the coordinates of the point which divides the line segment joining the points (-2, 3, 5) and (1, -4, 6) in the ratio (i) 2:3 internally, (ii) 2:3 externally.

**Answer :**

(i) The coordinates of point R that divides the line segment joining points P ( $x_1, y_1, z_1$ ) and Q ( $x_2, y_2, z_2$ ) internally in the ratio  $m : n$  are

$$\left( \frac{mx_2 + nx_1}{m+n}, \frac{my_2 + ny_1}{m+n}, \frac{mz_2 + nz_1}{m+n} \right)$$

Let R ( $x, y, z$ ) be the point that divides the line segment joining points (-2, 3, 5) and (1, -4, 6) internally in the ratio 2:3

$$x = \frac{2(1) + 3(-2)}{2+3}, y = \frac{2(-4) + 3(3)}{2+3}, \text{ and } z = \frac{2(6) + 3(5)}{2+3}$$

$$\text{i.e., } x = \frac{-4}{5}, y = \frac{1}{5}, \text{ and } z = \frac{27}{5}$$

$$\left( -\frac{4}{5}, \frac{1}{5}, \frac{27}{5} \right)$$

Thus, the coordinates of the required point are  $\left( -\frac{4}{5}, \frac{1}{5}, \frac{27}{5} \right)$ .

(ii) The coordinates of point R that divides the line segment joining points P ( $x_1, y_1, z_1$ ) and Q ( $x_2, y_2, z_2$ ) externally in the ratio  $m : n$  are

$$\left( \frac{mx_2 - nx_1}{m-n}, \frac{my_2 - ny_1}{m-n}, \frac{mz_2 - nz_1}{m-n} \right)$$

Let R ( $x, y, z$ ) be the point that divides the line segment joining points (-2, 3, 5) and (1, -4, 6) externally in the ratio 2:3

$$x = \frac{2(1) - 3(-2)}{2-3}, y = \frac{2(-4) - 3(3)}{2-3}, \text{ and } z = \frac{2(6) - 3(5)}{2-3}$$

$$\text{i.e., } x = -8, y = 17, \text{ and } z = 3$$

Thus, the coordinates of the required point are (-8, 17, 3).

**Q2 :**



Given that P (3, 2, -4), Q (5, 4, -6) and R (9, 8, -10) are collinear. Find the ratio in which Q divides PR.

**Answer :**

Let point Q (5, 4, -6) divide the line segment joining points P (3, 2, -4) and R (9, 8, -10) in the ratio  $k:1$ .

Therefore, by section formula,

$$(5, 4, -6) = \left( \frac{k(9)+3}{k+1}, \frac{k(8)+2}{k+1}, \frac{k(-10)-4}{k+1} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{9k+3}{k+1} = 5$$

$$\Rightarrow 9k+3 = 5k+5$$

$$\Rightarrow 4k = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow k = \frac{2}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Thus, point Q divides PR in the ratio 1:2.

**Q3 :**

Find the ratio in which the YZ-plane divides the line segment formed by joining the points (-2, 4, 7) and (3, -5, 8).

**Answer :**

Let the YZ plane divide the line segment joining points (-2, 4, 7) and (3, -5, 8) in the ratio  $k:1$ .

Hence, by section formula, the coordinates of point of intersection are given by

$$\left( \frac{k(3)-2}{k+1}, \frac{k(-5)+4}{k+1}, \frac{k(8)+7}{k+1} \right)$$

On the YZ plane, the x-coordinate of any point is zero.

$$\frac{3k-2}{k+1} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 3k-2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow k = \frac{2}{3}$$

Thus, the YZ plane divides the line segment formed by joining the given points in the ratio 2:3.

**Q4 :**

Using section formula, show that the points A (2, -3, 4), B (-1, 2, 1) and  $C\left(0, \frac{1}{3}, 2\right)$  are collinear.

**Answer :**

The given points are A (2, -3, 4), B (-1, 2, 1), and  $C\left(0, \frac{1}{3}, 2\right)$ .

Let P be a point that divides AB in the ratio  $k:1$ .

Hence, by section formula, the coordinates of P are given by

$$\left(\frac{k(-1)+2}{k+1}, \frac{k(2)-3}{k+1}, \frac{k(1)+4}{k+1}\right)$$

Now, we find the value of  $k$  at which point P coincides with point C.

By taking  $\frac{-k+2}{k+1} = 0$ , we obtain  $k = 2$ .

For  $k = 2$ , the coordinates of point P are  $\left(0, \frac{1}{3}, 2\right)$ .

i.e.,  $C\left(0, \frac{1}{3}, 2\right)$  is a point that divides AB externally in the ratio 2:1 and is the same as point P.

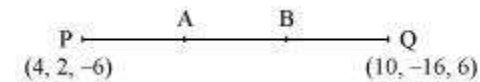
Hence, points A, B, and C are collinear.

**Q5 :**

Find the coordinates of the points which trisect the line segment joining the points P (4, 2, -6) and Q (10, -16, 6).

**Answer :**

Let A and B be the points that trisect the line segment joining points P (4, 2, -6) and Q (10, -16, 6)



Point A divides PQ in the ratio 1:2. Therefore, by section formula, the coordinates of point A are given by

$$\left(\frac{1(10)+2(4)}{1+2}, \frac{1(-16)+2(2)}{1+2}, \frac{1(6)+2(-6)}{1+2}\right) = (6, -4, -2)$$

Point B divides PQ in the ratio 2:1. Therefore, by section formula, the coordinates of point B are given by

$$\left( \frac{2(10)+1(4)}{2+1}, \frac{2(-16)+1(2)}{2+1}, \frac{2(6)-1(6)}{2+1} \right) = (8, -10, 2)$$

Thus,  $(6, -4, 2)$  and  $(8, -10, 2)$  are the points that trisect the line segment joining points  $P(4, 2, -6)$  and  $Q(10, -16, 6)$ .

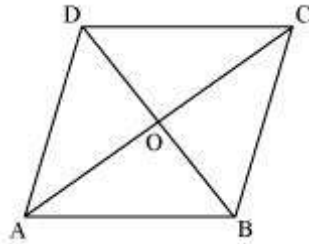
**Exercise Miscellaneous : Solutions of Questions on Page Number : 278**

**Q1 :**

**Three vertices of a parallelogram ABCD are A  $(3, -1, 2)$ , B  $(1, 2, -4)$  and C  $(-1, 1, 2)$ . Find the coordinates of the fourth vertex.**

**Answer :**

The three vertices of a parallelogram ABCD are given as A  $(3, -1, 2)$ , B  $(1, 2, -4)$ , and C  $(-1, 1, 2)$ . Let the coordinates of the fourth vertex be D  $(x, y, z)$ .



We know that the diagonals of a parallelogram bisect each other.

Therefore, in parallelogram ABCD, AC and BD bisect each other.

$\therefore$  Mid-point of AC = Mid-point of BD

$$\Rightarrow \left( \frac{3-1}{2}, \frac{-1+1}{2}, \frac{2+2}{2} \right) = \left( \frac{x+1}{2}, \frac{y+2}{2}, \frac{z-4}{2} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow (1, 0, 2) = \left( \frac{x+1}{2}, \frac{y+2}{2}, \frac{z-4}{2} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x+1}{2} = 1, \frac{y+2}{2} = 0, \text{ and } \frac{z-4}{2} = 2$$

$\Rightarrow x = 1, y = -2, \text{ and } z = 8$

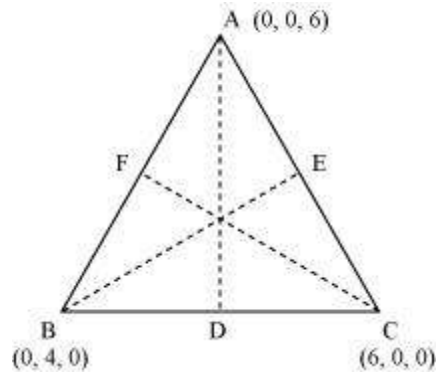
Thus, the coordinates of the fourth vertex are  $(1, -2, 8)$ .

**Q2 :**

**Find the lengths of the medians of the triangle with vertices A  $(0, 0, 6)$ , B  $(0, 4, 0)$  and C  $(6, 0, 0)$ .**

**Answer :**

Let AD, BE, and CF be the medians of the given triangle ABC.



Since AD is the median, D is the mid-point of BC.

$$\therefore \text{Coordinates of point D} = \left( \frac{0+6}{2}, \frac{4+0}{2}, \frac{0+0}{2} \right) = (3, 2, 0)$$

$$AD = \sqrt{(0-3)^2 + (0-2)^2 + (6-0)^2} = \sqrt{9+4+36} = \sqrt{49} = 7$$

Since BE is the median, E is the mid-point of AC.

$$\therefore \text{Coordinates of point E} = \left( \frac{0+6}{2}, \frac{0+0}{2}, \frac{6+0}{2} \right) = (3, 0, 3)$$

$$BE = \sqrt{(3-0)^2 + (0-4)^2 + (3-0)^2} = \sqrt{9+16+9} = \sqrt{34}$$

Since CF is the median, F is the mid-point of AB.

$$\therefore \text{Coordinates of point F} = \left( \frac{0+0}{2}, \frac{0+4}{2}, \frac{6+0}{2} \right) = (0, 2, 3)$$

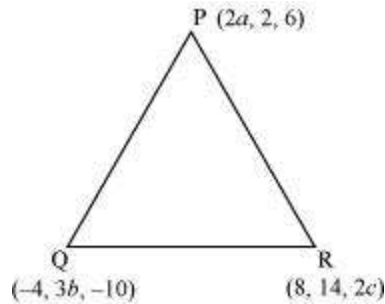
$$\text{Length of CF} = \sqrt{(6-0)^2 + (0-2)^2 + (0-3)^2} = \sqrt{36+4+9} = \sqrt{49} = 7$$

Thus, the lengths of the medians of  $\Delta ABC$  are  $7, \sqrt{34}$ , and  $7$ .

**Q3 :**

If the origin is the centroid of the triangle PQR with vertices P  $(2a, 2, 6)$ , Q  $(-4, 3b, -10)$  and R  $(8, 14, 2c)$ , then find the values of  $a, b$  and  $c$ .

**Answer :**



It is known that the coordinates of the centroid of the triangle, whose vertices are  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$ ,  $(x_2, y_2, z_2)$  and  $(x_3, y_3, z_3)$ ,

are  $\left( \frac{x_1 + x_2 + x_3}{3}, \frac{y_1 + y_2 + y_3}{3}, \frac{z_1 + z_2 + z_3}{3} \right)$ .

Therefore, coordinates of the centroid of

$$\Delta PQR = \left( \frac{2a - 4 + 8}{3}, \frac{2 + 3b + 14}{3}, \frac{6 - 10 + 2c}{3} \right) = \left( \frac{2a + 4}{3}, \frac{3b + 16}{3}, \frac{2c - 4}{3} \right)$$

It is given that origin is the centroid of  $\Delta PQR$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore (0, 0, 0) &= \left( \frac{2a + 4}{3}, \frac{3b + 16}{3}, \frac{2c - 4}{3} \right) \\ \Rightarrow \frac{2a + 4}{3} = 0, \frac{3b + 16}{3} = 0 \text{ and } \frac{2c - 4}{3} = 0 \\ \Rightarrow a = -2, b = -\frac{16}{3} \text{ and } c = 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$-2, -\frac{16}{3}, \text{ and } 2.$$

Thus, the respective values of  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  are

**Q4 :**

Find the coordinates of a point on  $y$ -axis which are at a distance of  $5\sqrt{2}$  from the point P (3,  $\hat{a}$ "2, 5).

**Answer :**

If a point is on the  $y$ -axis, then  $x$ -coordinate and the  $z$ -coordinate of the point are zero.

Let A (0,  $b$ , 0) be the point on the  $y$ -axis at a distance of  $5\sqrt{2}$  from point P (3,  $\hat{a}$ "2, 5). Accordingly,  $AP = 5\sqrt{2}$

$$\begin{aligned}
\therefore AP^2 &= 50 \\
\Rightarrow (3-0)^2 + (-2-b)^2 + (5-0)^2 &= 50 \\
\Rightarrow 9+4+b^2+4b+25 &= 50 \\
\Rightarrow b^2+4b-12 &= 0 \\
\Rightarrow b^2+6b-2b-12 &= 0 \\
\Rightarrow (b+6)(b-2) &= 0 \\
\Rightarrow b &= -6 \text{ or } 2
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, the coordinates of the required points are (0, 2, 0) and (0, -6, 0).

**Q5 :**

A point R with x-coordinate 4 lies on the line segment joining the points P (2, -3, 4) and Q (8, 0, 10). Find the coordinates of the point R.

[Hint suppose R divides PQ in the ratio  $k:1$ . The coordinates of the point R are given by

$$\left( \frac{8k+2}{k+1}, \frac{-3}{k+1}, \frac{10k+4}{k+1} \right)]$$

**Answer :**

The coordinates of points P and Q are given as P (2, -3, 4) and Q (8, 0, 10).

Let R divide line segment PQ in the ratio  $k:1$ .

Hence, by section formula, the coordinates of point R are given by

$$\left( \frac{k(8)+2}{k+1}, \frac{k(0)-3}{k+1}, \frac{k(10)+4}{k+1} \right) = \left( \frac{8k+2}{k+1}, \frac{-3}{k+1}, \frac{10k+4}{k+1} \right)$$

It is given that the x-coordinate of point R is 4.

$$\begin{aligned}
\therefore \frac{8k+2}{k+1} &= 4 \\
\Rightarrow 8k+2 &= 4k+4 \\
\Rightarrow 4k &= 2 \\
\Rightarrow k &= \frac{1}{2}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\left( 4, \frac{-3}{\frac{1}{2}+1}, \frac{10\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)+4}{\frac{1}{2}+1} \right) = (4, -2, 6)$$

Therefore, the coordinates of point R are

**Q6 :**

If A and B be the points (3, 4, 5) and (-1, 3, -7), respectively, find the equation of the set of points P such that  $PA^2 + PB^2 = k^2$ , where  $k$  is a constant.

**Answer :**

The coordinates of points A and B are given as (3, 4, 5) and (-1, 3, -7) respectively.

Let the coordinates of point P be (x, y, z).

On using distance formula, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} PA^2 &= (x-3)^2 + (y-4)^2 + (z-5)^2 \\ &= x^2 + 9 - 6x + y^2 + 16 - 8y + z^2 + 25 - 10z \\ &= x^2 - 6x + y^2 - 8y + z^2 - 10z + 50 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} PB^2 &= (x+1)^2 + (y-3)^2 + (z+7)^2 \\ &= x^2 + 2x + y^2 - 6y + z^2 + 14z + 59 \end{aligned}$$

Now, if  $PA^2 + PB^2 = k^2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} (x^2 - 6x + y^2 - 8y + z^2 - 10z + 50) + (x^2 + 2x + y^2 - 6y + z^2 + 14z + 59) &= k^2 \\ \Rightarrow 2x^2 + 2y^2 + 2z^2 - 4x - 14y + 4z + 109 &= k^2 \\ \Rightarrow 2(x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 2x - 7y + 2z) &= k^2 - 109 \\ \Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 2x - 7y + 2z &= \frac{k^2 - 109}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the required equation is  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 2x - 7y + 2z = \frac{k^2 - 109}{2}$ .