

Class Drill for Section 2.2: Justifying and Illustrating a Proof of Fano's Theorem #3

Axiom System:	Fano's Geometry
Primitive Objects:	<i>point, line</i>
Primitive Relation:	<i>The point lies on the line.</i>
Axioms:	<F1> There exists at least one <i>line</i> . <F2> For every <i>line</i> , there exist exactly three <i>points</i> that <i>lie on the line</i> . <F3> For every <i>line</i> , there exists a <i>point</i> that does not <i>lie on the line</i> . <F4> For any two <i>points</i> , there is exactly one <i>line</i> that both <i>points lie on</i> . <F5> For any two <i>lines</i> , there exists a <i>point</i> that <i>lies on both lines</i> .

Fano's Geometry Theorem #3: There exist exactly seven points.

Justify the steps in the following Proof of Fano's Theorem #3

Part 1: Show that there must be at least seven points.

Introduce Line L_1 and points A, B, C, D .

(1) There exists a line. (**justification:** _____)
We can call it L_1 . (**Make a drawing.**)

(2) There are exactly three points on L_1 . (**justification:** _____)
We can call them A, B, C . (**Make a new drawing.**)

(3) There must be a point that does not lie on L_1 . (**justification:** _____)
We can call it D . (**Make a new drawing.**)

Introduce Line L_2 and point E .

- (4) There must be a line that both A and D lie on. (**justification:** _____)
- (5) The line that both A and D lie on cannot be L_1 . (**justification:** _____)
- _____)

So it must be a new line. We can call it L_2 . (**Make a new drawing.**)

- (6) There must be a third point that lies on L_2 . (**justification:** _____)
- (7) The third point on L_2 cannot be B or C . (**justification:** _____)

_____)

_____)

So it must be a new point. We can call it E . (**Make a new drawing.**)

Introduce Line L_3 and point F .

- (8) There must be a line that both B and D lie on. (**justification:** _____)
- (9) The line that both B and D lie on cannot be L_1 or L_2 . (**justification:** _____)

_____)

_____)

So it must be a new line. We can call it L_3 . (**Make a new drawing.**)

- (10) There must be a third point that lies on L_3 . (**justification:** _____)
- (11) The third point on L_3 cannot be A , C , or E . (**justification:** _____)

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_____)

_____)

So it must be a new point. We can call it F . (**Make a new drawing.**)

Introduce Line L_4 and point G .

(12) There must be a line that both C and D lie on. (**justification:** _____)

(13) The line that both C and D lie on cannot be L_1 or L_2 or L_3 . (**justification:** _____)

So it must be a new line. We can call it L_4 . (**Make a new drawing.**)

(14) There must be a third point that lies on L_4 . (**justification:** _____)

(15) The third point on L_4 cannot be A , B , E , or F . (**justification:** _____)

So it must be a new point. We can call it G . (**Make a new drawing.**)

We have shown that there must be at least seven points, so this concludes Part 1.

Part 2: Show that there cannot be an eighth point.

(16) Suppose there is an eighth point. (**justification:** _____
_____) Call it H .

(17) There must be a line that both A and H lie on. (**justification:** _____)

(18) The line that both A and H lie on cannot be L_1 or L_2 or L_3 or L_4 . (**justification:** _____

_____))

So it must be a new line. We can call it L_5 .

(19) There must be a third point that lies on L_5 . (**justification:** _____)

(20) Line L_5 must intersect each of the lines L_1 and L_2 and L_3 and L_4 . (**justification:** _____
_____)

(21) The third point on L_5 must be D . (**justification (Be sure to explain clearly):** _____

_____)

(22) So points A, D, H lie on L_5 .

(23) We have reached a contradiction. (**explain the contradiction:** _____

_____)

Therefore, our assumption in step (16) was wrong. There cannot be an eighth point.

End of proof