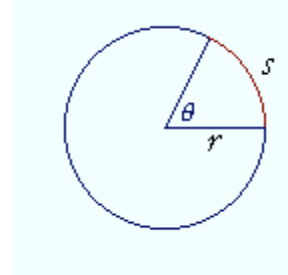Author: Diane Briars

Situation: Radian Measure

A class was beginning their study of trigonometric functions.
The teacher was explaining radian measure in terms of the
radius and arc length, using diagrams like the one shown.
After a few minutes, a student asked, "So what is the unit of
measure for radians?" The teacher paused for a few moments,
then responded, "It is the same as that of the radius of the
circle." The student then asked, "So, if the circle has a radius
of 5 inches, radians are measured in inches?" "Yes" said the teacher.

Mathematical Focus
*Radian measure is a real number that names the ratio of a curved line to a straight,
of an arc to the radius.*