



# Physics

## HSC Course

# 2010

### Year 12 Half-Yearly Examination

**Total marks 50**

#### General Instructions

- Reading time – 5 minutes
- Working time – 1.5 hours
  
- Attempt all questions
- Write using blue or black pen
- Draw diagrams using pencil
- Approved calculators may be used
- Write your ID number on each answer sheet
- Liquid paper must NOT be used on this paper
- For your convenience, the multiple choice answer sheet at the back may be removed from the rest of the paper

This paper has two parts, Part A and Part B

Part A – 10 marks

Attempt questions 1-10 (multiple choice)  
Allow about 15 minutes for this part.

Part B – 40 marks

Attempt questions 11 to 17  
Allow about 75 minutes for this part

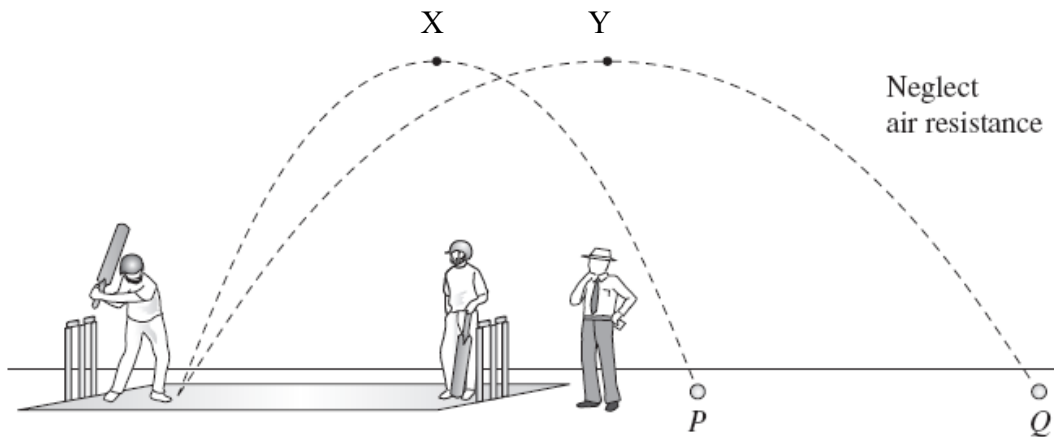
**Task Weighting: 30%**

**Part A: Multiple Choice Questions (1 mark each)**

1. The gravitational acceleration on the surface of Mars is  $3.72 \text{ m s}^{-2}$ . An astronaut wearing his space suit on the Moon, where the gravitational acceleration is  $1.6 \text{ m s}^{-2}$ , has a weight of 224 N. If the astronaut was standing stationary on the surface of Mars, which of the following would correctly represent his mass?

- A) 520.8 N
- B) 224 N
- C) 140 kg
- D) 60.2 kg

2. The following shows a game of cricket.



The picture shows two shots hit by the batsman to points Q and P.

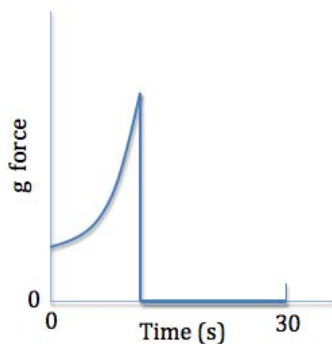
Which of the following correctly compares the shots hit to points P and Q?

- A) The velocity of the ball at point X is the same as the velocity at point Y.
  - B) Ball Q has the same time of flight as ball P.
  - C) The acceleration acting on ball P is greater than on ball Q.
  - D) The initial vertical velocity of ball Q is greater than that of ball P.
3. A toy rocket of mass 5 kg has a thrusting force of 200 N. If the rocket is fired directly upwards, how far does it travel in the first 3 seconds of its flight? (assume no mass loss)
- A) 90.6 m
  - B) 120 m
  - C) 136 m
  - D) 180 m

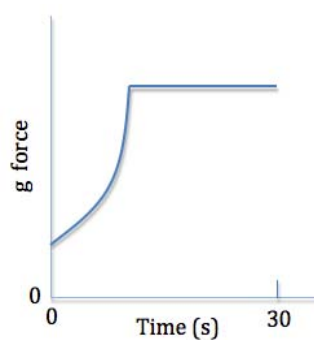
4. During the launch of a test rocket, the rocket engine burned and produced a constant thrust for a period of 12 seconds before it was switched off. A parachute was opened 30 seconds after launch to control the rocket's decent back to Earth.

Identify which graph best illustrates the g forces acting on the rocket over the first 30 seconds.

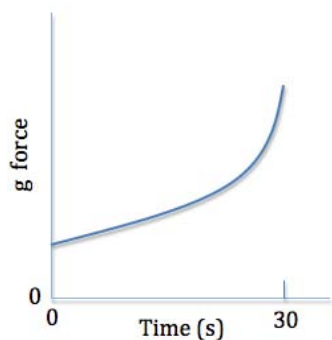
(A)



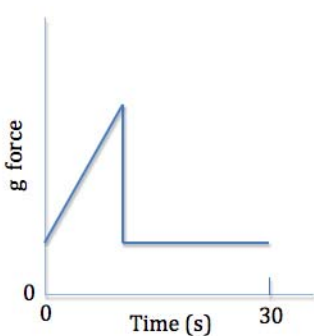
(B)



(C)

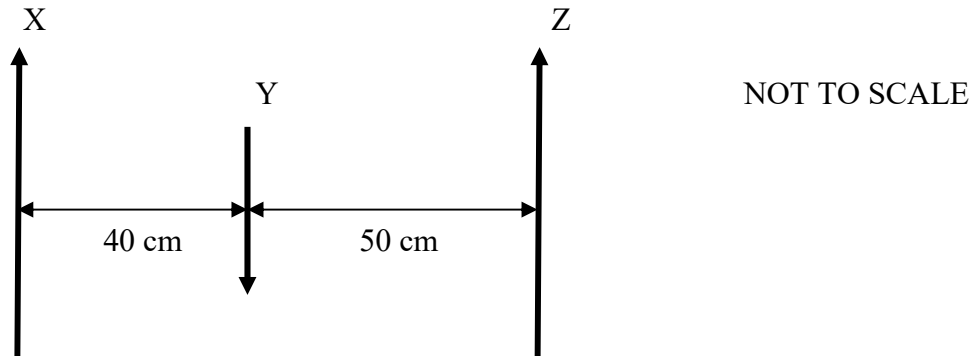


(D)



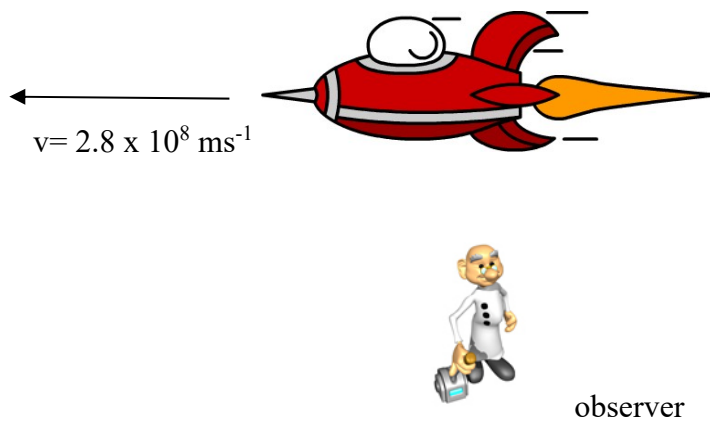
5. Which of the following best defines gravitational potential energy?
- A) the work done to move an object from a very large distance away to a point in a gravitational field
  - B) the energy required to increase the altitude from the surface of a planet to a height of 1 km
  - C) the energy gained by an object as it falls under the influence of gravity
  - D) the energy required at the surface of a planet to propel an object an infinite distance
6. The Michelson-Morley attempt to measure the velocity of the Earth through the aether is considered to be a significant experiment. This is because the results
- A) demonstrated conclusively that the aether did not exist
  - B) showed that the speed of light is a relative quantity
  - C) provided the first experimental support for Special Relativity
  - D) showed that light is a wave that forms interference patterns

7. Three wires, X, Y and Z, each carrying a current of 2 A in the direction indicated by the arrow, are positioned as shown in a vacuum.



X and Z share a common length of 1.2 m. Y is 70 cm long. The magnitude and direction of the force acting on Z is

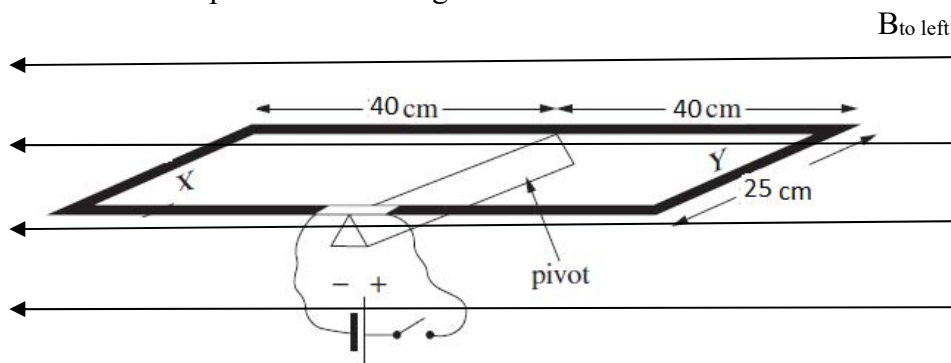
- A) 0
  - B)  $5.3 \times 10^{-8}$  N to the right
  - C)  $5.0 \times 10^{-7}$  N to the right
  - D)  $2.2 \times 10^{-6}$  N to the right
8. A spaceship travelling at  $2.8 \times 10^8$  m s<sup>-1</sup> passes an observer on Earth as shown in the diagram



The observer measures the length of the spacecraft as 124.0 m. An astronaut on board the spacecraft will measure its length to be closest to

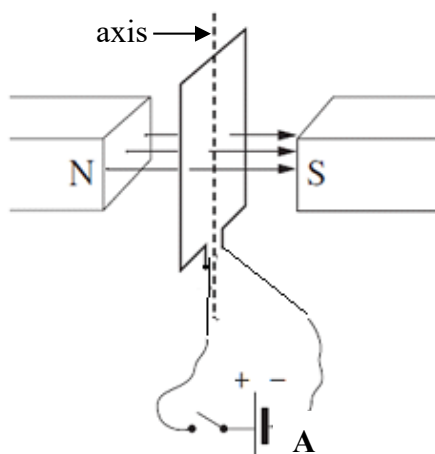
- A) 44.5 m
- B) 124.0 m
- C) 254.6 m
- D) 345.4 m

9. The diagram shows a single rectangular coil of dimensions 80 cm x 25 cm on a pivot. The coil is placed in a uniform magnetic field of 0.5 tesla directed from Y to X so that the plane of the coil is parallel to the magnetic field.



When the switch is closed, a current of 30 amperes flows through the coil. Which of the following would prevent the coil from starting to rotate when the switch is closed?

- A) Hang a mass of 382 grams from side X
  - B) Hang a mass of 382 grams from side Y
  - C) Hang a mass of 765 grams from side X
  - D) Hang a mass of 765 grams from side Y
10. The diagram shows a simple DC motor with a single coil which is connected to a battery. The coil is free to rotate about the axis.



What happens to the coil when the switch is closed?

- A) It does not move.
- B) It rotates clockwise as seen from A.
- C) It rotates anticlockwise as seen from A.
- D) It oscillates about the axis

**Section B**

**Attempt questions 11-17**

11. A sensitive spring balance was attached to the ceiling of an elevator in a tall building and a 1 kg mass hung from it. A video camera was set up to record any change in the readings as the lift moved between different floors. An 8 second section of the tape was analysed and the measurements recorded in the table below.

Time (s)	Balance reading (kg)
0	1.0
1	0.85
2	0.85
3	0.86
4	0.86
5	0.84
6	1.0
7	1.0
8	1.0

a) Qualitatively describe the motion of the lift between  $t = 1$  s and  $t = 5$  s (1M)

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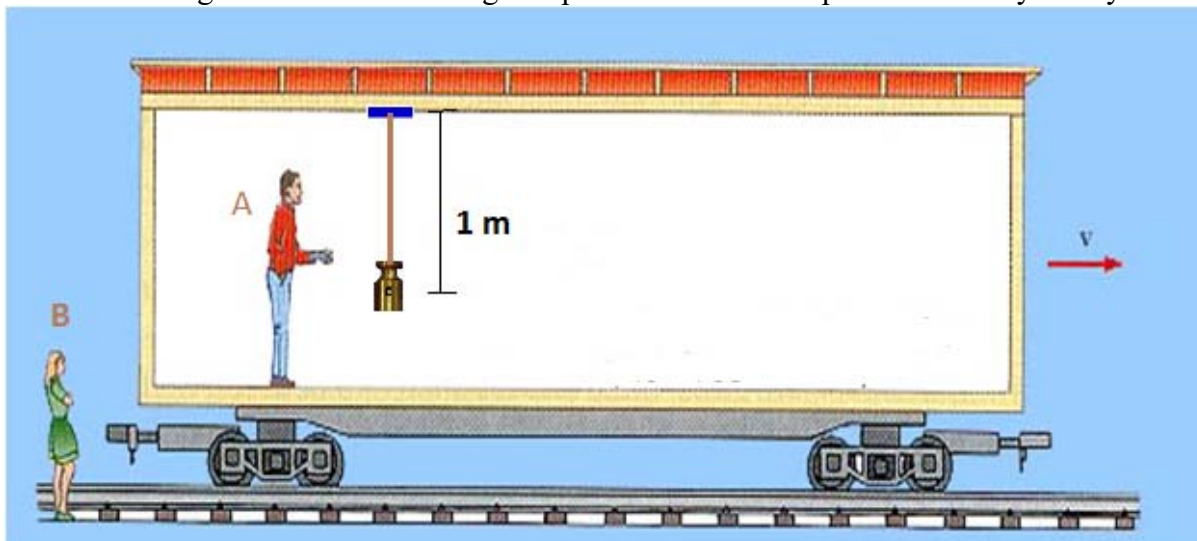
b) A student stated that the elevator was stationary during the last 3 seconds. Assess this statement. (2M)

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c) Explain how the results distinguish between inertial and non-inertial frames of reference. (2M)

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12. The diagram illustrates a thought experiment based on Special Relativity theory.



A one metre pendulum was attached to the ceiling of a high speed train travelling with a constant velocity of  $0.9c$ . The pendulum was set swinging and observer A on board the train accurately determined the period of the pendulum as 2.01 seconds.

- a) Contrast the motion of the pendulum observed by A with the observations made by B, an observer standing beside the tracks. (2M)

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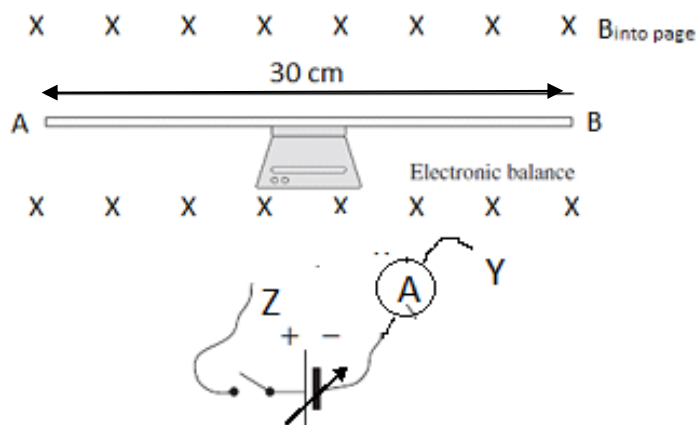
- b) Determine the period of the pendulum as measured by B. (2M)

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- c) Explain how this experiment relates to the principle of relativity. (3M)

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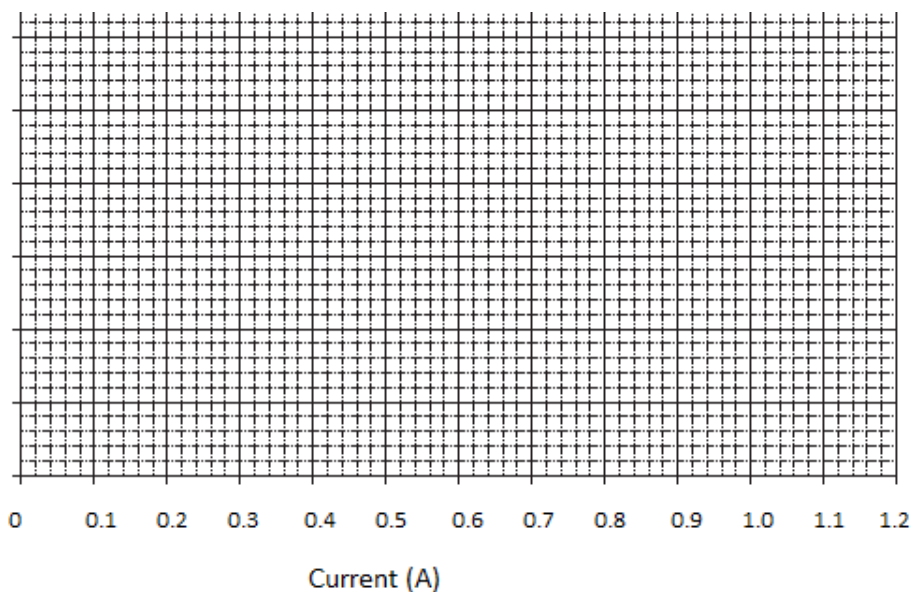
13. A straight 30 cm length of copper wire, AB, was placed on a sensitive electronic balance which displays readings in newtons. A uniform magnetic field was applied perpendicular to the wire. The wire was then connected to a variable DC power source and an ammeter. The switch was closed and readings taken of the current and apparent mass of the wire as the voltage was increased.



The results are shown in the table below.

Current (A)	Balance Reading (N)
0.25	0.18
0.36	0.21
0.58	0.26
0.92	0.35
1.20	0.43

- a) On the diagram above, connect the ends of the copper wire to the connections Y and Z so the current is moving in the correct direction for these results (1M)
- b) Plot the data in the table and draw a line of best fit (2M)





c) Using the graph

(i) Determine the mass of the copper wire. (2M)

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(ii) Calculate the strength of the applied magnetic field. (3M)

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14. A team of astronomers has discovered 2 planets in orbit around the star 55 Cancri. The table below lists some data about each of the planets.

Planet	Orbital Period (Earth days)	Mass (kg)	Orbital Radius (km)
A	14.6	$1.898 \times 10^{27}$	$15 \times 10^6$
B	6616.5	$8.54 \times 10^{27}$	

Calculate the orbital radius of planet B. (3M)

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15. Einstein's Special Relativity theory is based on two postulates

1. The laws of physics are the same in all inertial frames of reference and
2. The speed of light always has the same value which is independent of the motion of the light source and observer.

Assess the importance of the second postulate in changing the direction of scientific thinking (4M)

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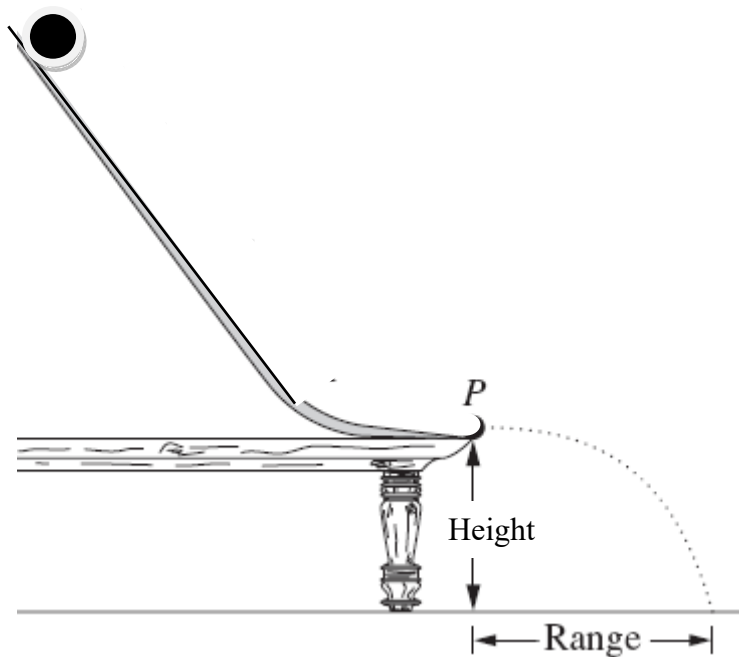
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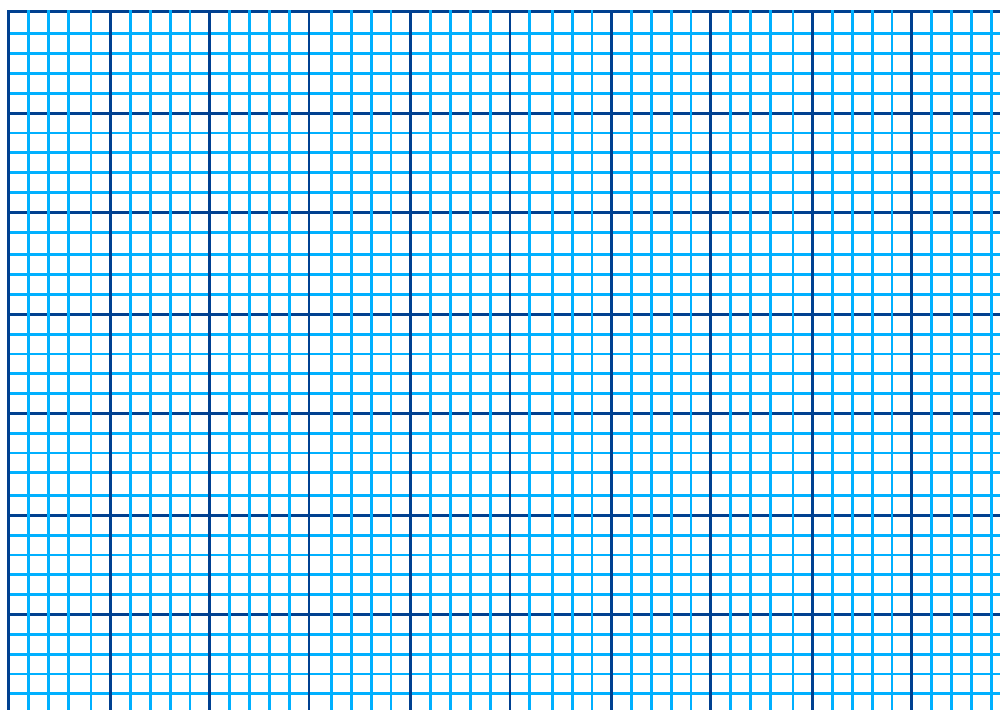
16. A student conducts an investigation as shown below.  
He let a ball roll down a ramp and then off the end of a table at point P.  
He repeated this procedure several times for different table heights.  
Each time he measured the range of the ball.



The results were tabulated as follows.

Height of table (cm)	Range (cm)
30	20
60	28
90	34
120	39
150	43

(a) Construct a line of best fit graph of the data in the table. (3M)



(b) Describe the relationship between the variables graphed. (2M)

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(c) Identify the dependant, independent and one controlled (fixed) variable for this investigation. (2M)

Independent.....  
 Dependent.....  
 Controlled .....

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17. During a space shuttle mission astronauts are propelled from the Earth into a low-earth orbit and eventually return to the Earth. Analyse the changes in the g-forces experienced by astronauts throughout the mission. (6M)

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**HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION**  
**Physics**

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**DATA SHEET**

Charge on electron, $q_e$	$-1.602 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
Mass of electron, $m_e$	$9.109 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$
Mass of neutron, $m_n$	$1.675 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
Mass of proton, $m_p$	$1.673 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
Speed of sound in air	$340 \text{ m s}^{-1}$
Earth's gravitational acceleration, $g$	$9.8 \text{ m s}^{-2}$
Speed of light, $c$	$3.00 \times 10^8 \text{ m s}^{-1}$
Magnetic force constant, $\left(k \equiv \frac{\mu_0}{2\pi}\right)$	$2.0 \times 10^{-7} \text{ N A}^{-2}$
Universal gravitational constant, $G$	$6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N m}^2 \text{ kg}^{-2}$
Mass of Earth	$6.0 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}$
Planck constant, $h$	$6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}$
Rydberg constant, $R$ (hydrogen)	$1.097 \times 10^7 \text{ m}^{-1}$
Atomic mass unit, $u$	$1.661 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$ $931.5 \text{ MeV}/c^2$
1 eV	$1.602 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$
Density of water, $\rho$	$1.00 \times 10^3 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$
Specific heat capacity of water	$4.18 \times 10^3 \text{ J kg}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$

**FORMULAE SHEET**

$$v = f\lambda$$

$$I \propto \frac{1}{d^2}$$

$$\frac{v_1}{v_2} = \frac{\sin i}{\sin r}$$

$$E = \frac{F}{q}$$

$$R = \frac{V}{I}$$

$$P = VI$$

$$\text{Energy} = VI t$$

$$v_{\text{av}} = \frac{\Delta r}{\Delta t}$$

$$a_{\text{av}} = \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t} \text{ therefore } a_{\text{av}} = \frac{v - u}{t}$$

$$\Sigma F = ma$$

$$F = \frac{mv^2}{r}$$

$$E_k = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$$

$$W = Fs$$

$$p = mv$$

$$\text{Impulse} = Ft$$

$$E_p = -G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r}$$

$$F = mg$$

$$v_x^2 = u_x^2$$

$$v = u + at$$

$$v_y^2 = u_y^2 + 2a_y \Delta y$$

$$\Delta x = u_x t$$

$$\Delta y = u_y t + \frac{1}{2}a_y t^2$$

$$\frac{r^3}{T^2} = \frac{GM}{4\pi^2}$$

$$F = \frac{Gm_1 m_2}{d^2}$$

$$E = mc^2$$

$$l_v = l_0 \sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}$$

$$t_v = \frac{t_0}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

$$m_v = \frac{m_0}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

FORMULAE SHEET

$$\frac{F}{l} = k \frac{I_1 I_2}{d}$$

$$d = \frac{1}{p}$$

$$F = BIl \sin\theta$$

$$M = m - 5 \log\left(\frac{d}{10}\right)$$

$$\tau = Fd$$

$$\frac{I_A}{I_B} = 100^{(m_B - m_A)/5}$$

$$\tau = nBIA \cos\theta$$

$$m_1 + m_2 = \frac{4\pi^2 r^3}{GT^2}$$

$$\frac{V_p}{V_s} = \frac{n_p}{n_s}$$

$$F = qvB \sin\theta$$

$$\frac{1}{\lambda} = R \left( \frac{1}{n_f^2} - \frac{1}{n_i^2} \right)$$

$$E = \frac{V}{d}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{mv}$$

$$E = hf$$

$$c = f\lambda$$

$$A_0 = \frac{V_{\text{out}}}{V_{\text{in}}}$$

$$Z = \rho v$$

$$\frac{V_{\text{out}}}{V_{\text{in}}} = -\frac{R_f}{R_i}$$

$$\frac{I_r}{I_0} = \frac{[Z_2 - Z_1]^2}{[Z_2 + Z_1]^2}$$

**PERIODIC TABLE OF THE ELEMENTS**

KEY		Atomic Number	Symbol of element	Name of element
1	H	1.008	Hydrogen	
3	Li	6.941	Lithium	
4	Be	9.012	Beryllium	
11	Na	22.99	Sodium	
12	Mg	24.31	Magnesium	
19	K	39.10	Potassium	
20	Ca	40.08	Calcium	
21	Sc	44.96	Scandium	
38	Sr	87.62	Strontium	
39	Y	88.91	Yttrium	
56	Ba	137.3	Barium	
88	Ra	[226]	Radium	
22	Ti	47.87	Titanium	
23	V	50.94	Vanadium	
24	Cr	52.00	Chromium	
25	Mn	54.94	Manganese	
26	Fe	55.85	Iron	
27	Co	58.93	Cobalt	
28	Ni	58.69	Nickel	
29	Cu	63.55	Copper	
30	Zn	65.41	Zinc	
41	Nb	92.91	Niobium	
42	Mo	95.94	Molybdenum	
43	Tc	[97.91]	Technetium	
44	Ru	101.1	Ruthenium	
45	Rh	102.9	Rhodium	
46	Pd	106.4	Palladium	
47	Ag	107.9	Silver	
48	Cd	112.4	Cadmium	
49	In	114.8	Indium	
50	Sn	118.7	Tin	
51	Sb	121.8	Antimony	
52	Te	127.6	Tellurium	
53	I	126.9	Iodine	
54	Xe	131.3	Xenon	
72	Hf	178.5	Hafnium	
73	Ta	180.9	Tantalum	
74	W	183.8	Tungsten	
75	Re	186.2	Rhenium	
76	Os	190.2	Osmium	
77	Ir	192.2	Iridium	
78	Pt	195.1	Platinum	
79	Au	197.0	Gold	
80	Hg	200.6	Mercury	
81	Tl	204.4	Thallium	
82	Pb	207.2	Lead	
83	Bi	209.0	Bismuth	
84	Po	[209.0]	Polonium	
85	At	[210.0]	Astatine	
86	Rn	[222.0]	Radon	
87	Fr	[223]	Francium	
88	Ra	[226]	Radium	
89-103	Lanthanoids			
104	Rf	[261]	Rutherfordium	
105	Db	[262]	Dubnium	
106	Sg	[266]	Seaborgium	
107	Bh	[264]	Bohrium	
108	Hs	[277]	Hassium	
109	Mt	[268]	Meitnerium	
110	Ds	[271]	Darmstadtium	
111	Rg	[272]	Roentgenium	
112	Cn	[285]	Copernicium	
113	Nh	[284]	Nihonium	
114	Fl	[289]	Flerovium	
115	Mc	[288]	Moscovium	
116	Lv	[293]	Livermorium	
117	Ts	[294]	Tennessine	
118	Og	[294]	Oganesson	

**Lanthanoids**

57	La	138.9	Lanthanum
58	Ce	140.1	Cerium
59	Pr	140.9	Praseodymium
60	Nd	144.2	Neodymium
61	Pm	[145]	Promethium
62	Sm	150.4	Samarium
63	Eu	152.0	Europium
64	Gd	157.3	Gadolinium
65	Tb	158.9	Terbium
66	Dy	162.5	Dysprosium
67	Ho	164.9	Holmium
68	Er	167.3	Erbium
69	Tm	168.9	Thulium
70	Yb	173.0	Ytterbium
71	Lu	175.0	Lutetium

**Actinoids**

89	Ac	[227]	Actinium
90	Th	232.0	Thorium
91	Pa	231.0	Protactinium
92	U	238.0	Uranium
93	Np	[237]	Neptunium
94	Pu	[244]	Plutonium
95	Am	[243]	Americium
96	Cm	[247]	Curium
97	Bk	[247]	Berkelium
98	Cf	[251]	Californium
99	Es	[252]	Einsteinium
100	Fm	[257]	Fermium
101	Md	[258]	Mendelevium
102	No	[259]	Nobelium
103	Lr	[262]	Lawrencium

For elements that have no stable or long-lived nuclides, the mass number of the nuclide with the longest confirmed half-life is listed between square brackets. The International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry Periodic Table of the Elements (October 2005 version) is the principal source of data. Some data may have been modified.



Multiple-choice Answer Sheet

Select the alternative A, B, C or D that best answers the question. Fill in the response oval completely.

Sample  $2 + 4 =$  (A) 2 (B) 6 (C) 8 (D) 9

(A)  (B)  (C)  (D)

If you think you have made a mistake, put a cross through the incorrect answer and fill in the new answer.

(A)  (B)  (C)  (D)

If you change your mind and have crossed out what you consider to be the correct answer, then indicate this by writing the word correct and drawing an arrow as follows:

(A)  (B)  (C)  (D)   
correct  
↓  
correct

**Part A**

1. (A)  (B)  (C)  (D)
2. (A)  (B)  (C)  (D)
3. (A)  (B)  (C)  (D)
4. (A)  (B)  (C)  (D)
5. (A)  (B)  (C)  (D)
6. (A)  (B)  (C)  (D)
7. (A)  (B)  (C)  (D)
8. (A)  (B)  (C)  (D)
9. (A)  (B)  (C)  (D)
10. (A)  (B)  (C)  (D)

**Marking Criteria**

**Multiple Choice 1.C 2.B 3.C 4.A 5.A 6.C 7.B 8.D 9.D 10.A**

Q11a	Criteria	Marks
	Response states the lift is ACCELERATING downwards (at an almost constant rate)	1

Q11b	Criteria	Marks
	Response contains a clear assessment that the statement is incorrect AND Explains that the lift could also be moving with a constant velocity since it is an inertial reference frame (readings of 1.0 kg are the expected values for a system moving with a constant velocity or stationary)	2
	Response contains a clear assessment that the statement is incorrect OR Explains that the lift could also be moving with a constant velocity since it is an inertial reference frame.	1

Q11c	Criteria	Marks
	Response clearly states the difference between inertial and non-inertial reference frames AND provides a thorough link between specific readings and the type of frame.	2
	Response states the difference between the two types of reference frame.	1

Q12a.	Criteria	Mark/s
	Well structured contrast which outlines two significance differences, one of which <b>must</b> be that observer B sees the pendulum swing more slowly than A.	2
	Outlines one significant difference	1

Q12b.	Criteria	Mark/s
	Correct calculation showing formula, substitution and final answer, including units (4.61 s)	2
	Correct formula and substitution but incorrect final answer	1

Q12c	Criteria	Marks
	Response shows an understanding of the principle of relativity AND Clearly relates this to a specific detail in the thought experiment (for example, the motion of the pendulum does not allow A to tell whether they are moving but does allow B to distinguish since the period is different to the expected value determined from Newtonian mechanics)	3
	Response shows an understanding of the principle of relativity AND Establishes a general link between the thought experiment and the principle.	2
	Response defines the principle of relativity OR Provides a thorough explanation of how the experiment demonstrates time dilation.	1

Q13a	Criteria	Marks
	Correctly joins Y to A and Z to B using lines	1

Q13b.	Criteria	Mark/s
	Y-axis labelled with quantity and units, points plotted	2

correctly and a good straight line of best fit (y-intercept close to 0.12)	
Points plotted correctly and EITHER the y-axis is labelled with quantity and units OR there is a good straight line of best fit	1.5
Points plotted correctly OR The Y-axis is labelled with quantity and units AND there is a good straight line of best fit for the marked points.	1

Q13c(i).	Criteria	Mark/s
	Calculation uses the y-intercept (~ 0.12 N) on the graph and $F = mg$ to calculate the mass (~ 0.012 kg)	2
	Calculation uses the y-intercept but does not correctly calculate the mass.	1

Q13c(ii)	Criteria	Marks
	Correctly calculates the gradient of the line AND Clearly links the gradient to $F = BIl$ formula AND then calculates the field strength (~ 0.86 T) OR Choose a point on the line of best fit (net force) AND subtract weight of wire (y-intercept) to determine force due to magnetic field AND then calculate B using $F = BIl$ formula (Answer must clearly show link to the graph)	3
	Calculation uses the gradient and establishes a link to the formula but final answer is incorrect.	2
	Gradient correctly calculated	1

Q14.	Criteria	Mark/s
	Correct answer of $8.85 \times 10^9 \text{ km}$	3
	Correct working with one error.	2
	Correct substitution into the equation to find mass of star.	1

Q15.	Criteria	Mark/s
	Answer makes a clear judgement of the importance and describes changes in scientific thinking using a logical progression and correct scientific terminology.	4
	Describes changes well but without judgement or Makes a judgement but does not clearly describe the changes in thinking.	3
	A judgement and an outline of one change in thinking.	2
	One change outlined.	1

Q16a.	Criteria	Mark/s
	Points correctly plotted, axes labelled and a curved line of best fit.	3
	Two of the above	2
	One of the above	1

Q16b.	Criteria	Mark/s
	Relationship clearly described. E.g. As the height of the table increases the range increases at a	2

## Marking Criteria

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decreasing rate.	
Relationship partially described.	1

Q16c. Criteria	Mark/s
All variables correct	2
Two of the three variables correct.	1

Q17. Criteria	Mark/s
One change in g-forces identified during launch, in	5-6

orbit and during re-entry AND Each change related to the motion and forces experienced by the craft using correct scientific terminology	
Changes analysed correctly for only two parts of the mission OR Changes correctly identified but not analysed.	3-4
Answer demonstrates some understanding of why g- forces change during a mission.	1-2

