MECHANICS (A) UNIT 1

TEST PAPER 1

Take $g = 9.8 \text{ ms}^{-2}$ and give all answers correct to 3 significant figures where necessary.

- 1. A bee flies in a straight line from A to B, where $AB = (3\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{i} 12\mathbf{j})$ m, in 5 seconds at a constant speed. Find
 - (a) the straight-line distance AB,

(2 marks)

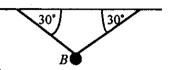
(b) the speed of the bee,

(2 marks)

(c) the velocity vector of the bee.

(2 marks)

2. A small ball B, of mass 0.8 kg, is suspended from a horizontal ceiling by two light inextensible strings. B is in equilibrium under gravity with both strings inclined at 30° to the horizontal, as shown.



(a) Find the tension, in N, in either string.

(3 marks)

- (b) Calculate the magnitude of the least **horizontal** force that must be applied to B in this position to cause one string to become slack. (4 marks)
- A particle P moves in a straight line through a fixed point O with constant acceleration a ms⁻².
 3 seconds after passing through O, P is 6 m from O.

After a further 6 seconds, P has travelled a further 33 m in the same direction. Calculate

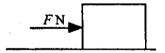
(a) the value of a,

(5 marks)

(b) the speed with which P passed through O.

(2 marks)

4. A force of magnitude F N is applied to a block of mass M kg which is initially at rest on a horizontal plane. The block starts to move with acceleration 3 ms⁻². Modelling the block as a particle,



(a) if the plane is smooth, find an expression for F in terms of M.

(2 marks)

If the plane is rough, and the coefficient of friction between the block and the plane is μ ,

(b) express F in terms of M, μ and g.

(2 marks)

(c) Calculate the value of μ if $F = \frac{1}{2}Mg$.

(3 marks)

- 5. Two metal weights A and B, of masses 2.4 kg and 1.8 kg respectively, are attached to the ends of a light inextensible string which passes over a smooth fixed pulley so that the string hangs vertically on each side. The system is released from rest with the string taut.
 - (a) Calculate the acceleration of each weight and the tension in the string.

(6 marks)

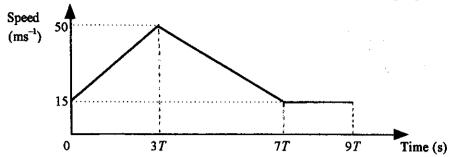
A is now replaced by a different weight of mass m kg, where m < 1.8, and the system is again released from rest. The magnitude of the acceleration has half of its previous value.

(b) Calculate the value of m.

(6 marks)

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6. The diagram shows the speed-time graph for a particle during a period of 9T seconds.



- (a) If T = 5, find
 - (i) the acceleration for each section of the motion,

(2 marks)

(ii) the total distance travelled by the particle.

(2 marks)

(b) Sketch, for this motion, (i) an acceleration-time graph,

(2 marks)

(ii) a displacement-time graph.

(2 marks)

(c) Calculate the value of T for which the distance travelled over the 9T seconds is 3.708 km.

(4 marks)

7. Two smooth spheres A and B, of masses 60 grams and 90 grams respectively, are at rest on a smooth horizontal table. A is projected towards B with speed 4 ms⁻¹ and the particles collide. After the collision, A and B move in the same direction as each other, with speeds u ms⁻¹ and 6u ms⁻¹ respectively. Calculate

(a) the value of u,

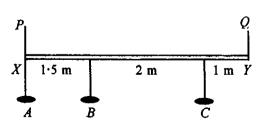
(4 marks)

(b) the magnitude of the impulse exerted by A on B, stating the units of your answer.

(3 marks)

A and B are now replaced in their original positions and projected towards each other with speeds 2 ms^{-1} and 8 ms^{-1} respectively. They collide again, after which A moves with speed 7 ms^{-1} , its direction of motion being reversed.

- (c) Find the speed of B after this collision and state whether its direction of motion has been reversed. (5 marks)
- 8. In a theatre, three lights A, B and C are suspended from a horizontal beam XY of length 4.5 m. A and C are each of mass 8 kg and B is of mass 6 kg. The beam XY is held in place by vertical ropes PX and QY, as shown.



In a simple mathematical model of this situation, XY is modelled as a light rod.

(a) Calculate the tension in each of PX and QY.

(6 marks)

In a refined model, XY is modelled as a uniform rod of mass m kg.

(b) If the tension in PX is 1.5 times that in QY, calculate the value of m.

(6 marks)