

AQA Mechanics
Topic Questions from Papers
Differential Equations
Answers

1	$1600 \frac{dv}{dt} = -40v$ $\int \frac{1}{v} dv = \int -\frac{1}{40} dt$ $\ln v = -\frac{t}{40} + c$ $v = Ae^{-\frac{t}{40}}$ $t = 0, v = 20 \Rightarrow c = 20$ $v = 20e^{-\frac{t}{40}}$	M1		Applying Newton's second law with $40v$ and $\frac{dv}{dt}$.
		A1		Correct equation
		dM1		Separating variables
		dM1		integrating to get $\ln v$ term.
		A1		Correct integral with or without c
		dM1		Finding constant
A1	7	Correct final result		
Total			7	

(Q5, Jan 2006)

2 (a)	$20 \frac{dv}{dt} = -10\sqrt{v}$ $\frac{dv}{dt} = -\frac{\sqrt{v}}{2}$ $\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{v}} dv = \int -\frac{1}{2} dt \quad \text{AG}$ $2\sqrt{v} = -\frac{t}{2} + c$ $t = 0, v = 25 \Rightarrow c = 10$ $v = \left(\frac{20-t}{4}\right)^2$	M1		applying Newton's second law with $\frac{dv}{dt}$
		A1		correct differential equation
		dM1		separating variables
		dM1		integrating
		A1		correct integrals
		dM1		finding the constant of integration
A1	7	correct final result from correct working		
(b)	$t = 20$	B1	1	correct time
Total			8	

(Q6, June 2006)

3 (a)	Max speed \equiv zero acceleration used	M1		Implied
	$\frac{72000}{60}$ $\frac{72000}{60} = k \times 60$ $k = 20$	M1 A1	3	
(b)(i)	$20v = -500 \frac{dv}{dt}$ $\frac{dv}{dt} = -\frac{v}{25}$	M1 A1	2	see $\frac{dv}{dt}$, \pm
	(ii) $25 \int \frac{dv}{v} = - \int dt$ $[25 \ln v]_{20}^{10} = -[t]_0^t$ $25 \ln 10 - 25 \ln 20 = -t$ $t = 25 \ln 2 \text{ or } 17.3 \text{ or } -25 \ln \frac{1}{2}$	M1 A1 A1 m1 A1 A1	6	M1 separating variables Alternative $25 \ln v = -t (+ c)$ A1 $t = 0, v = 20, c = 25 \ln 20$ m1 $t = t, v = 10,$ $25 \ln 10 = -t + 25 \ln 20$ A1 $t = 25 \ln 2 \text{ or } 17.3$ A1
Total			11	

(Q7, Jan 2007)

4 (a)	Using $F = ma$:	M1		Condone no ‘-’ AG Note: no use of $m \Rightarrow$ no marks in (a)
	$-\lambda mv = ma = m \frac{dv}{dt}$ $\therefore \frac{dv}{dt} = -\lambda v$	A1	2	
(b)	$\int \frac{dv}{v} = -\lambda \int dt$ $\ln v = -\lambda t + c$ $v = C e^{-\lambda t}$	M1 A1		Needs ‘+ c’
	When $t = 0, v = U \Rightarrow C = U$ $v = U e^{-\lambda t}$	M1 A1	4	Needs correct working AG
Total			6	

(Q7, June 2007)

5 (a)	Power of engine is 8kW ∴ Force exerted by engine = $\frac{8000}{v}$	M1A1		M1 for Power = Fv
	Using $F = ma$: $\frac{8000}{v} - kv^2 = 600 \frac{dv}{dt}$ $600 \frac{dv}{dt} - \frac{8000}{v} + kv^2 = 0$	m1 A1	4	AG
(b)(i)	When engine is turned off, power is zero: $-kv^2 = 600 \frac{dv}{dt}$	B1	1	AG
(ii)	$\int 600 \frac{dv}{v^2} = -\int k dt$ $-\frac{600}{v} = -kt + c$ When $t = 0, v = 20$: ∴ $c = -\frac{600}{20} = -30$ ∴ $\frac{600}{v} = kt + 30$ When $v = 10, kt = 30$: ∴ $t = \frac{30}{k}$	M1 A1 A1 M1 A1	5	Need '+ c' $-\frac{30}{k}$ SC3
	Total		10	

(Q8, Jan 2008)

6 (a)	Using $F = ma$ $-0.05mv = m \frac{dv}{dt}$ ∴ $\frac{dv}{dt} = -0.05v$	B1	1	Need to see m terms
	(b) $\int \frac{dv}{v} = -\int 0.05 dt$ $\ln v = -0.05t + c$ $v = Ce^{-0.05t}$ When $t = 0, v = 20$, ∴ $C = 20$ $v = 20e^{-0.05t}$	B1 M1 M1 A1	4	Need first 2 terms } fully correct solutions
(c)	When $v = 10, 10 = 20e^{-0.05t}$ $e^{0.05t} = 2$ ∴ $t = \frac{1}{0.05} \ln 2$ $= 13.9$	M1 A1 A1	3	Accept $20 \ln 2$
Total			8	

(Q6, June 2008)

7 (a)	Using $F = ma$: $-0.08v^2 = 0.05a$ $\therefore \frac{dv}{dt} = -1.6v^2$	B1 B1	2	AG; condone sign error in first B1
	(b) $\int \frac{dv}{v^2} = -1.6 \int dt$ $-\frac{1}{v} = -1.6t (+c)$ When $t = 0, v = 3 \Rightarrow c = -\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{1}{v} = \frac{1}{3} + 1.6t$ * $\frac{1}{v} = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{8}{5}t$ $\frac{1}{v} = \frac{5 + 24t}{15}$ $v = \frac{15}{5 + 24t}$	M1 A1 M1 A1 A1		
Total			7	

(Q8, Jan 2009)

8 (a)	Using $F = ma$: $-\lambda mv^{\frac{3}{2}} = m \frac{dv}{dt}$ $\therefore \frac{dv}{dt} = -\lambda v^{\frac{3}{2}}$	M1 A1	2	AG
	(b) $\int \frac{dv}{v^{\frac{3}{2}}} = -\lambda \int dt$ $-\frac{2}{\frac{1}{v^{\frac{1}{2}}}} = -\lambda t + c$ When $t = 0, v = 9 \Rightarrow c = -\frac{2}{3}$ $\frac{2}{\sqrt{v}} = \lambda t + \frac{2}{3}$ $\frac{\sqrt{v}}{2} = \frac{1}{\lambda t + \frac{2}{3}}$ $v = \left(\frac{6}{2 + 3\lambda t} \right)^2$ $v = \frac{36}{(2 + 3\lambda t)^2}$	M1 A1 M1 A1 A1 m1 A1		
(c)	When $v = 4$, $\frac{2}{\sqrt{v}} = \lambda t + \frac{2}{3} \Rightarrow 1 = \lambda t + \frac{2}{3}$ $t = \frac{1}{3\lambda}$	M1A1 A1	7 3	AG or $\frac{36}{(2 + 3\lambda t)^2} = 4$ M1 $(2 + 3\lambda t)^2 = 9$ A1 $t = \frac{1}{3\lambda}$ A1 needs statement why $2 + 3\lambda t \neq -3$
Total			12	

(Q8, June 2009)

9 (a)	Using $F = ma$, $-0.2mv^{\frac{1}{2}} = m \frac{dv}{dt}$ $\therefore \frac{dv}{dt} = -0.2v^{\frac{1}{2}}$	B1	1	AG Must see equ'n containing m
(b)	$\int \frac{dv}{v^{\frac{1}{2}}} = -\int 0.2 dt$ $2v^{\frac{1}{2}} = -0.2t + c$ When $t=0, v=16 \therefore C=8$	M1		m1 for + c
	$2v^{\frac{1}{2}} = -0.2t + 8$ $v = (4 - 0.1t)^2$	A1	5	AG
(c)	When $v=1, 1 = (4 - 0.1t)^2$ $4 - 0.1t = \pm 1$ $t = 30$ or 50 $t = 30$	M1		[if use $2v^{\frac{1}{2}} = 8 - 0.2t$ no need to see 50]
		A1		$t \neq 50$ as ball stops when $t = 40$
		A1	3	
(d)	Integrating $v = (4 - 0.1t)^2$: $v = 16 - 0.8t + 0.01t^2$ $x = 16t - 0.4t^2 + \frac{0.01}{3}t^3 + d$ When $t=0, x=0 \Rightarrow d=0$ $x = 16t - 0.4t^2 + \frac{0.01}{3}t^3$ When speed is $1 \text{ ms}^{-1}, t = 30$ $x = 480 - 360 + 90$ $= 210$	M1		M1 for first 3 terms or $-\frac{10}{3}(4 - 0.1t)^3$
		A1		
		m1		dep on M1 above
		A1	4	[No 'd', 3 marks only]
Total			13	

(Q5, Jan 2010)

10	$\frac{dv}{dt} = -\frac{\lambda}{v^4}$	M1		
	$\int v^4 dv = -\int \lambda dt$	m1		Condone one of v^{-4} , $+\int \lambda dt$, $\frac{1}{\lambda}$
	$\frac{4}{5}v^{\frac{5}{4}} = -\lambda t + c$	A1A1 m1		m1 for + c
	$t = 0, v = u \therefore c = \frac{4}{5}u^{\frac{5}{4}}$	A1		
	$\therefore v^{\frac{5}{4}} = u^{\frac{5}{4}} - \frac{5}{4}\lambda t$			
	$v = \left(u^{\frac{5}{4}} - \frac{5}{4}\lambda t\right)^{\frac{4}{5}}$	A1	7	
Total			7	

(Q5, June 2010)

11 (a)(i)	$F = 65g - 260v$ $= 65(9.8 - 4v)$	B1	1	Accept $260v - 65g$ AG must see $65g$ or 260
	(ii) Using $F = ma$			
	$65 \frac{dv}{dt} = 65(9.8 - 4v)$	M1		Need to see terms in m (condone - sign)
	$\frac{dv}{dt} = -4(v - 2.45)$	A1	2	AG
(b)	$\frac{1}{v - 2.45} \frac{dv}{dt} = -4$	B1		
	$\int \frac{1}{v - 2.45} dv = -\int 4 dt$			
	$\ln(v - 2.45) = -4t + c$	M1 A1		M1 log side correct $-4t + c$
	$v - 2.45 = Ce^{-4t}$ $t = 0, v = 19.6$ $\therefore C = 17.15$ or $e^{2.84}$	A1		Or $c = \ln 17.15$ or 2.84
	$\therefore v = 2.45 + 17.15e^{-4t}$ $2.45 + 17.2e^{-4t}$	A1	5	
Total			8	

(Q8, Jan 2011)

<p>12 (a)</p> <p>Using $F = ma$</p> $-2mv^{\frac{5}{4}} = m \frac{dv}{dt}$ $\therefore \frac{dv}{dt} = -2v^{\frac{5}{4}} \quad \mathbf{AG}$ <p>(b)</p> $\int \frac{dv}{v^{\frac{5}{4}}} = -2 \int dt$ $-\frac{4}{\frac{1}{v^4}} = -2t + c$ <p>When $t = 0, v = 16 \Rightarrow c = -2$</p> $-\frac{4}{\frac{1}{v^4}} = -2t - 2$ $v^{\frac{1}{4}} = \frac{2}{1+t}$ $v = \left(\frac{2}{1+t} \right)^4 \quad \mathbf{AG}$		<p>B1</p> <p>M1</p> <p>A1</p> <p>dM1</p> <p>A1</p> <p>A1</p>	<p>1</p> <p>5</p> <p>6</p>	<p>B1: Must see $-2mv^{\frac{5}{4}} = m \frac{dv}{dt}$ or $-2mv^{\frac{5}{4}} = ma$ and correct final answer.</p> <p>M1: Two integrals with one in the form $\int f(v)dv$ where $f(v) = v^{\pm \frac{5}{4}}$ or $v^{\pm \frac{4}{5}}$. The other integral must not contain v terms.</p> <p>A1: Correct expression. Condone lack of $+c$ for this A1, but no subsequent marks if no c.</p> <p>dM1: Using $t = 0$ and $v = 16$ to find c. A1: Obtaining $c = -2$.</p> <p>A1: Correct final answer. Must see $v^{\frac{1}{4}} = \frac{2}{1+t}$ or $v^{-\frac{1}{4}} = \frac{1+t}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{v^{\frac{1}{4}}} = \frac{1+t}{2}$.</p> <p>Or</p> <p>if they obtain $v = \left(\frac{2}{t+c} \right)^4$</p> <p>$v = 16, t = 0 \Rightarrow 16^{\frac{1}{4}} = \frac{2}{c}$, condone $c = 1$ (no other root considered)</p>
Total			6	

(Q6, June 2011)

13	(a) using $F = ma$ $0.4 \frac{dv}{dt} = 2 - 4v$ $\frac{dv}{dt} = -10(v - 0.5)$	M1 A1	2	Needs line above
	(b) hence $\int \frac{1}{v-0.5} dv = -\int 10 dt$ $\ln(v - 0.5) = -10t + c$ $v - 0.5 = Ce^{-10t}$ $t = 0, v = 1$ $\therefore C = 0.5$ $\therefore v = 0.5 + 0.5e^{-10t}$	M1A1 m1 A1 A1	5	M1 for any side integrated correctly m1 for + c (and M1 gained) condone $v = 0.5 + e^{-10t-0.693}$
	(c) when $v = 0.55, 0.55 = 0.5 + 0.5e^{-10t}$ $10 = e^{10t}$ $t = \ln 10 \div 10$ $= 0.230$	M1 A1 A1	3	substitute 0.55 into C's (b), after finding c, possible numerical error
Total			10	

(Q6, Jan 2012)

14	(a) Using $F = ma$: $m \frac{dv}{dt} = 49 - 9.8v$ or $5g - 9.8v$ $\therefore \frac{dv}{dt} = -1.96(v - 5)$	M1 A1	2	Need to see $m \frac{dv}{dt}$ or $5 \frac{dv}{dt}$ or $a = \frac{49 - 9.81}{5}$ Must see m terms (not a = ...)
	(b) $\int \frac{dv}{v-5} = -1.96 \int dt$ $\ln(v - 5) = -1.96t + c$ When $t = 0, v = 7 \Rightarrow c = \ln 2$ $\ln \frac{v-5}{2} = -1.96t$ $\frac{v-5}{2} = e^{-1.96t}$ $v = 5 + 2e^{-1.96t}$	M1 A1A1 A1 A1	5	And one side integrated Need + c, A1 each side OE CAO
	Total			7

(Q7, June 2012)

15 (a)	Using $F = ma$: $-4v^{\frac{1}{3}} = 12 \frac{dv}{dt}$ $\therefore \frac{dv}{dt} = -\frac{1}{3}v^{\frac{1}{3}}$ $-3 \int \frac{dv}{v^{\frac{1}{3}}} = \int dt$ $-3 \times \frac{v^{\frac{2}{3}}}{\frac{2}{3}} = t + c$ $-\frac{9}{2}v^{\frac{2}{3}} = t + c$ When $t = 0, v = 8 \Rightarrow c = -18$ $-\frac{9}{2}v^{\frac{2}{3}} = t - 18$ $v^{\frac{2}{3}} = 4 - \frac{2}{9}t$ $v = \left(4 - \frac{2}{9}t\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}$	B1		
		M1		condone -, 3 incorrect side
		A1		condone lack of + c
		M1A1		
		A1	6	
(b)	Particle is at rest when $4 - \frac{2}{9}t = 0$ The value of t is 18	B1	1	
Total			7	

(Q5, Jan 2013)

16 (a)	Using $F = ma$ $1600 \frac{dv}{dt} = 4000 - 40v$ $\frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{4000 - 40v}{1600}$ $\frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{100 - v}{40}$	M1		
		A1	2	
(b)	$40 \frac{dv}{100 - v} = dt$ $40 \int \frac{dv}{100 - v} = \int dt$ $-40 \ln(100 - v) = t + c$ When $t = 0, v = 0 \Rightarrow c = -40 \ln 100$ $-40 \ln(100 - v) = t - 40 \ln 100$ $t = 40 \ln \frac{100}{100 - v}$ $e^{\frac{t}{40}} = \frac{100}{100 - v}$ $v = 100 - 100e^{-\frac{t}{40}} \text{ or } 100(1 - e^{-\frac{t}{40}})$	B1		
		M1		
		A1		Condone lack of '+ c'
		M1A1		
		A1	6	
Total			8	

(Q6, June 2013)