

- 1 A garden ornament consists of a plastic dragonfly mounted on a stick. The dragonfly's wings are attached to the body with springs, and they flutter up and down in a gentle breeze.



- (a) When the air is not moving and the wings are displaced through a small vertical distance, they oscillate. The time for 10 oscillations is recorded. This is repeated twice more.

Time / s		
t_1	t_2	t_3
6.2	6.6	6.9

- (i) Calculate the frequency of oscillation of the wings.

(3)

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Frequency

(ii) The oscillation of the wings is thought to be simple harmonic motion.

State the conditions required for the oscillations to be simple harmonic.

(2)

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(b) The amplitude of the wings' oscillation dies down after only a small number of oscillations.

Explain why this happens.

(2)

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(c) In certain breezy conditions the wings are seen to oscillate with a very large amplitude.

Name this effect and state the condition for it to occur.

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(Total for Question 9 marks)

2 (a) Define simple harmonic motion.

(2)

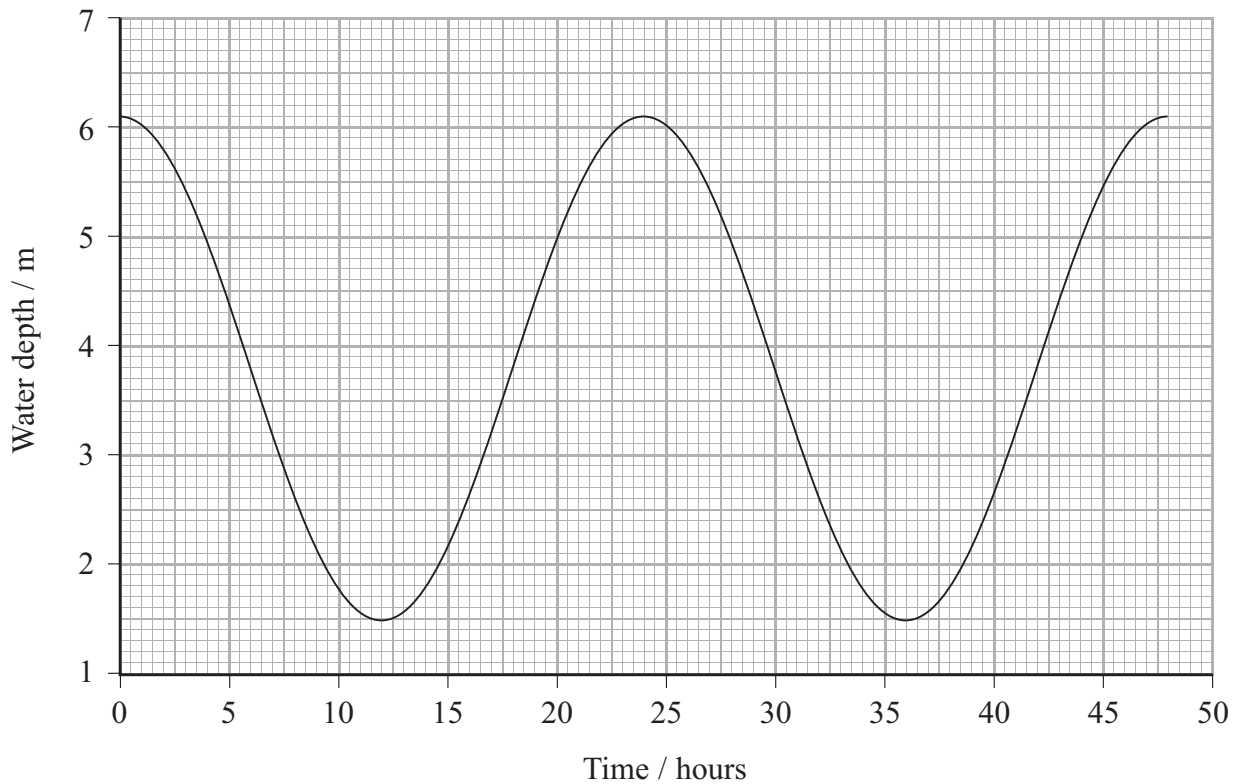
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(b) The graph shows the variation in water level displacement with time for the water in a harbour. The water level displacement varies with simple harmonic motion.



(i) Use the graph to calculate the amplitude and the time period of the variation in the water level displacement.

(2)

Amplitude

Time period

(ii) Show that the maximum rate of change of water level displacement is about 0.6 m hour^{-1} .

(3)

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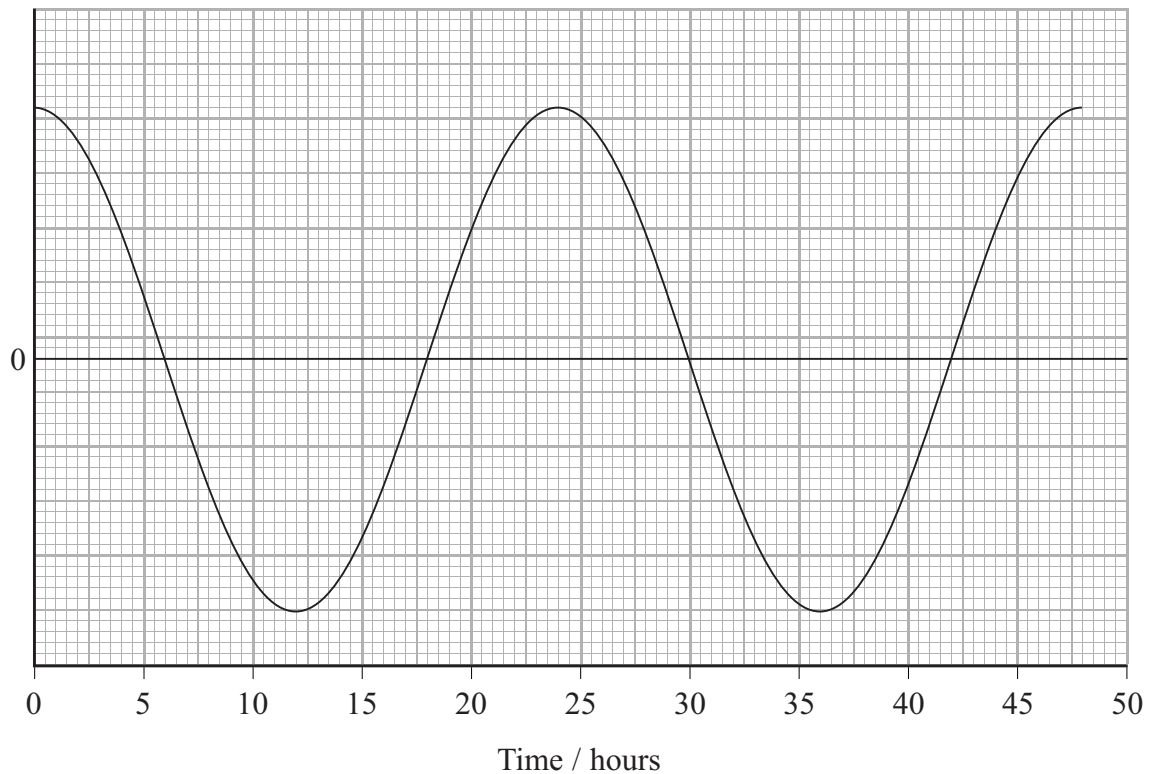
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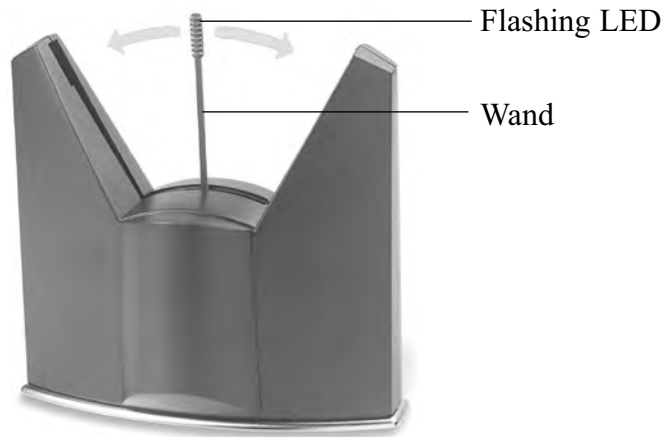
(iii) On the axis below sketch how the rate of change of water level displacement varies with time for the interval 0–30 hours. The variation in water level displacement with time has been drawn for you. You need not add any numerical values to the y-axis.

(2)



(Total for Question 9 marks)

3 Observing the display of a ‘floating image’ clock relies on the phenomenon of ‘persistence of vision’. The clock has a wand with a set of flashing light-emitting diodes (LEDs) at its end. The wand oscillates rapidly back and forth and takes only 0.0625 s to sweep from one end to the other. The wand becomes almost invisible to the eye, while the flashing LEDs create a floating image effect.



(a) The tip of the wand moves with simple harmonic motion as it sweeps through a distance of 10.0 cm from one end to the other.

(i) Calculate the frequency of the wand’s oscillation.

(2)

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Frequency

(ii) The speed of the wand varies as it sweeps back and forth. At what point will the speed of the wand be a maximum?

(1)

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(iii) Calculate the maximum speed of the tip of the wand.

(2)

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Maximum speed

(b) In normal operation the clock may make a faint ticking or humming sound. An unstable surface supporting the clock can result in noisy operation due to resonance.

(i) Explain what is meant by resonance.

(2)

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(ii) The clock is mounted on rubber feet so that it does not make direct contact with surfaces. Explain how this helps to reduce the effects of resonance.

(2)

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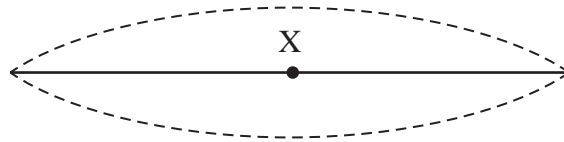
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(Total for Question 9 marks)

4 Guitar strings can oscillate with simple harmonic motion.



Shortly after the string is plucked, a standing wave exists on the string. The simplified diagram below shows a string in three positions of the standing wave.



(a) State what is meant by simple harmonic motion.

(2)

(b) (i) Describe the acceleration of point X on the string as it moves between the extreme positions of its motion.

(2)

(ii) Comment on the energy changes in the string as it moves between the extreme positions of its motion.

(3)

(c) The oscillating string has a length of 0.53 m. Calculate the frequency of the sound emitted when the string oscillates as shown previously.

speed of the wave on the string = 270 m s^{-1}

(3)

Frequency =

(Total for Question = 10 marks)

- 5 A baby-bouncer is a light harness, into which a baby can be placed, suspended by a vertical spring.



The height of the baby-bouncer is adjusted so that the baby's feet are a few centimetres above the floor when the baby is in equilibrium in the harness. If the baby is then displaced downwards and released, the system oscillates vertically with simple harmonic motion.

It is stated in a textbook that "a mass-spring system that obeys Hooke's law will lead to simple harmonic motion when the mass is displaced."

- *(a) Explain why a system consisting of a mass and a spring that obeys Hooke's law may be set into simple harmonic motion.

(3)

- (b) The acceleration experienced by a baby of mass 8.2 kg is 0.49 m s^{-2} when the displacement from the equilibrium position is 3.0 cm.

Show that the period of vertical oscillations for this baby is about 1.6 s.

(3)

- (c) The amplitude of the oscillations quickly decreases, so the baby has to keep kicking on the floor to maintain them.

(i) State the name given to oscillations that die away quickly.

(1)

(ii) State the name that is given to oscillations such as those that are kept going by the baby kicking on the floor.

(1)

(iii) If the baby kicks on the floor at a certain frequency, the amplitude of the bounces can be made to increase to a maximum.

Name this effect and calculate the frequency at which it occurs.

(2)

Frequency =

- (d) The baby is replaced by a baby of less mass. This baby also kicks to produce maximum amplitude of oscillation. Without further calculation, explain how the frequency at which the baby must kick compares to that for the larger mass baby.

(2)

(Total for Question = 12 marks)

- 6 The photograph shows a nodding tiger toy. The tiger is placed on a car's dashboard and its head nods up and down as the car is driven along a rough road surface.



It is noticed that at a particular speed the tiger's head vibrates with maximum amplitude.

(a) (i) What is the name of this phenomenon?

(1)

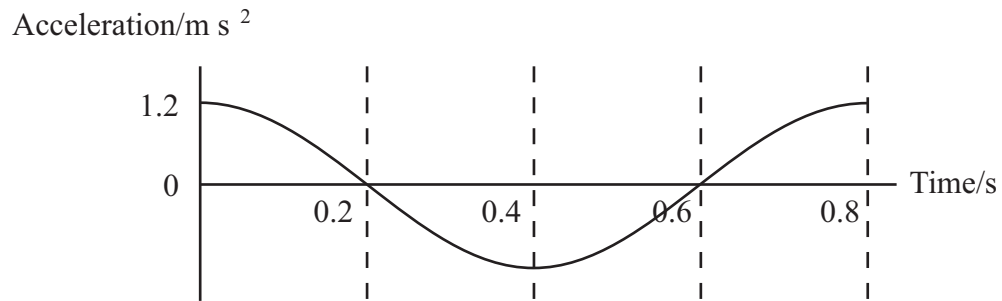
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(ii) Describe the conditions necessary for this phenomenon to occur.

(2)

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- (b) (i) The graph shows the variation of acceleration with time for the tiger's head. Using values from the graph calculate the amplitude of oscillation of the tiger's head.

(3)



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Amplitude of oscillation

- (ii) Sketch a graph of the head's displacement against time over the same time interval on the axes below.

(2)



(Total for Question 8 marks)