

**GCSE (9–1) Physics A (Gateway Science)**  
**J249/01 Paper 1 (Foundation Tier)**  
Sample Question Paper

**F**

**Date – Morning/Afternoon**

Time allowed: 1 hour 45 minutes

**You must have:**

- the Data Sheet

**You may use:**

- a scientific or graphical calculator
- a ruler



First name

Last name

Centre  
number

Candidate  
number

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Use black ink. HB pencil may be used for graphs and diagrams only.
- Complete the boxes above with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer **all** the questions.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided.
- Additional paper may be used if required but you must clearly show your candidate number, centre number and question number(s).
- Do **not** write in the bar codes.

**INFORMATION**



- The total mark for this paper is **90**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [ ].
- Quality of extended responses will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (\*).
- This document consists of **24** pages.



## SECTION A



Answer **all** the questions.



You should spend a maximum of 30 minutes on this section.

- 1 Which of these pairs of objects will attract each other?

A   copper bar

B  

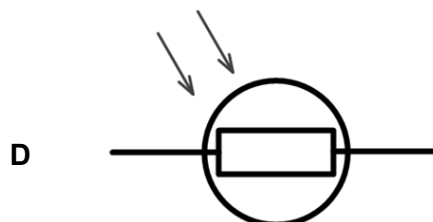
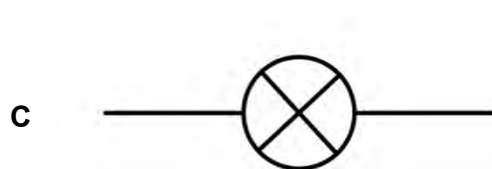
C  

D   aluminium bar

Your answer

[1]

- 2 Which of these symbols is used to show an LDR?



Your answer

[1]

- 3 A bus takes 1.8 hours to travel 24 km.

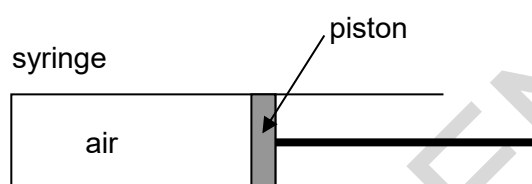
What is the average speed of the bus?

- A 43.2 km/h
- B 25.8 km/h
- C 22.2 km/h
- D 13.3 km/h

Your answer

[1]

- 4 A syringe contains air.



The piston is pushed inwards.

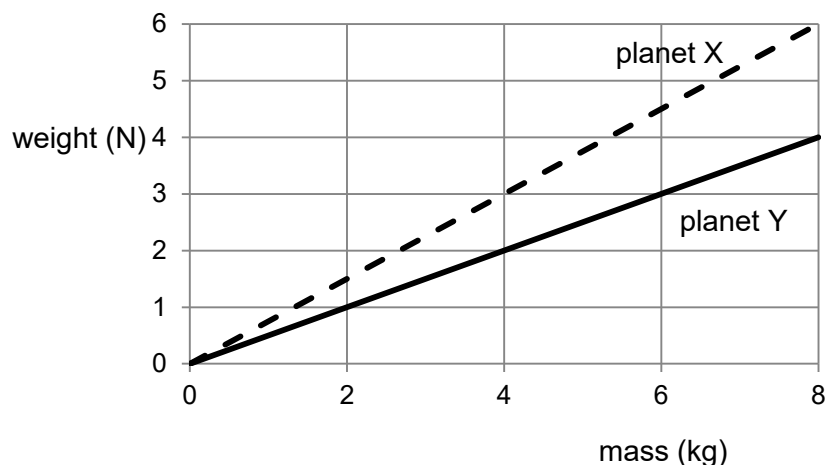
How do the pressure and volume of the air in the syringe change?

|   | Pressure  | Volume    |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| A | decreases | decreases |
| B | decreases | increases |
| C | increases | decreases |
| D | increases | increases |

Your answer

[1]

- 5 The graph shows the relationship between mass and weight on two different planets.



The weight of an object on planet **X** is 3 N.

What is the weight of the same object on planet **Y**?

- A 1.5 N
- B 2.0 N
- C 4.0 N
- D 6.0 N

Your answer

[1]

- 6 The strength of the magnetic effect of a solenoid can be changed.

Which of the following rows correctly describes what happens to the strength when the current and number of turns are increased?

|          | Increased current | Increased number of turns |
|----------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>A</b> | increases         | decreases                 |
| <b>B</b> | increases         | increases                 |
| <b>C</b> | decreases         | increases                 |
| <b>D</b> | decreases         | decreases                 |

Your answer

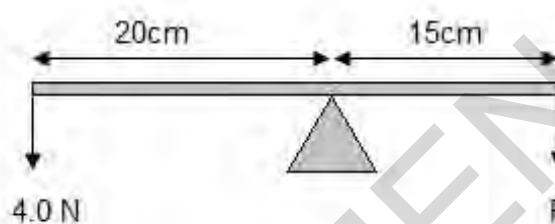
[1]

- 7 Why is an unmagnetised iron object attracted to a magnet?
- A The iron has magnetism induced by the magnet.
  - B The iron has charged particles which attract the protons in the magnet.
  - C The iron has charged particles which attract the electrons in the magnet.
  - D The iron is attracted by the Earth's magnetic field.

Your answer

[1]

- 8 A see-saw is in equilibrium.



What force is needed for the see-saw to be in equilibrium?

- A 3.0 N
- B 3.5 N
- C 5.0 N
- D 5.3 N

Your answer

[1]

- 9 Which sentence is the definition of the power of a machine?
- A The amount of work done by the machine.
  - B The efficiency of the machine.
  - C The number of joules of energy the machine requires to work.
  - D The rate at which energy is transferred by the machine.

Your answer

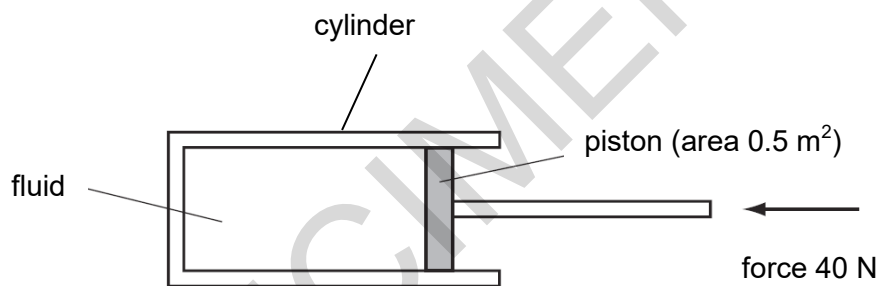
[1]

- 10 A sealed can contains gas.  
The can is heated and the pressure of the gas increases.  
How do the gas particles cause this increase in pressure?
- A Their average distance apart increases.
  - B They expand.
  - C They hit each other more frequently.
  - D They hit the can more frequently.

Your answer

[1]

- 11 A piston is pushed in a cylinder containing a fluid.



If **pressure = force ÷ area**, what is the pressure exerted on the fluid?

- A 20 Pa
- B 80 Pa
- C 160 Pa
- D 200 Pa

Your answer

[1]

12 A firework rocket has a resultant force of 2 N acting on it.

It has a mass of 0.1 kg.

What is the acceleration of the firework rocket?

A 0.2 m/s<sup>2</sup>

B 0.5 m/s<sup>2</sup>

C 20 m/s<sup>2</sup>

D 200 m/s<sup>2</sup>

Your answer

[1]

13 What is the **minimum** number of forces that are required to compress a spring?

A 1

B 2

C 3

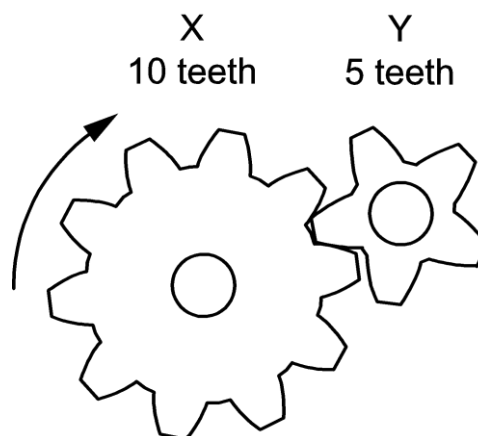
D 4

Your answer

[1]

SPECIMEN

- 14 The diagram shows 2 gears.



Gear **X** is rotated clockwise at 1.0 rotation per second.

Which row is the correct description of the movement of gear **Y**?

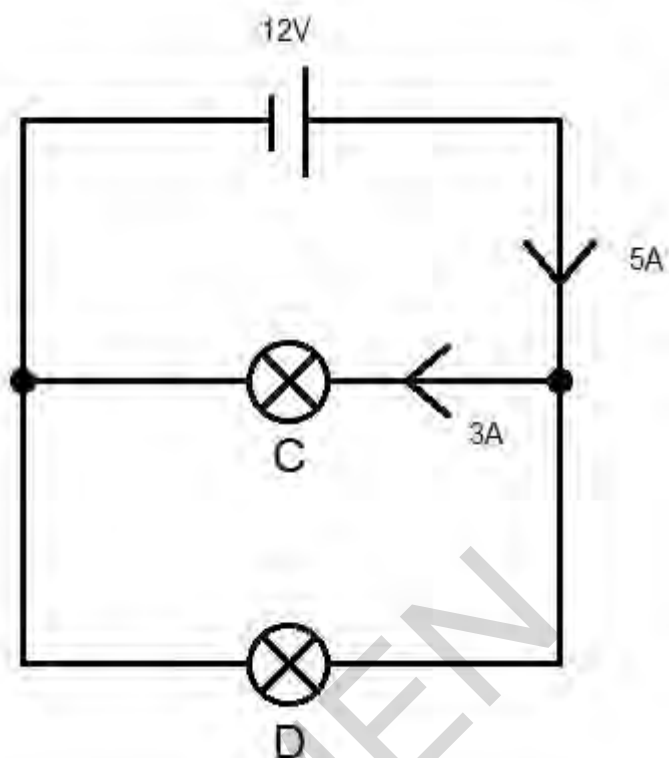
|          | direction of rotation | rotations per second |
|----------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>A</b> | anticlockwise         | 0.5                  |
| <b>B</b> | anticlockwise         | 2.0                  |
| <b>C</b> | clockwise             | 0.5                  |
| <b>D</b> | clockwise             | 2.0                  |

Your answer

[1]



- 15 Look at the circuit diagram.



Use the formula **resistance = potential difference  $\div$  current** to calculate the resistance of bulb **D**.

- A 2  $\Omega$
- B 4  $\Omega$
- C 6  $\Omega$
- D 8  $\Omega$

Your answer

[1]

**SECTION B**

Answer **all** the questions.

**16** Two students study the motion of a toy train on a track.

They need distance and time measurements to calculate speed.

**(a)** Write down an instrument they could use to measure:

**(i)** distance: ..... [1]

**(ii)** time: ..... [1]

**(b)** The toy train travels for 45 seconds at 2 m/s.

Calculate the distance it travels.

Show your working.

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 .....  
 .....

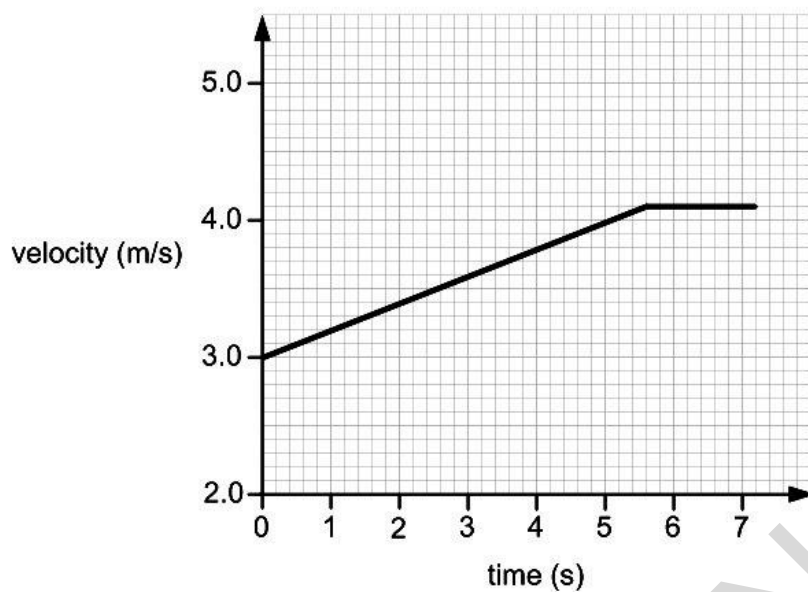
**answer:** ..... m [4]

**(c)** The maximum speed of the train is 5 m/s. Its maximum velocity is also 5 m/s.

**(i)** What is the same about the maximum speed and velocity?  
 ..... [1]

**(ii)** What may be different about the maximum speed and velocity?  
 ..... [1]

(d) The train accelerates and its journey is shown in the graph below.



Use data from the graph to calculate the acceleration.

Show your working.

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answer: ..... m/s<sup>2</sup>

[4]

17 Two students, **A** and **B**, use different methods to see magnetic field patterns.

(a) (i) Describe how student **A** can use a compass to plot a magnetic field pattern.

You may draw a diagram to help you answer this question.

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**[3]**

SPECIMEN

- (ii) Student **B** uses iron filings to show a magnetic field pattern.

Describe how student **B** uses iron filings to show a magnetic field pattern.

You may draw a diagram to help you answer this question.

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..... [2]

- (b) Their teacher prefers students to use the method proposed by student **A**.

Suggest **one** reason why.

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..... [1]

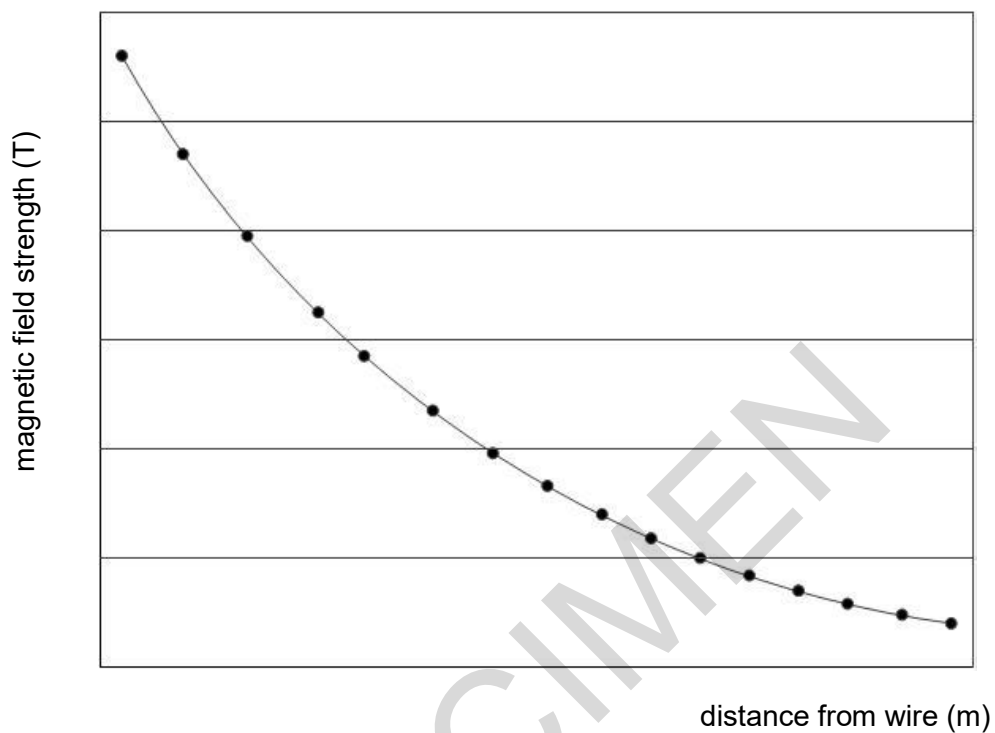
- (c) Sketch the field pattern the students found around a bar magnet.



[2]

- (d) The two students decide to investigate the magnetic effect of a current-carrying wire.

Look at the graph of their results.



What trend does the graph show?

.....

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[2]

- 18 Four students investigate the idea of work done.

$$\text{work done} = \text{force} \times \text{distance}$$

Look at their results.

| Student | Force (N) | Distance travelled (m) |
|---------|-----------|------------------------|
| A       | 100       | 5                      |
| B       | 50        | 10                     |
| C       | 120       | 12                     |
| D       | 40        | 4                      |

- (a) Use calculations to show which student does the most work.

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 .....

[2]

- (b) Which **two** students do the same amount of work?

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[1]

- (c) State **two** reasons why it is important to repeat measurements in any experiment.

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[2]

- (d) Student **C** takes 0.5 minutes to push the trolley.

How much power do they use?

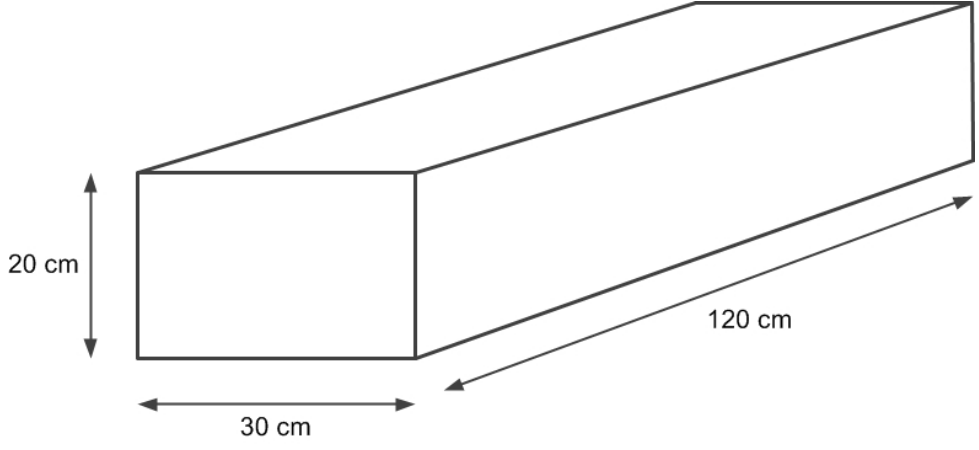
Show your working.

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answer: .....W

[4]

19 Wood has a density of  $180 \text{ kg/m}^3$ .



Calculate the mass of this piece of wood.

Show your working and give the units.

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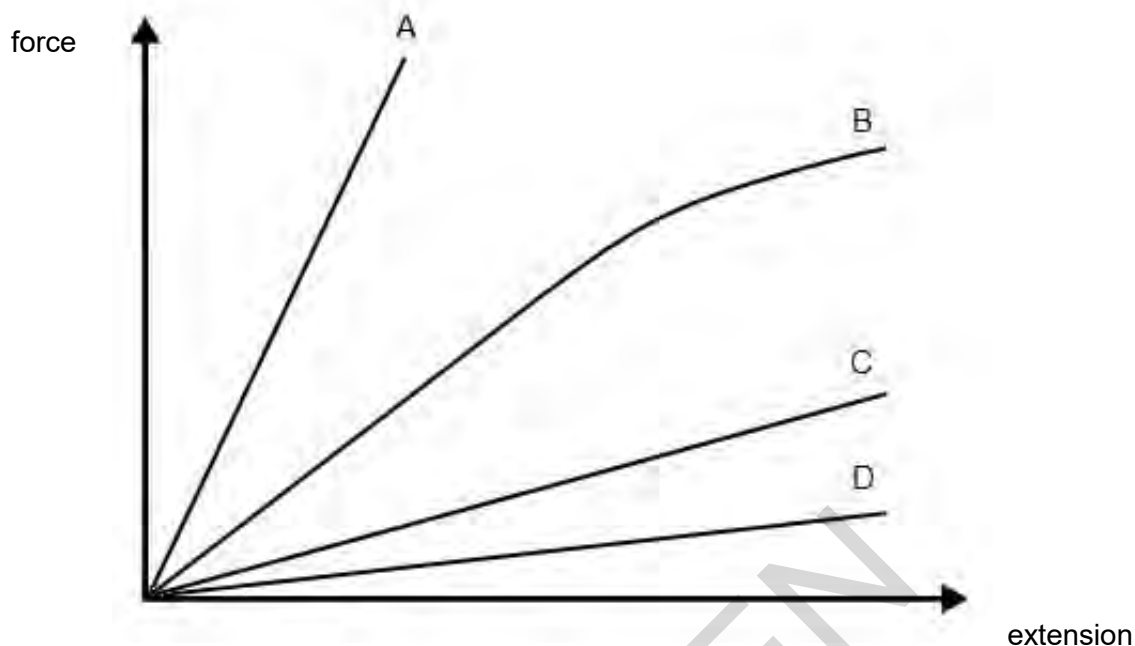
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answer: ..... units:.....

[6]



20 The extension of four different springs is shown in the graph.



(a) Explain which of the springs **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** has the highest spring constant?

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 ..... [2]

(b) Explain why the line for spring **B** has a different shape to the others.

.....  
 ..... [2]

(c) (i) A spring has a spring constant of 27 N/m.

For an extension of 25 cm, calculate the energy transferred in stretching.

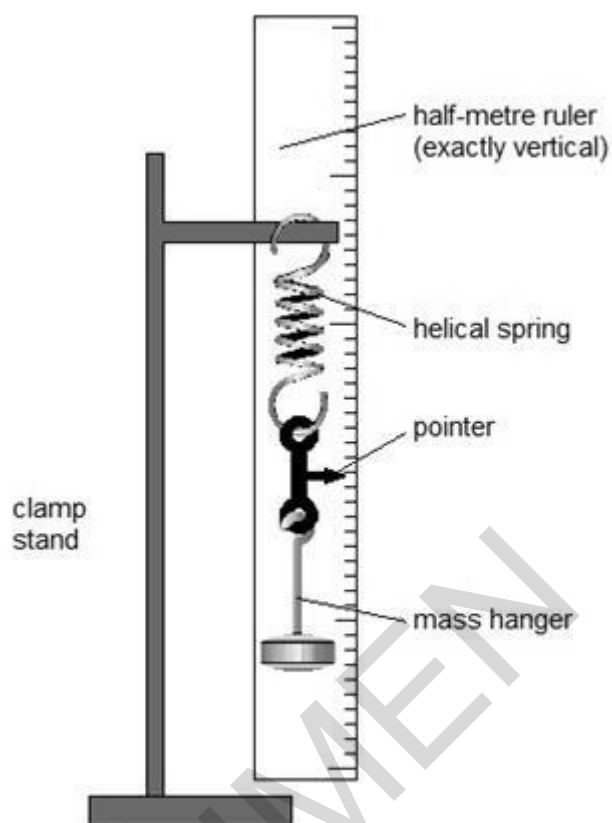
Use the formula: **energy transferred = 0.5 x spring constant x extension<sup>2</sup>**.

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 .....

**answer:** ..... J

[2]

- (ii) A student set up the apparatus shown in the diagram.



Describe how they could use this apparatus to collect data to draw a force/extension graph for this spring.

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[4]

- (iii) The above spring has a spring constant of  $30 \text{ N/m}$ , this is replaced by a spring with a spring constant of  $10 \text{ N/m}$ .  
What changes will the student have to make to this method to investigate this spring?

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[2]

21 A student finds a resistor which has no markings on it.

The student uses a voltmeter, an ammeter and a cell to find the resistance of the resistor.

(a) Draw a circuit diagram the student could use to find the resistance of the resistor.

[3]

(b) In the experiment the current reading is 0.15 A and the potential difference is 2.0 V.

Use the formula: **potential difference = current x resistance**

to calculate the resistance of the unknown resistor.

Show your working.

Record your answer to **3** significant figures.

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answer: .....  $\Omega$

[3]

- (c) The students repeat the experiment with different potential differences and currents.

Look at the results.

| Potential difference (V) | Current (A) (Attempt 1) | Current (A) (Attempt 2) | Current (A) (Attempt 3) | Mean current (A) |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| 2.0                      | 0.15                    | 0.14                    | 0.16                    | 0.15             |
| 4.0                      | 0.31                    | 0.31                    | 0.31                    | 0.31             |
| 6.0                      | 0.44                    | 0.44                    | 0.38                    | 0.44             |
| 8.0                      | 0.60                    | 0.62                    | 0.58                    | 0.60             |
| 10.0                     | 0.74                    | 0.75                    | 0.73                    | 0.74             |

There is an anomaly in the results.

- (i) Write down the anomaly from the table.

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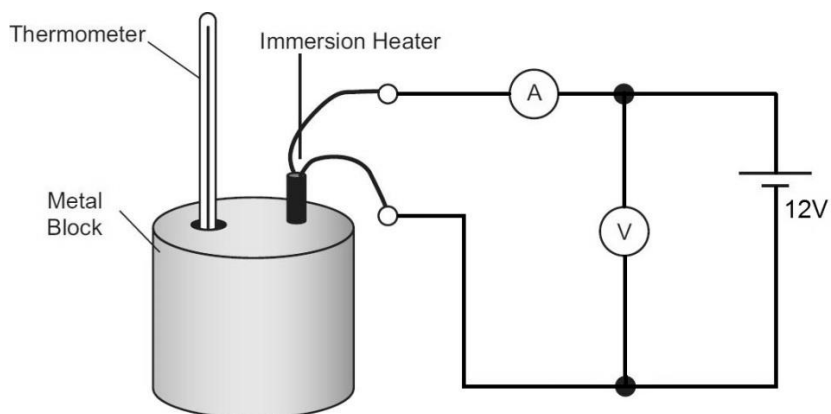
[1]

- (ii) State how the students dealt with the anomaly?

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[1]

- 22 A student completes an experiment to find the specific heat capacity of a metal.



- (a) (i) The student takes voltage and current measurements.

Suggest **three** other measurements they need to take?

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[3]

- (ii) Describe how these measurements could be used to determine the specific heat capacity of the metal.

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[2]

- (b) The value obtained from the experiment is much higher than expected.

Suggest **two** reasons how this could have occurred and suggest **two** improvements to the experimental procedure.

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[4]

23 A student rubs a balloon against a scarf.



(a)\* Describe how the balloon has become charged.  
Suggest a way to show that the balloon is charged. What would you expect to see and why?

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[6]

(b) The rate of flow of electrical charge in a circuit is a current.

A current of 40 mA transfers a charge of 3.6 C.

Calculate how long this takes.

Show your working.

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**answer:** ..... seconds

**[3]**

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**

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