

DYNAMICS: APPLICATION OF NEWTON'S LAWS

Q. The diagram below shows an object of mass 2kg attached to a string. Assume $g = 10 \text{ ms}^{-2}$.



(i) Mark the forces on the diagram

Done

(ii) What is tension?

Tension is the name given to a force which is experienced by a rope, string, chain, thread, etc.

(iii) How to mark the direction of tension?

Tension is always directed away from the concerned object.

(iv) Calculate tension if the object is at rest.

Forces = balanced

$$\therefore T = 20 \text{ N}$$

(v) Calculate tension if the object moves at constant velocity

since velocity is constant, the acceleration must be zero and the forces must be balanced.

$$\therefore T = 20 \text{ N}$$

(vi) Calculate tension if the object accelerates upwards at 2 ms^{-2}

Upward acceleration implies that the upwards force must be greater than the downwards force.

$$T - 20 = ma$$

$$T - 20 = (2)(2)$$

$$T - 20 = 4$$

$$\therefore T = 24 \text{ N}$$

(vii) Calculate tension if the object accelerates downwards at 5 ms^{-2} .

Downward resultant force

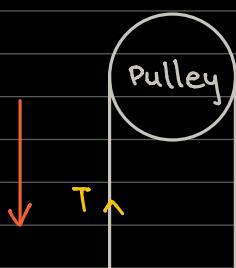
$$20 - T = ma$$

$$20 - T = (2)(5)$$

$$20 - T = 10$$

$$\therefore 10 \text{ N} = T$$

Q.

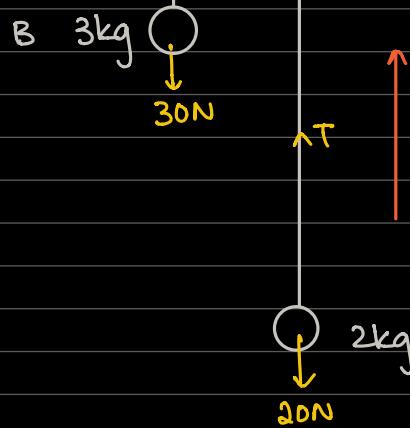


(i) Mark weight and tension.

Done

(ii) The system is released from rest from the position shown

(a) Calculate acceleration



B (acc. downwards)

$$\begin{aligned} F &= ma \\ 30 - T &= (3)(a) \\ 30 - T &= 3a \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

Solving simultaneously

$$\begin{aligned} 30 - 3a &= T \\ 30 - 3a - 20 &= 2a \\ 10 &= 5a \\ 2 &= a \end{aligned}$$

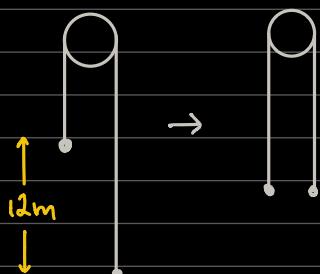
A (acc. upwards)

$$\begin{aligned} F &= ma \\ T - 20 &= 2a \quad (2) \end{aligned}$$

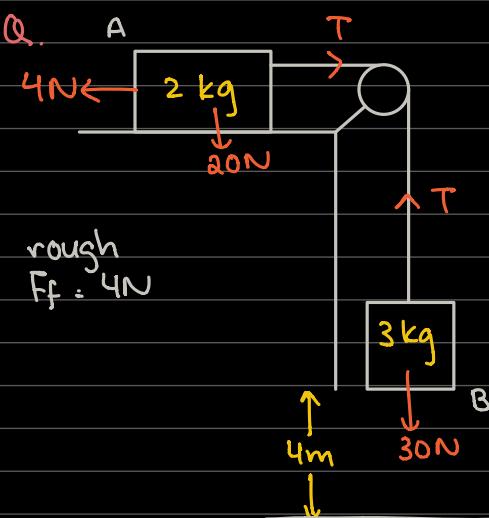
$$\begin{aligned} 30 - 3(2) &= T \\ 30 - 6 &= T \\ 24 &= T \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore T = 24\text{N} \text{ and } a = 2\text{ms}^{-2}$$

(iii) Given that initially they were separated by 12m, calculate their speed when they cross each other



$$\begin{aligned} u &= 0 & v^2 &= u^2 + 2as \\ v &=? & v^2 &= 2(2)(6) \\ a &= 2 & v^2 &= 24 \\ s &= 6 & v &= 4.9\text{ ms}^{-1} \rightarrow \underline{\underline{4.9}} \end{aligned}$$



(i) Mark the forces

(ii) calculate 'a' and 'T'

$$\begin{aligned} \text{For B: } F &= ma \\ 30 - T &= ma \\ 30 - T &= 3a \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{For A: } F &= ma \\ T - 4 &= 2a \quad (2) \end{aligned}$$

Solve simultaneously

$$30 - T = 3 \left(\frac{T - 4}{2} \right)$$

$$60 - 2T = 3T - 12$$

$$\frac{72}{5} = \frac{5T}{5}$$

$$14.4 = T$$

$$T - 4 = 2a$$

$$10.4 = 2a$$

$$5.2 = a$$

$$\text{ms}^{-2}$$

$$\therefore a = 5.2 \text{ and } T = 14.4\text{N}$$

(iii) Given that system is released from rest, calculate speed of B as it reaches the ground

$$\begin{aligned} \text{for B: } v^2 &= u^2 + 2as \\ u &= 0 & v^2 &= 2(5.2)(4) \\ v &=? & v &= 6.4\text{ ms}^{-1} \\ a &= 5.2 & & \\ s &= 4 & & \end{aligned}$$

(iv) After B hits the ground (ie it stops moving), the string will become slack

(i.e. $T=0$) as A continues to move to the right. Due to friction, A will decelerate until it comes to rest. Calculate its deceleration and the distance it travels until it comes to rest.

A will decelerate only bc. of friction.

It will initially have an acceleration of 5.2 , then suddenly negative acceleration until it comes to a stop.

$$F = ma \quad \therefore \text{deceleration is } 2\text{ms}^{-2}$$

$$-4 = 2a$$

$$-2 = a$$

$$v = 0 \quad v^2 = u^2 + 2as$$

$$u = 6.45 \text{ (from part ii)} \quad 0 = (6.45)^2 + 2(-2)s$$

$$s = ??$$

$$a = -2\text{ms}^{-2}$$

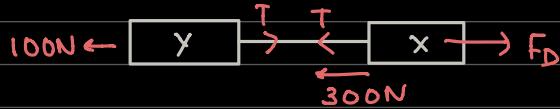
$$0 = 41.6 - 4s$$

$$\frac{4s}{4} = \frac{41.6}{4}$$

$$s = 10.4 \rightarrow \underline{10.4\text{m}}$$

\therefore deceleration is 2ms^{-2} and $s = 10.4\text{m}$ until it comes to rest

Q. The diagram below shows a tractor (x) of mass = 1000kg pulling a trailer (y) of mass = 500kg . The F_f on x is 300N and F_f on y is 100N . The driving force of x is F_D .



i) Calculate F_D and T if system moves at constant velocity

$$\text{For } y \quad T = 100\text{N}$$

$$\text{For } x \quad F_D = T + 300 \quad \therefore, F_D = 400\text{N}$$

ii) Calculate F_D and T if system accelerates at 4ms^{-2}

$$\text{For } x \quad F = ma$$

$$F_D - T - 300 = 1000(4)$$

$$\text{For } y \quad F = ma$$

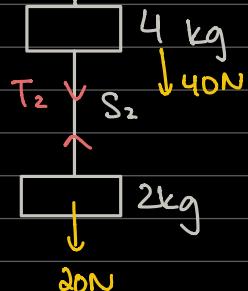
COMPLETE THIS

Q. A spring S_1 is connected to a 4kg mass. A string S_2 joins the 4kg with the 2kg mass. (as shown)





(i) Calculate tension T_1 in S_1 and tension T_2 in S_2 if the system is at rest



For 2kg: forces balanced, so $T_2 = 20\text{N}$

For 4kg: forces balanced

$$T_1 = T_2 + 40$$

$$T_1 = 20 + 40$$

$$T_1 = 60\text{N}$$

(ii) The string S_2 is cut. Calculate the upward acceleration of the 4kg mass.

After string is cut, $T_2 = 20\text{N}$ no longer exists, so the only downward force acting on the 4kg man is its weight, 40N.

$$\text{Upward force} = 60 - 40 = 20$$

$$F = ma$$

$$20 = 4a$$

$$5 = a$$

$$\therefore \text{upward acceleration} \\ = 5\text{ms}^{-2}$$

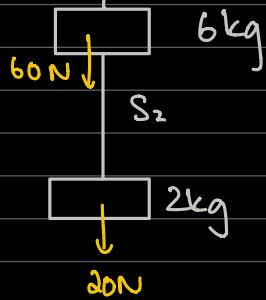
Q.



Initially, the system is at rest.

Some time later, the string is cut.

calculate the upward acceleration of the 6kg man



$$\text{Upwards} = 80\text{N}$$

$$\text{Downwards} = 60\text{N}$$

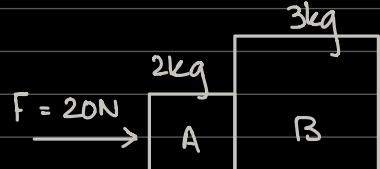
$$80 - 60 = 6a$$

$$20 = 6a$$

$$3.3 = a$$

$$\therefore a = 3.3\text{ms}^{-2}$$

How to calculate action/reaction forces based on Newton's 3rd Law.



(i) For the given diagram, calculate the acceleration of the system

$$F = ma$$

$$20 = 5a$$

$$4 = a$$

$$\therefore a = 4\text{ms}^{-2}$$

(ii) Calculate the force X which A exerts on B based on Newton's 3rd Law.



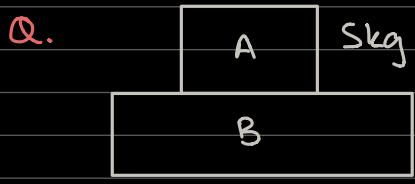
$$\begin{aligned}
 F &= ma \\
 F &= (2)(4) \\
 F &= 8N. \\
 20N - 8N &= 12N
 \end{aligned}
 \quad
 \begin{aligned}
 F &= ma \\
 x &= (3)(4) \\
 x &= 12N. \\
 \therefore x &= 12N.
 \end{aligned}$$



Find the force which A exerts on B.

$$\begin{aligned}
 F &= ma \\
 F &= (30)(1.71) \\
 F &= 54.1
 \end{aligned}$$

"Shortcut" $\rightarrow \left[\frac{m_B}{m_A + m_B} \right] \times \text{total force}$



They fall freely ($a = g$), calculate the force which B exerts on A.

$$\begin{array}{c} A \\ \downarrow Sg \end{array} \quad
 \begin{aligned}
 F &= ma \\
 Sg - x &= Sg \\
 x &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Conclusion; in free fall there is no need to calculate the force as they do not exert a force on each other.

$$\begin{array}{c} B \\ \downarrow \\ 10g \end{array} \quad
 \begin{aligned}
 F &= ma \\
 x + 10 &= 10g \\
 x &= 0N
 \end{aligned}$$