Government of **Western Australia**
Curriculum Council

WACE
Western Australian Certificate of Education

Western Australian Certificate of Education
Sample Examination, 2010

Question/Answer Booklet

PHYSICS

Stage 2

Please place your student identification label in this box

Student Number: In figures

In words ____

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Time allowed for this paper
Reading time before commencing work: ten minutes
Working time for paper: three hours

Materials required/recommended for this paper
To be provided by the supervisor
This Question/Answer Booklet
Formulae and Constants Sheet

To be provided by the candidate
Standard items: pens, pencils, eraser, correction fluid, ruler, highlighters

Special items: non-programmable calculators satisfying the conditions set by the Curriculum Council for this course

Important note to candidates
No other items may be taken into the examination room. It is **your** responsibility to ensure that you do not have any unauthorised notes or other items of a non-personal nature in the examination room. If you have any unauthorised material with you, hand it to the supervisor **before** reading any further.

Structure of this paper

Section	Number of questions available	Number of questions to be answered	Suggested working time (minutes)	Marks available	Percentage of exam
Section One: Short answers	17	17	70	64	40
Section Two: Problem-solving	6	6	90	80	50
Section Three: Comprehension	1	1	20	16	10
					100

Instructions to candidates

1. The rules for the conduct of Western Australian external examinations are detailed in the *Year 12 Information Handbook 2010.* Sitting this examination implies that you agree to abide by these rules.

2. Write your answers in this Question/Answer Booklet.

3. Working or reasoning should be clearly shown when calculating or estimating answers.

4. You must be careful to confine your responses to the specific questions asked and to follow any instructions that are specific to a particular question.

5. Spare pages are included at the end of this booklet. They can be used for planning your responses and/or as additional space if required to continue an answer.
    - Planning: If you use the spare pages for planning, indicate this clearly at the top of the page.
    - Continuing an answer: If you need to use the space to continue an answer, indicate in the original answer space where the answer is continued, i.e. give the page number. Fill in the number of the question(s) that you are continuing to answer at the top of the page.

Section One: Short answer **40% (64 Marks)**

This section has **17** questions. Answer **all** questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

Spare pages are included at the end of this booklet. They can be used for planning your responses and/or as additional space if required to continue an answer.

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Suggested working time for this section is 70 minutes.

Question 1 **(5 marks)**

A parachutist has opened her parachute and is drifting towards the ground at 4.80 m s^{-1}.

(a) Use the image below to draw a labelled free body diagram showing the force(s) acting on her. (1 mark)

(b) When the ground is 1.48×10^3 m below her, a thermal causes an updraft of air to occur at 1.84 m s^{-1}. This upwards current of air continues during the entire descent.

(i) Calculate the parachutist's resultant velocity. (2 marks)

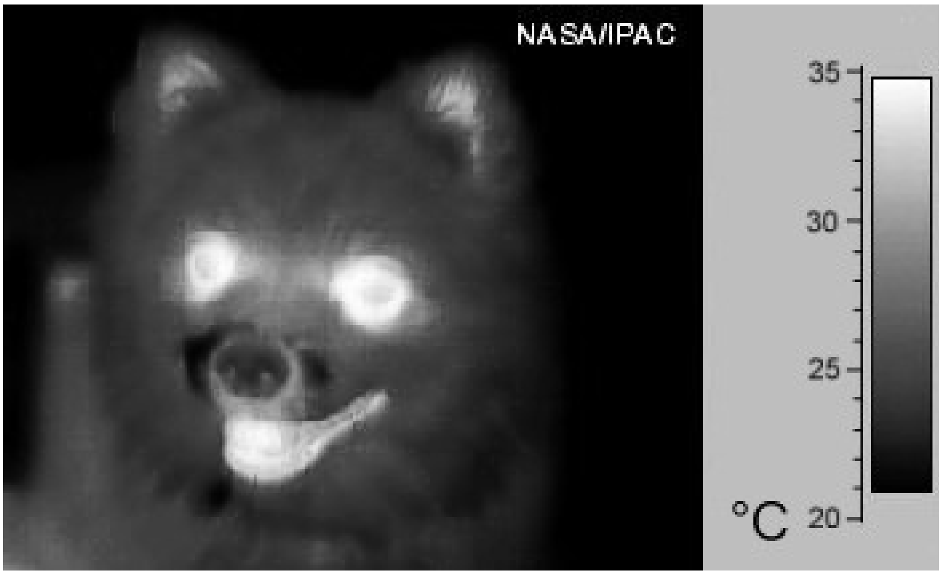
(ii) How long does it take the parachutist to reach the ground with the thermal affecting the descent? (2 marks)

Question 2 **(2 marks)**

If an atom gains two electrons, what is the charge, in coulombs, of the resulting ion? Explain your reasoning.

Question 3 **(4 marks)**

Below is an image of a small dog taken using a thermographic camera.



(a) What method of heat transfer does the camera use to detect the dog? (1 mark)

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(b) The image displays a range of temperatures on the surface of the dog despite the internal temperature of the animal being constant. Why would there be a difference in the surface temperatures? (3 marks)

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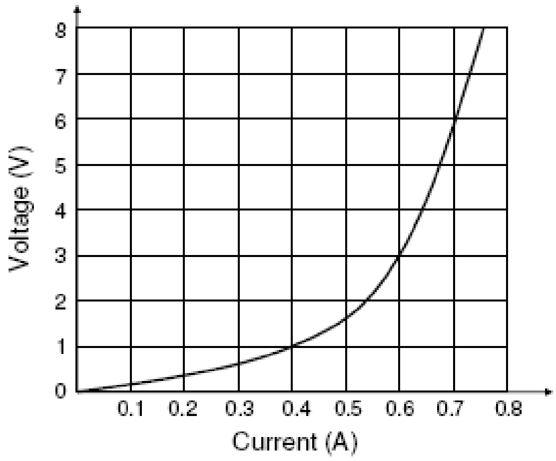
Question 4 **(4 marks)**

A graph of a non-ohmic resistor is shown to the right.



(a) Calculate the resistance when there is 0.40 A of current flowing through the resistor. (2 marks)

(b) Calculate the resistance when a potential difference of 6.0 V is across the resistor. (2 marks)

Question 5 **(4 marks)**

One gram of carbon from a wooden spoon is tested and found to give, on average, 0.270 Bq of ionising radiation. The half life of radioactive carbon is approximately 5730 years. One gram of carbon is obtained from an archaeological site. Over a one hour period, 486 counts are registered on a Geiger counter.

(a) How many becquerel does this correspond to? (1 Bq = 1 decay per second) (1 mark)

(b) How many years older than the spoon is the sample from the site? (3 marks)

Question 6 **(3 marks)**

Shannon has a stair climbing competition with her father to climb 6 flights of stairs and Shannon wins the competition. Shannon's mass is 30.0 kg and her father's mass is 70.0 kg. Which statement is correct?

A Shannon's father does more work
B Shannon does more work
C Shannon's father has exerted more power
D Shannon has exerted more power
E Shannon and her father do equal amounts of work.

Correct answer: ________________

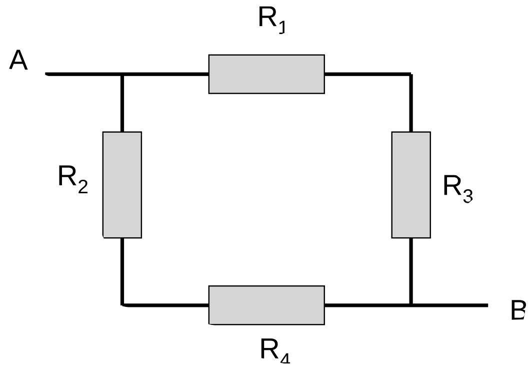
Explain your choice.

____

____

Question 7 **(5 marks)**

An electric circuit is shown in the diagram below. A DC voltage of 10 V is applied between A and B. The values of the resistors are $R_1 = 20\ \Omega$, $R_2 = 5\ \Omega$, $R_3 = 100\ \Omega$ and $R_4 = 25\ \Omega$.

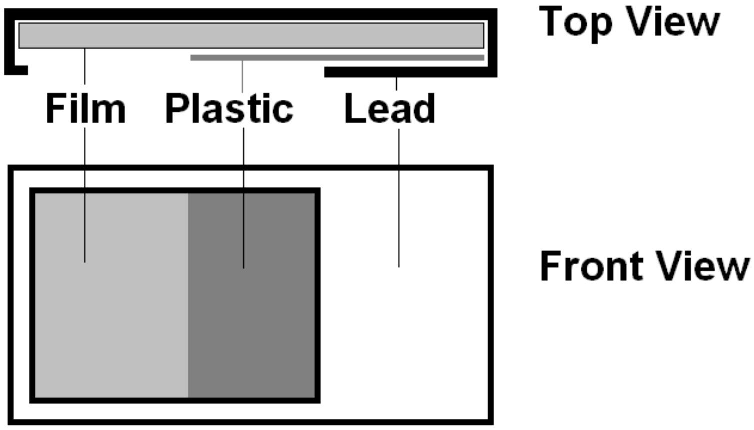


(a) Calculate the total resistance, R_T. (3 marks)

(b) Determine the current (I_T) between A and B. (2 marks)

Question 8 **(3 marks)**

Radiation workers wear a film dosimeter to monitor exposure to ionising radiation. A typical badge is constructed to determine the type and extent of radiation exposure levels.



Film Dosimeter

(a) How is the badge able to show how much radiation to which the worker was exposed?
(1 mark)

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(b) How is the badge able to show what type of radiation to which the worker was exposed?
(2 marks)

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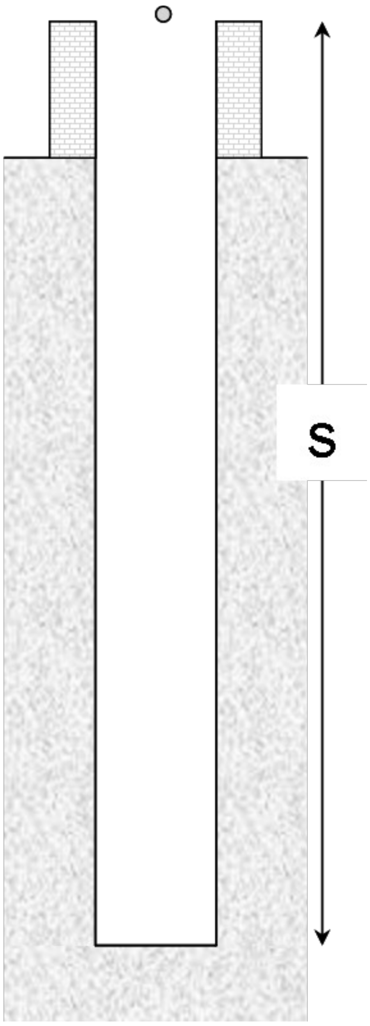
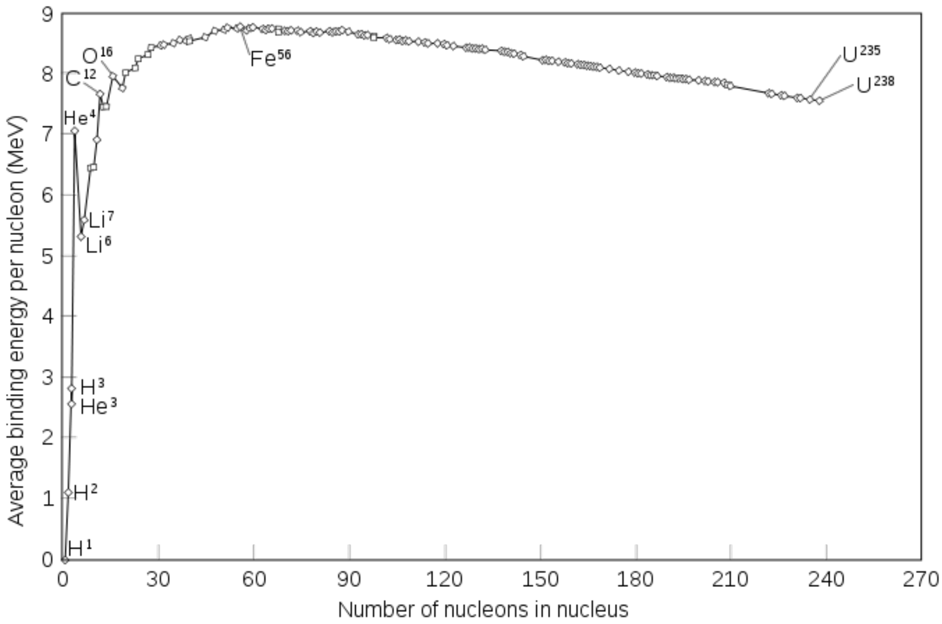
Question 9 **(2 marks)**

A coin is dropped down a well. Determine the depth, s, of the well if it took the coin 1.25 s to reach the bottom.



Question 10 **(3 marks)**

Below is a graph of binding energy curve for common isotopes.



(a) Using information from the graph, state which is more stable; uranium-235 or uranium-238. (1 mark)

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(b) Uranium-238 has a half life of 4.47×10^9 years and uranium-235 has a half life of 7.05×10^8 years. Given a sample of uranium-238 and a sample of uranium-235, each containing an equal amount of atoms, explain which sample would have a higher reading on a Geiger counter. (2 marks)

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Question 11–13 are based on the following information.

A solar heating system consists of a unit that may be mounted on the sloping roof of a house to produce warm water that is stored in a tank.

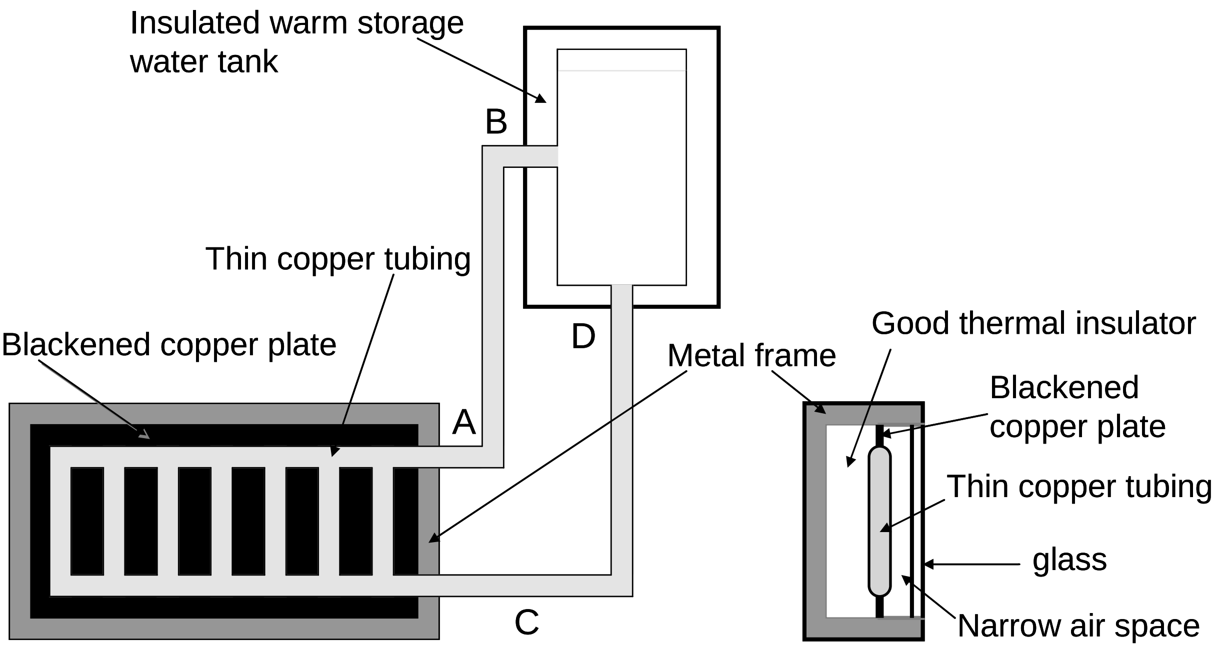

Figure (a) Front view of collecting plate

Figure (b) Side view

In figure (a) the solar energy collecting plate consists of a thin-walled copper tube embedded in a copper plate. The surface of the copper is blackened. This is mounted in a special metal frame, as shown in figure (b).

Sunlight irradiates the blackened panel through a glass window and heat is conducted to the water inside the copper tube which is warmed and stored in the insulated water tank. The space behind the copper plate and tube is filled with a good thermal insulator.

Question 11 **(3 marks)**

(a) Why is it necessary to place the insulated water tank at a higher level than that of the solar collection panel? (2 marks)

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(b) Which of the two pipes, AB or CD, carries the warmer water? (1 mark)

____

Question 12 **(3 marks)**

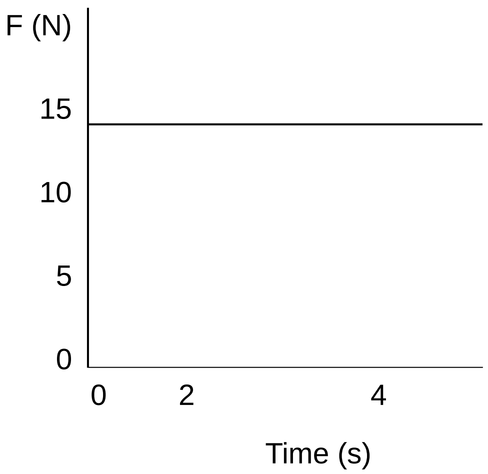
Solar hot water heaters often have a pressure valve. On a hot day, there is often hot water that flows out from the valve. Why is a pressure valve needed where the temperature of the water varies?

Question 13 **(3 marks)**

The blackened copper plate section contains equal masses of copper (c_{Cu} = 390 J kg^{-1} K^{-1}) and water (c_w = 4120 J kg^{-1} K^{-1}). Explain which contains more energy, the copper or the water.

Question 14 **(4 marks)**

The graph shows the net force on a 1.25 kg remote control car as it accelerates from rest at the start of a race.



(a) Calculate the car's momentum 2.5 s after the start. (2 marks)

(b) Calculate the car's speed 2.5 s after the start. (2 marks)

Question 15 **(5 marks)**

A 1500 kg car is travelling east at 15.0 m s^{-1} when it crashes into a 2500 kg truck travelling in the same direction at 12.0 m s^{-1}. The car has a velocity of 13.0 m s^{-1} after the collision. Assuming this is an inelastic collision, determine:

(a) the speed of the truck just after the collision (2 marks)

(b) how much kinetic energy is lost during the collision. Into what is this kinetic energy converted? (3 marks)

Question 16 **(5 marks)**

A fission reaction used in nuclear power plants is the splitting of uranium-233 through thermal neutron absorption. One possible fission event produces tellurium-133 and zirconium-97 as daughter isotopes.

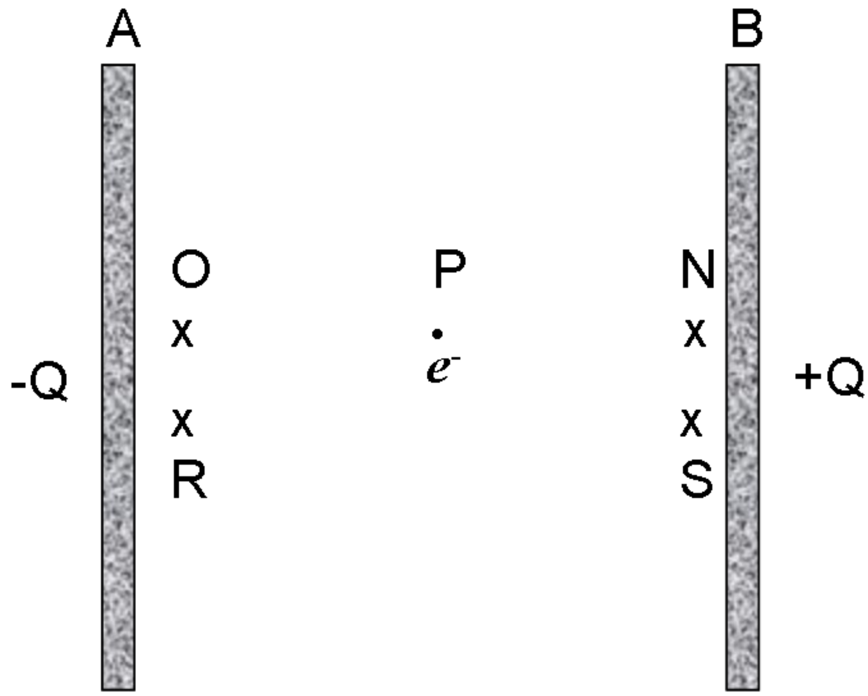
(a) Complete the reaction by filling in how many neutrons are produced. (1 mark)

$$^{1}_{0}n + ^{233}_{92}U \rightarrow ^{133}_{52}Te + ^{97}_{40}Zr + \_\_\_\_\_\_ ^{1}_{0}n + \text{energy}$$

(b) Determine the mass defect and the energy (in joules) produced from this reaction given the masses of uranium-233 (3.86846×10^{-25} kg); tellurium-133 (2.20632×10^{-25} kg) and zirconium-97 (1.60872×10^{-25} kg). (4 marks)

Question 17 **(6 marks)**

Two metal plates, A and B, are connected to a voltage source so they are charged. A stationary electron is initially placed at position P, between plates A (charge = -Q) and B (charge = +Q), as shown in the following figure. Ignore the gravitational force on the electron.



(a) Select the correct statement from the following, and explain your reasoning. (3 marks)

A The electron stays where it is.
B The electron moves at a constant velocity from P to R.
C The electron moves at a constant acceleration from P to N.
D The electron moves at a constant acceleration from P to O.
E The electron moves at an increasing acceleration from P to N.
F The electron moves at a constant acceleration from P to S.

Answer: ________________________

Explain: ____

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(b) On the diagram above, draw a possible trajectory (path) of the electron after it is released at P. (1 mark)

(c) When the electron moves away from P, its electric potential energy is (1 mark)

A increased.
B unchanged.
C decreased.

Answer: ______________________

(d) After the electron has travelled some distance, its kinetic energy is (1 mark)

A increased.
B unchanged.
C decreased.

Answer: ______________________

End of Section One

Section Two: Problem-solving **50% (80 Marks)**

This section has **six (6)** questions. Answer **all** questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

Spare pages are included at the end of this booklet. They can be used for planning your responses and/or as additional space if required to continue an answer.

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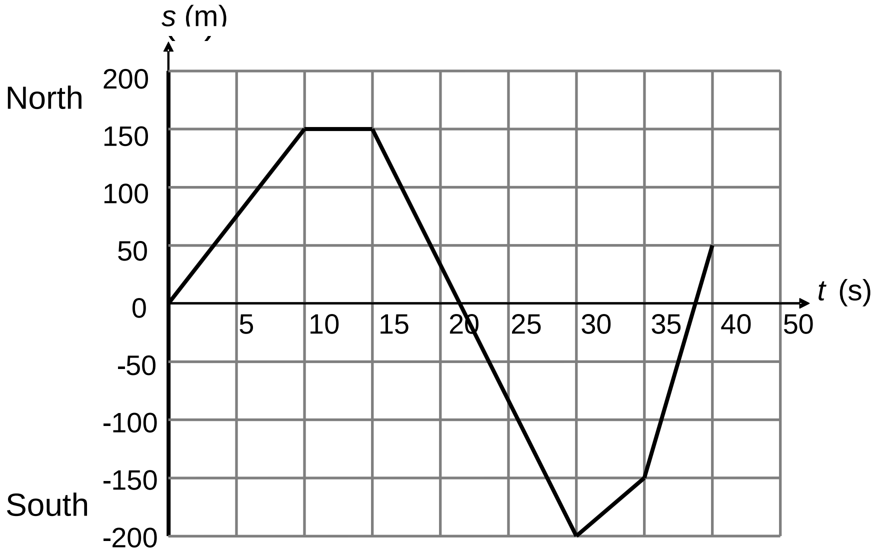
Suggested working time for this section is 90 minutes.

Question 18 **(11 marks)**

Chris rides a motorcycle starting from rest and moving north. The displacement (*s*) travelled over time (*t*) is shown in the *s* versus *t* graph below.



(a) Calculate the average velocity between t = 0 and t = 10 s. (2 marks)

Answer: ____________________

(b) Calculate the distance that Chris travels between t = 10 s and t = 35 s. (1 mark)

Answer: ____________________

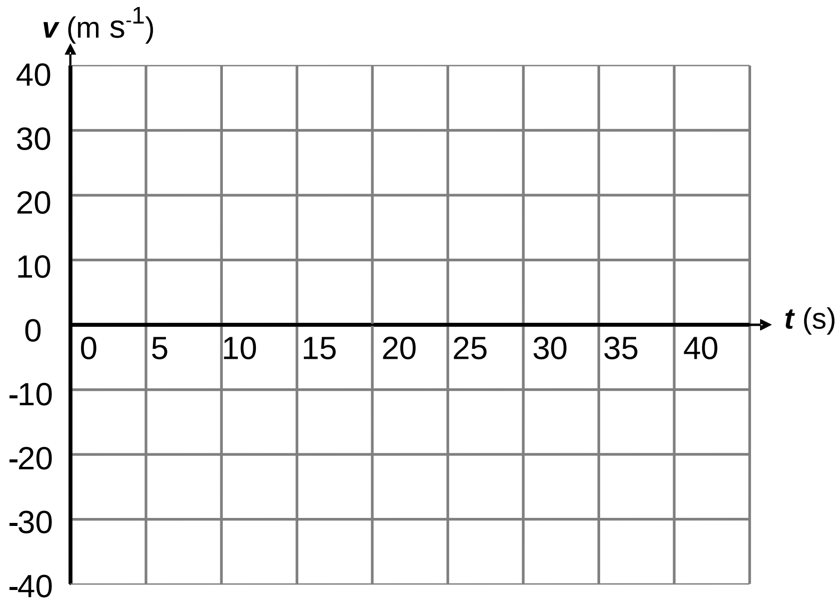
(c) Calculate Chris's average speed between t = 0 and t = 40 s. (2 marks)

Answer: ____________________

(d) Calculate Chris's displacement between t = 0 and t = 40 s. (1 mark)

(e) Determine Chris's average velocity between t = 15 s and t = 40 s. (2 marks)

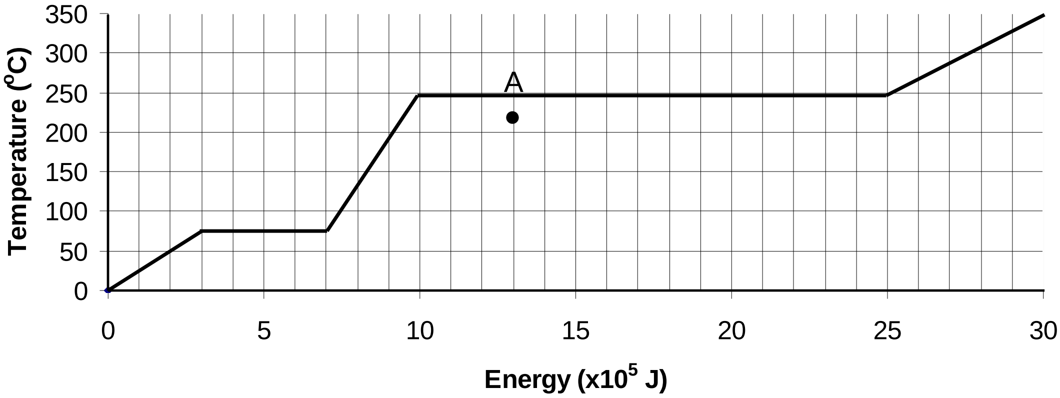
(f) Using the information in the graph, draw a graph of velocity versus time (***v*** versus ***t***) for the journey. (2 marks)



(g) If Chris spends another 5.00 s to return back to the starting point, calculate the average velocity for the entire journey. (1 mark)

Question 19 **(12 marks)**

A 1.20 kilogram sample of an unknown material was heated in the lab. The graph below shows how the temperature of the material changes as heat energy was added to the material.



(a) Which phase of this material has the greatest specific heat capacity? (3 marks)

Circle the correct answer: Solid Liquid Gas

Explain the reasoning behind your answer.

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(b) Use the graph to determine the following information for the sample in the liquid phase.

(i) the rise in temperature between phase changes (1 mark)

Answer: ___

(ii) the amount of energy required to complete this temperature change. (1 mark)

Answer: ___

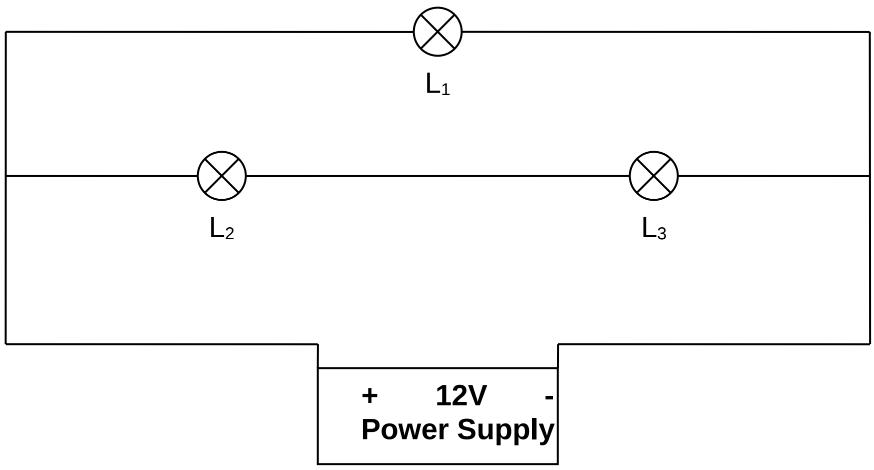
(c) Calculate the specific heat capacity of this material in the liquid phase. (2 marks)

(d) Calculate the latent heat of vaporisation for this unknown material. (3 marks)

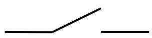
(e) Using the Kinetic Theory and the idea of internal energy, describe the particles of the material at point A on the graph. (2 marks)

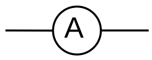
Question 20 **(13 marks)**

A Physics student wanted to create a circuit using three light globes. She did not have three globes that were the same, and made the circuit below.

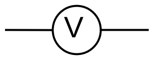


(a) On the diagram above, draw in the following:

(i) a switch () so that only light globe L_1 is affected. (1 mark)

(ii) an ammeter () to measure the current through light globe L_2.

(1 mark)

(iii) a voltmeter () to measure the potential difference for light globe L_2.

(1 mark)

(b) Which way does conventional current flow? (1 mark)

Circle the correct answer: L_2 to L_3 L_3 to L_2 L_1 to L_2.

(c) Explain any changes to the brightness of L_1 and L_3 that occur if L_2 blows (breaks). (2 marks)

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(d) Light globe L_1 is rated at 12.0 V and light globe L_2 is rated at 9.00 V. What should light globe L_3's voltage rating be to maintain 9.00 V across light globe L_2? (1 mark)

(e) Both L_1 and L_2 have a power rating of 10.0 watts.

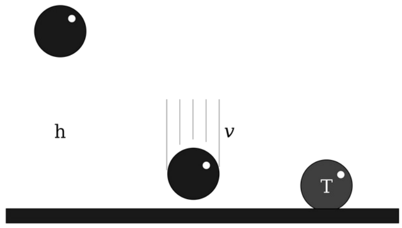
(i) Calculate the resistance of L_1. (2 marks)

(ii) Calculate the total current delivered by the power supply. (4 marks)

Question 21 **(16 marks)**

An 'unhappy ball' consists of an energy absorbing polymer, called polynorbornene, which absorbs kinetic energy and prevents it from bouncing.

A 10.3 gram 'unhappy ball' is dropped from an initial height (h) of 2.50 m.



(a) How much potential energy does the ball have initially? (2 marks)

(b) What is the ball's velocity when it hits the ground? (2 marks)

(c) If all the energy was absorbed by the ball and converted into internal energy, calculate how much the ball's temperature rises. ($c_{polynorbornene} = 2.09 \times 10^3$ J kg^{-1} K^{-1}) (3 marks)

(d) In reality, the ball is not 100% efficient at absorbing energy. What are two other possible losses of energy that could have occurred? (2 marks)

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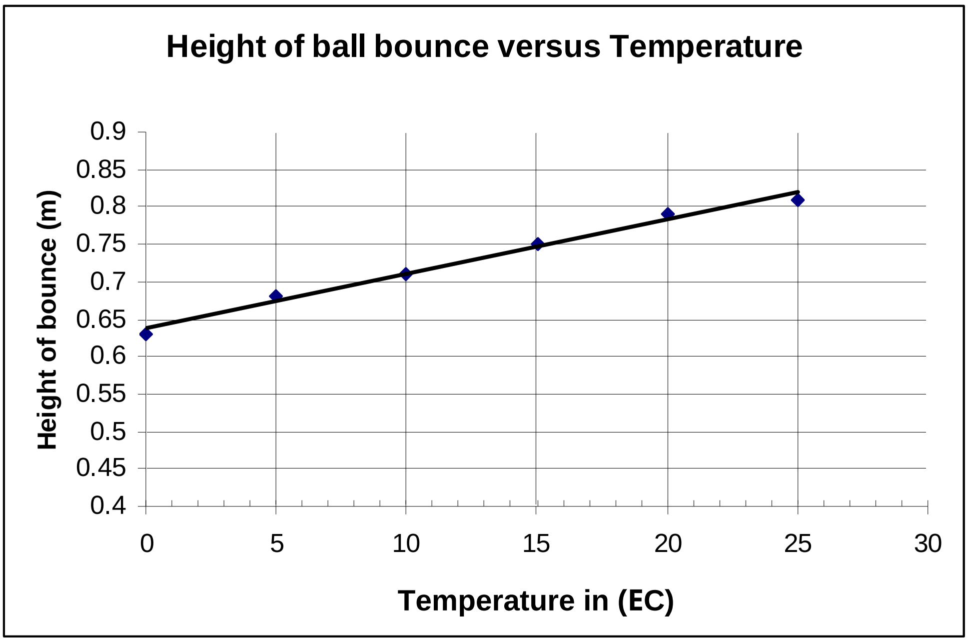
A 'happy ball' is made of polychloroprene that attempts to return all of the ball's kinetic energy so that it bounces as high as it can. One of the factors affecting how high the ball will bounce is the temperature of the ball. Below is a temperature versus height of bounce graph from an experiment conducted by high school students during a physics lesson.



(e) (i) Name the independent variable in this experiment. (1 mark)

____

(ii) Name the two variables that should be controlled. (1 mark)

One:____________________________________

Two:____________________________________

(f) The graph shows a linear relationship. Predict the height of bounce when the temperature is 50 ^{o}C. (2 marks)

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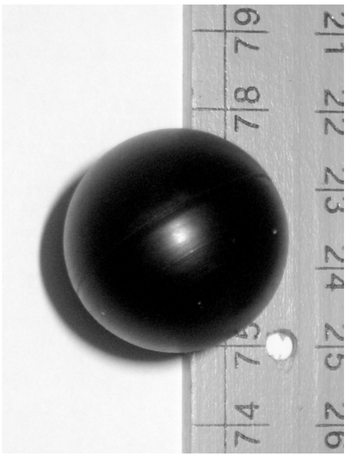
(g) This photo shows one of the trial bounces. Measuring from the top of the ball,

(3 marks)



(i) estimate the height of the bounce.

(ii) estimate the absolute uncertainty in the bounce height measurement.

(iii) using the graph above, to what temperature does this bounce correspond?

Question 22 **(12 marks)**

Radon-222 (half-life 3.83 days) is a naturally occurring gaseous isotope of radon that forms from the alpha decay of radium-226 (half-life 1.6×10^3 years). It is found in most soils and hence building materials and consequently buildings. Because it is gaseous and its decay releases tissue-damaging radiation, it can cause lung cancer when inhaled into the lungs over a prolonged period.

(a) Write the equation for the alpha decay of radium-226 (atomic number 88) to radon-222. (2 marks)

(b) Radon also undergoes alpha decay. Why are these alpha particles so much more dangerous to humans than those released by the parent radium? Explain your answer. (3 marks)

(c) If there are 5.00×10^8 radon atoms trapped in a closed room at a given point in time, how many will be left 11.5 days later? Assume no more radon is emitted by the building materials. (3 marks)

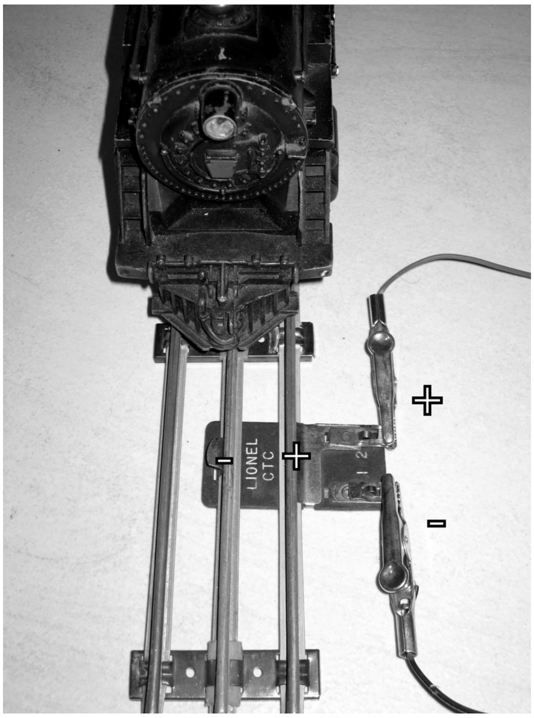
(d) A person stayed in the closed room in (c) above for four days.

(i) Determine the maximum possible absorbed dose this person could receive if they had a mass of 70 kg and the energy released by the alpha disintegration of radon during this time was 0.15 J. (2 marks)

(ii) Determine the maximum dose equivalent of this radiation. (2 marks)

Question 23 **(16 marks)**

Jamie is a model train enthusiast and has some identical trains that operate within a voltage range of 12 $\pm$ 3 V and at a minimum current of 1.00 A. Jamie also has several sets of tracks. Each set of tracks has its own separate 12.0 V and 4.00 A power connections as shown.



(a) If one of the trains draws a current of 2.50 A, calculate the resistance of its motor.
(2 marks)

Resistance: _______________

(b) Jamie places two trains identical to the one in (a) above on the same track (with one power supply). Calculate the total current and power now drawn from the power supply.
(3 marks)

Current: _________________

Power: __________________

(c) With these two identical trains on a track at the same time, how does their speed compare to the speed of the single train? (3 marks)

Circle the correct answer. Slower Same as Faster

Explain your answer, and show calculations.

(d) Jamie wonders if it is possible to increase the number of trains run by one power supply. In relation to voltage and current, which of the following properties would a new power supply need to have to be able to run more trains on the same set of tracks? (4 marks)

Circle the correct answers.

The ***voltage*** needs to be: the same larger reduced

The ***current*** needs to be: the same larger reduced

Explain the reasons for your choices.

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(e) A short circuit occurs where a current flows through the metal body of the train, causing it to heat up. If 3.00 kJ of electrical energy was passed into the 0.450 kg train which raised its temperature by 17.5 ^{o}C, determine the specific heat of the alloy used for the train. (2 marks)

(f) Name an electrical device that could protect the motor and other electronic components in the transformer if a short circuit should occur. Describe with a diagram how you would place this device in the circuit. (2 marks)

End of Section Two

Section Three: Comprehension **10% (16 Marks)**

This section contains **one (1)** question. You must answer this question. Write your answer in the space provided.

Spare pages are included at the end of this booklet. They can be used for planning your responses and/or as additional space if required to continue an answer.

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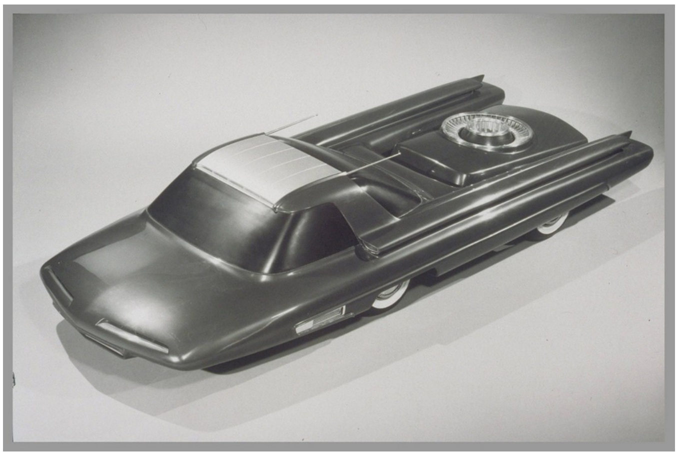
Suggested working time for this section is 20 minutes.

Question 24



The Ford Nucleon was a nuclear-powered concept car developed by Ford Motor Company in 1958. The vehicle was to be powered by a small nuclear reactor that supplied electrical energy to the car. The vehicle featured a power capsule suspended between twin booms at the rear. The capsule, which would contain a radioactive core for motive power, was designed to be easily interchangeable, according to the performance needs and the distances to be travelled.

The passenger compartment of the Nucleon featured a one-piece, wrap around windscreen and compound rear window, and was topped by a cantilever roof. There were air intakes at the leading edge of the roof and at the base of its supports. An extreme cab-forward style provided more protection to the driver and passengers from the reactor in the rear.

It was said that cars like the Nucleon would be able to travel 8000 km or more, depending on the size of the core, without recharging. At the end of the core's life, it would be taken to a charging station, which research designers envisioned as largely replacing gas stations. The car was never built and never went into production, but it remains an icon of the Atomic Age of the 1950s, when concerns and dangers such as radiation poisoning, nuclear waste and the possibility of nuclear meltdown were not completely understood or acknowledged.

(a) The designers estimated the car could travel 8000 km. Explain what would limit the distance the car could travel before recharging. (2 marks)

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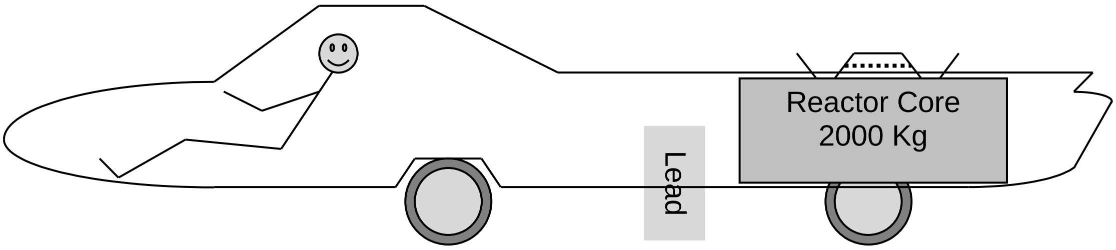
(b) Modern cars include many safety designs to keep the occupants safe. There were very few ideas for protecting the occupants of cars in the middle of the last century. For example, seat belts appeared in motor vehicles, as an optional extra, in 1955.



(i) Explain two ways in which the Nucleon's design protected the occupant from radiation poisoning.

(2 marks)

One: ____

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Two: ____

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(ii) Use one of Newton's Laws of Motion to explain how the reactor position might be considered hazardous in the event of a front end collision. (3 marks)

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(c) If the weight due to the lead shielding raised the mass of the car to 3.50×10^3 kg, determine the minimum power required to accelerate the car from rest to 110 km h^{-1} (30.6 m s^{-1}) in 7.50 s. Assume no friction. (4 marks)

(d) Estimate the number of decays per second that are necessary to achieve the power in (c), assuming 100% efficiency and given the average nuclear fission produces about 200 MeV for each event. Use the value of 200 kW if you were unable to get an answer in (c).

(3 marks)

Answer: ______________________

(e) Give one advantage and one disadvantage of a car using this type of power plant for motion. (2 marks)

Advantage:____

____

Disadvantage:____

____

____

End of questions

Additional working space

Additional working space

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Section One

Question 1 Images adapted from: Brewer, D. (2006). Retrieved February, 2010, from Wikidmedia Commons website: http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:10th_SFG_parachute_Mail.jpg

Question 3 Image from: NASA, Infrared Processing and Analysis Center (IPAC). Retrieved February, 2010, from Wikipedia website: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/file:infrared_dog.jpg

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Section Two

Question 21 Image from: KoenB. (2007). Retrieved February, 2010, from Wikimedia Commons website: http://commons.wikipedia.org/wiki/file:Energy-p-k-i.svg

Section Three

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Courtesy of Ford Motor Company.