

Important Formulas - Time and Distance

1. Basics

$$\text{speed} = \frac{\text{distance}}{\text{time}}$$

$$\text{distance} = \text{speed} \times \text{time}$$

$$\text{time} = \frac{\text{distance}}{\text{speed}}$$

2. Convert kilometres per hour(km/hr) to metres per second(m/s)

$$x \text{ km/hr} = x \times \frac{5}{18} \text{ m/s}$$

3. Convert metres per second(m/s) to kilometres per hour(km/hr)

$$x \text{ m/s} = x \times \frac{18}{5} \text{ km/hr}$$

4. Average Speed If an object covers a certain distance at x kmph and an equal distance at y kmph, the average speed of the whole journey

$$= \frac{2xy}{x+y} \text{ kmph}$$

5. Relation Between Distance, Speed and Time (5.1) Speed and time are inversely proportional (when distance is constant)

$$\Rightarrow \text{speed} \propto \frac{1}{\text{time}} \text{ (when distance is constant)}$$

(5.2) If the ratio of the speeds of A and B is a:b, then, the ratio of the time taken by them to cover the same distance is

$$1a:1b = b:a$$

(5.3) Assume two objects A and B start at the same time in opposite directions from P and Q respectively. After passing each other, A reaches Q in a seconds and B reaches P in b seconds. Then, Speed of A : Speed of B = $\sqrt{b}:\sqrt{a}$

(5.4) An object covered a certain distance at a speed of v kmph. If it had moved v_1 kmph faster, it would have taken t_1 hours less. If it had moved v_2 kmph slower, it would have taken t_2 hours more. Then,

$$v = \frac{v_1 v_2 (t_1 + t_2)}{v_1 t_2 - v_2 t_1} \text{ kmph} \quad x = \frac{v t_1 (1 + v v_1)}{v_1} \text{ km}$$

Special Case:

$$\text{If } t_1 = t_2, \quad v = \frac{2v_1 v_2}{v_1 - v_2} \text{ kmph}$$

6. Relative Speed (6.1) If two objects are moving in the same direction at v_1 m/s and v_2 m/s respectively where $v_1 > v_2$, then their relative speed = $(v_1 - v_2)$ m/s

(6.2) Consider two objects A and B separated by a distance of d metre. Suppose A and B start moving in the same direction at the same time such that A moves towards B at a speed of a metre/second and B moves away from A at a speed of b metre/second where $a > b$. Then, relative speed = $(a - b)$ metre/second

$$\text{time needed for A to meet B} = \frac{d}{a-b} \text{ seconds}$$

(6.3) If two objects are moving in opposite directions at v_1 m/s and v_2 m/s respectively, then their

relative speed $= (v_1 + v_2)$ m/s

(6.4) Consider two objects A and B separated by a distance of d metre. Suppose A and B start moving towards each other at the same time at a metre/second and b metre/second respectively. Then,

relative speed $= (a + b)$ metre/second

time needed for A and B to meet each other $= \frac{d}{a+b}$ seconds