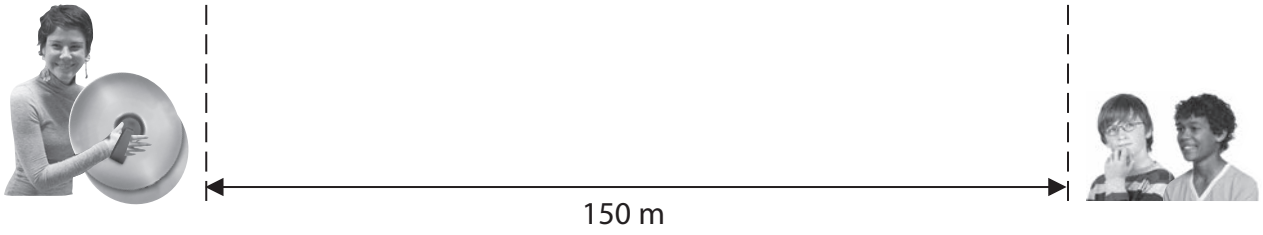
7 A teacher and two students are measuring the speed of sound.



The teacher makes a loud sound by hitting two cymbals together.

Each student starts a stopwatch when they see the teacher hit the cymbals. They each stop their stopwatch when they hear the sound.

(a) Describe how a sound wave moves through the air.

(3)

(b) The students repeat the experiment and record their readings in a table.

Student	Time in s
Andrew	0.44, 0.46, 0.44, 0.48, 0.43
Kefe	0.5, 0.6, 0.4, 0.4, 0.6

(i) State the precision of Andrew's readings.

(1)

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(ii) State the equation linking speed, distance travelled and time taken.

(1)

(iii) The teacher was standing 150 m from the students.

Use the experimental data recorded by each student to complete the table below.

Give your answers to an appropriate number of significant figures.

(3)

Student	Mean (average) time in s	Speed of sound in m/s
Andrew		
Kefe		

(c) The students look in a data book and find that the speed of sound in air is given as 341 m/s.

The students discuss their results.

My experiment was more accurate because my answer was closest to 341 m/s.

No, you didn't allow for reaction time. My result is the best that you can get with this method.

No, reaction time didn't matter because I had to react twice and it cancelled out.

Andrew

Kefe

Evaluate these conclusions.

(5)

(Total for Question 7 = 13 marks)