

12 A massive planet orbits the red dwarf star Gliese 876. The planet was discovered after wavelength shifts in spectral lines were seen in the light received from the star.

- (a) Explain how a massive planet orbiting a star can cause a change in the wavelength of light received from the star.

(3)

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- (b) The maximum shift in a spectral line of wavelength $4.35 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}$ in the light received from Gliese 876 is $3.19 \times 10^{-13} \text{ m}$.

Calculate the maximum velocity of Gliese 876 away from the Earth.

(2)

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Maximum velocity =

(Total for Question 12 = 5 marks)