What is Force?

Definition:

Force is a push or pull that changes or tends to change the state of motion or shape of an object.

Effects of force:

- Can change speed
- Can change direction
- Can change shape (Fig. 8.2)



Fig. 8.1: Pushing, pulling, or hitting objects change their state of motion.

Fig. 8.1 – Pushing, pulling, or hitting changes motion

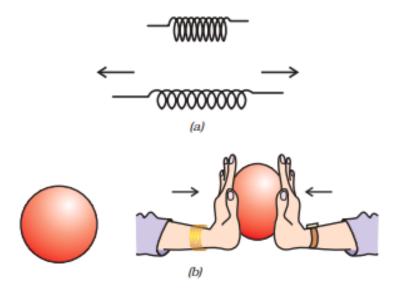


Fig. 8.2 – Spring expands, ball deforms

8.1 Balanced and Unbalanced Forces

- If two opposite forces cancel each other → balanced → no motion
- If one force is stronger → unbalanced → motion happens

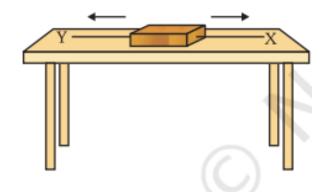
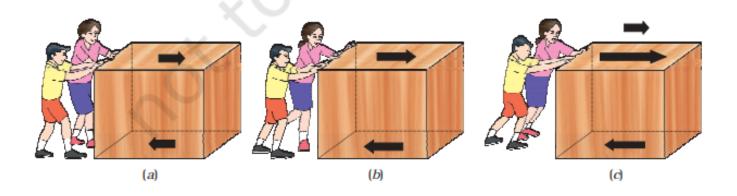


Fig. 8.3 – Wooden block pulled equally = no movement (balanced)



© Fig. 8.4 – Push box harder → overcome friction → motion begins

✓ Unbalanced force causes acceleration or deceleration

8.2 Newton's First Law of Motion (Law of Inertia)

Law:

An object remains at rest or in uniform motion unless an unbalanced force acts on it.

Inertia:

Tendency of an object to resist change in motion.

• Mass measures inertia – more mass = more inertia

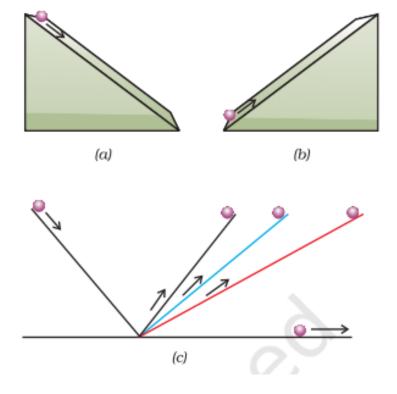
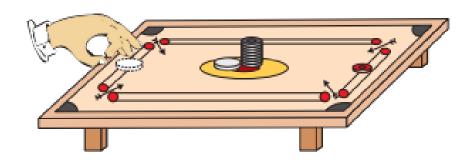


Fig. 8.5 − Galileo's inclined plane experiment



© Fig. 8.6 – Carom coin at bottom moves → others stay (due to inertia)

- Activity 8.3 Tray with water tumbler → turn tray fast → water spills due to inertia

8.3 Inertia and Mass

Heavy objects offer more resistance to motion → more inertia

Examples:

- Train vs Cart
- Stone vs Ball
- 5-rupee coin vs 1-rupee coin

Conclusion:

Mass is a measure of inertia.

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8.4 Newton's Second Law of Motion

Law:

Rate of change of momentum of an object is directly proportional to the applied force and takes place in the direction of force.

Momentum:

p = mv

(SI unit: kg m/s)

Formula:

F = ma

- More force = more acceleration (if mass is constant)
- More mass = more force needed (if acceleration same)



© Fig. 8.8 – Fielder pulls hands back while catching → reduces force

Example 1:

Mass = 5 kg, u = 3 m/s, v = 7 m/s, t = 2 s

F = m(v - u)/t = 10 N

Example 2:

Compare 2 kg @ 5 m/s² vs 4 kg @ 2 m/s² \rightarrow 2 kg mass needs more force (10 N vs 8 N)

Example 3:

Car slows from 30 m/s to 0 in 4 s \rightarrow F = -7500 N (opposite to motion)

Example 4:

Find acceleration if two masses tied \rightarrow m = 0.75 kg, F = 5 N \rightarrow a = 6.67 m/s²

Example 5:

Ball slows from 20 cm/s to 0 in 10 s $a = -0.02 \text{ m/s}^2$, F = -0.0004 N

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8.5 Newton's Third Law of Motion

Law:

To every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction.

- Action & reaction forces act on different objects
- Happen simultaneously

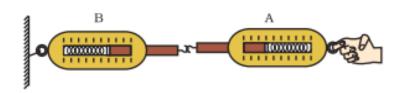


Fig. 8.10: Action and reaction forces are equal and opposite.

© Fig. 8.10 – Two spring balances pulling equally → same reading

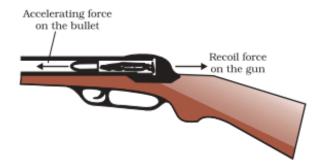


Fig. 8.11: A forward force on the bullet and recoil of the gun.

Fig. 8.11 – Bullet forward, gun recoils backward



Fig. 8.12: As the sailor jumps in forward direction, the boat moves backwards.

E Summary: What You Have Learnt

- Force is a push or pull
- Balanced force → no motion; Unbalanced → motion
- First Law = Inertia (mass resists change)
- Second Law = F = ma (force = mass × acceleration)
- Third Law = Action = -Reaction
- Momentum = mass × velocity (p = mv)