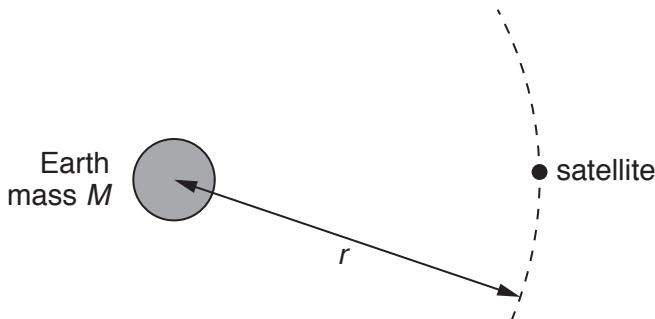


Answer **all** the questions in the spaces provided.

- 1 A satellite is in a circular orbit of radius  $r$  about the Earth of mass  $M$ , as illustrated in Fig. 1.1.



**Fig. 1.1**

The mass of the Earth may be assumed to be concentrated at its centre.

- (a) Show that the period  $T$  of the orbit of the satellite is given by the expression

$$T^2 = \frac{4\pi^2 r^3}{GM}$$

where  $G$  is the gravitational constant. Explain your working.

[3]

- (b) (i) A satellite in geostationary orbit appears to remain above the same point on the Earth and has a period of 24 hours.  
State two other features of a *geostationary* orbit.

1. ....

.....

2. ....

.....

[2]

- (ii) The mass  $M$  of the Earth is  $6.0 \times 10^{24}$  kg.

Use the expression in (a) to determine the radius of a geostationary orbit.

$$\text{radius} = \dots \text{m} [2]$$

- (c) A global positioning system (GPS) satellite orbits the Earth at a height of  $2.0 \times 10^4$  km above the Earth's surface.

The radius of the Earth is  $6.4 \times 10^3$  km.

Use your answer in (b)(ii) and the expression

$$T^2 \propto r^3$$

to calculate, in hours, the period of the orbit of this satellite.

$$\text{period} = \dots \text{hours} [2]$$

[Total: 9]