

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

- 1 (a) (i) Define *gravitational potential* at a point.

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..... [2]

- (ii) Use your answer in (i) to explain why the gravitational potential near an isolated mass is always negative.

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..... [3]

- (b) A spherical planet has mass $6.00 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}$ and radius $6.40 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$.
The planet may be assumed to be isolated in space with its mass concentrated at its centre.

A satellite of mass 340 kg is in a circular orbit about the planet at a height $9.00 \times 10^5 \text{ m}$ above its surface.

For the satellite:

- (i) show that its orbital speed is $7.4 \times 10^3 \text{ ms}^{-1}$

[2]

- (ii) calculate its gravitational potential energy.

energy = J [3]

- (c) Rockets on the satellite are fired for a short time. The satellite's orbit is now closer to the surface of the planet.

State and explain the change, if any, in the kinetic energy of the satellite.

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..... [2]

[Total: 12]