

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

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- (b) The Earth may be considered to be a uniform sphere of radius 6.4×10^6 m with its mass of 6.0×10^{24} kg concentrated at its centre.

A satellite of mass 2.4×10^3 kg is launched from the Equator. It is placed in an equatorial orbit at a height of 5.6×10^6 m above the Earth's surface.

- (i) Calculate the change ΔE_P in gravitational potential energy of the satellite for its movement from the surface of the Earth to its position in the equatorial orbit.

$$\Delta E_P = \dots \text{ J} [3]$$

- (ii) Determine the speed of the satellite when in orbit.

$$\text{speed} = \dots \text{ ms}^{-1} [3]$$

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- (c) Before the satellite in (b) is launched, its speed at the Equator due to the Earth's rotation is 470 ms^{-1} .

Suggest why the energy required to launch the satellite depends on whether the satellite, in its orbit, is travelling from west to east or from east to west.

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..... [1]