

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

- 1 (a) Explain how a satellite may be in a circular orbit around a planet.

.....

 [2]

- (b) The Earth and the Moon may be considered to be uniform spheres that are isolated in space. The Earth has radius R and mean density ρ . The Moon, mass m , is in a circular orbit about the Earth with radius nR , as illustrated in Fig. 1.1.

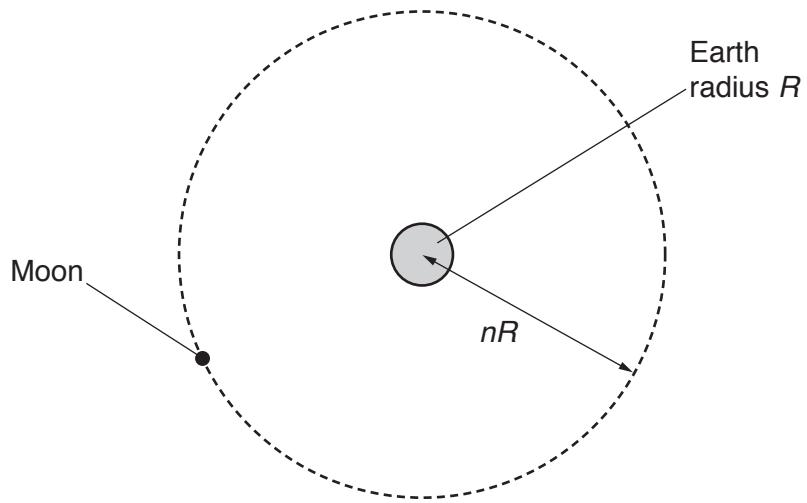


Fig. 1.1

The Moon makes one complete orbit of the Earth in time T .
 Show that the mean density ρ of the Earth is given by the expression

$$\rho = \frac{3\pi n^3}{GT^2}.$$

[4]

- (c) The radius R of the Earth is 6.38×10^3 km and the distance between the centre of the Earth and the centre of the Moon is 3.84×10^5 km.
The period T of the orbit of the Moon about the Earth is 27.3 days.
Use the expression in (b) to calculate ρ .

$$\rho = \dots \text{ kg m}^{-3} \quad [3]$$

[Total: 9]