

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

- 1 (a) State Newton's law of gravitation.

.....

.....

..... [2]

- (b) The astronomer Johannes Kepler showed that the period T of rotation of a planet about the Sun is related to its mean distance R from the centre of the Sun by the expression

$$\frac{R^3}{T^2} = k$$

where k is a constant.

Use Newton's law to show that, for planets in circular orbits about the Sun of mass M , the constant k is given by

$$k = \frac{GM}{4\pi^2}$$

where G is the gravitational constant. Explain your working.

[4]

- (c) A satellite is in a circular orbit about Mars.
The radius of the orbit of the satellite is $4.38 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$. The orbital period is 2.44 hours.

Use the expressions in (b) to calculate a value for the mass of Mars.

mass = kg [2]

[Total: 8]