

Section A

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

- 1** A satellite of mass m_S is in a circular orbit of radius x about the Earth.

The Earth may be considered to be an isolated uniform sphere with its mass M concentrated at its centre.

- (a) (i)** Show that the kinetic energy E_K of the satellite is given by the expression

$$E_K = \frac{GMm_S}{2x}$$

where G is the gravitational constant. Explain your working.

[3]

- (ii)** State an expression, in terms of G , M , m_S and x , for the potential energy E_P of the satellite.

..... [1]

- (iii)** Using answers from **(i)** and **(ii)**, derive an expression for the total energy E_T of the satellite.

$$E_T = \dots \quad [2]$$

- (b) Small resistive forces acting on the satellite cause the radius of its circular orbit to change.

Use your answers in (a) to state, for the satellite, whether each of the following quantities increases, decreases or remains constant.

- (i) total energy

..... [1]

- (ii) radius of orbit

..... [1]

- (iii) potential energy

..... [1]

- (iv) kinetic energy

..... [1]