

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

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.....
..... [2]

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

A satellite of mass $2.4 \times 10^3 \text{ kg}$ is launched from the Equator. It is placed in an equatorial orbit at a height of $5.6 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$ 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.

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

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

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

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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 m s^{-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]

[Total: 2]