

1 (a) Define gravitational field.

.....
..... [1]

(b) A spherical planet can be considered as a point mass at its centre.

(i) On Fig. 1.1, draw gravitational field lines outside the planet to represent the gravitational field due to the planet.

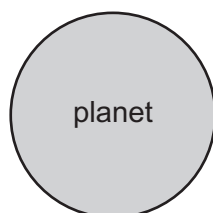


Fig. 1.1

[2]

(ii) A satellite is in a circular orbit around the planet.

Explain, with reference to your answer in (b)(i), why the path of the satellite is circular.

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

- (c) An object rests on the surface of the Earth at the Equator.
The radius of the Earth is $6.4 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$.

- (i) Determine the centripetal acceleration of the object.

centripetal acceleration = ms^{-2} [3]

- (ii) Describe how the two forces acting on the object give rise to this centripetal acceleration.
You may draw a diagram if you wish.

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..... [2]