

**2**    **(a)**    State Newton's Law of Gravitation.

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

**(b)**    Explain why it is incorrect to term  $g$  ( $= 9.81 \text{ N kg}^{-1}$ ) as 'gravity'.

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

**(c)**    Determine the Earth's gravitational field strength at a height of  $0.12 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$  above the Earth's surface. The Earth's radius is taken to be  $6.38 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$ .

gravitational field strength = .....  $\text{N kg}^{-1}$  [3]

- (d) Explain briefly why an astronaut in a satellite orbiting the Earth at this altitude may be described as weightless.

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

- (e) Explain why the magnitude of the apparent weight of a person is smaller at the equator than at the poles.

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