

- 3 A satellite orbiting the Earth is in a geostationary orbit.

- (a) State the period of the satellite and state one feature of geostationary orbit.

.....
.....
.....

[2]

- (b) Explain how the satellite can be accelerating even though it travels at a constant speed.

.....
.....
.....
.....

[3]

- (c) (i) A satellite of mass m has a geostationary orbit around the Earth. The radius of the orbit is r . The speed of the satellite is v . The mass of the Earth is M .

Use Newton's law of gravitation to write an equation that relates the centripetal force on the satellite to the gravitational force acting on the satellite.

[1]

- (ii) Calculate the height of a geostationary satellite above the Earth's surface.

$$\text{mass of Earth} = 5.97 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}$$
$$\text{radius of Earth} = 6.37 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$$

$$\text{height of satellite} = \dots \text{m} \quad [4]$$

[Total: 10]

