

- 5 (a) Define gravitational potential at a point.

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.....

..... [2]

- (b) A planet of radius R is isolated in space. It has no atmosphere, and its mass M can be assumed to be concentrated at its centre.

A projectile is launched from the surface of the planet with a speed v , where v is the minimum speed required for the projectile to not return to the planet.

By considering energy, derive an expression for v in terms of G , M and R , where G is the gravitational constant.

Explain your working.

[3]



- (c) The projectile in (b) has a mass of 1.0 kg and is launched with a kinetic energy of $8.0 \times 10^6 \text{ J}$.

On Fig. 5.1, draw:

- (i) a line, labelled **P**, to show how the gravitational potential energy of the projectile varies with distance from the centre of the planet as it moves from R to $4R$ [2]
- (ii) a line, labelled **K**, to show how the kinetic energy of the projectile varies with distance from the centre of the planet as it moves from R to $4R$. [2]

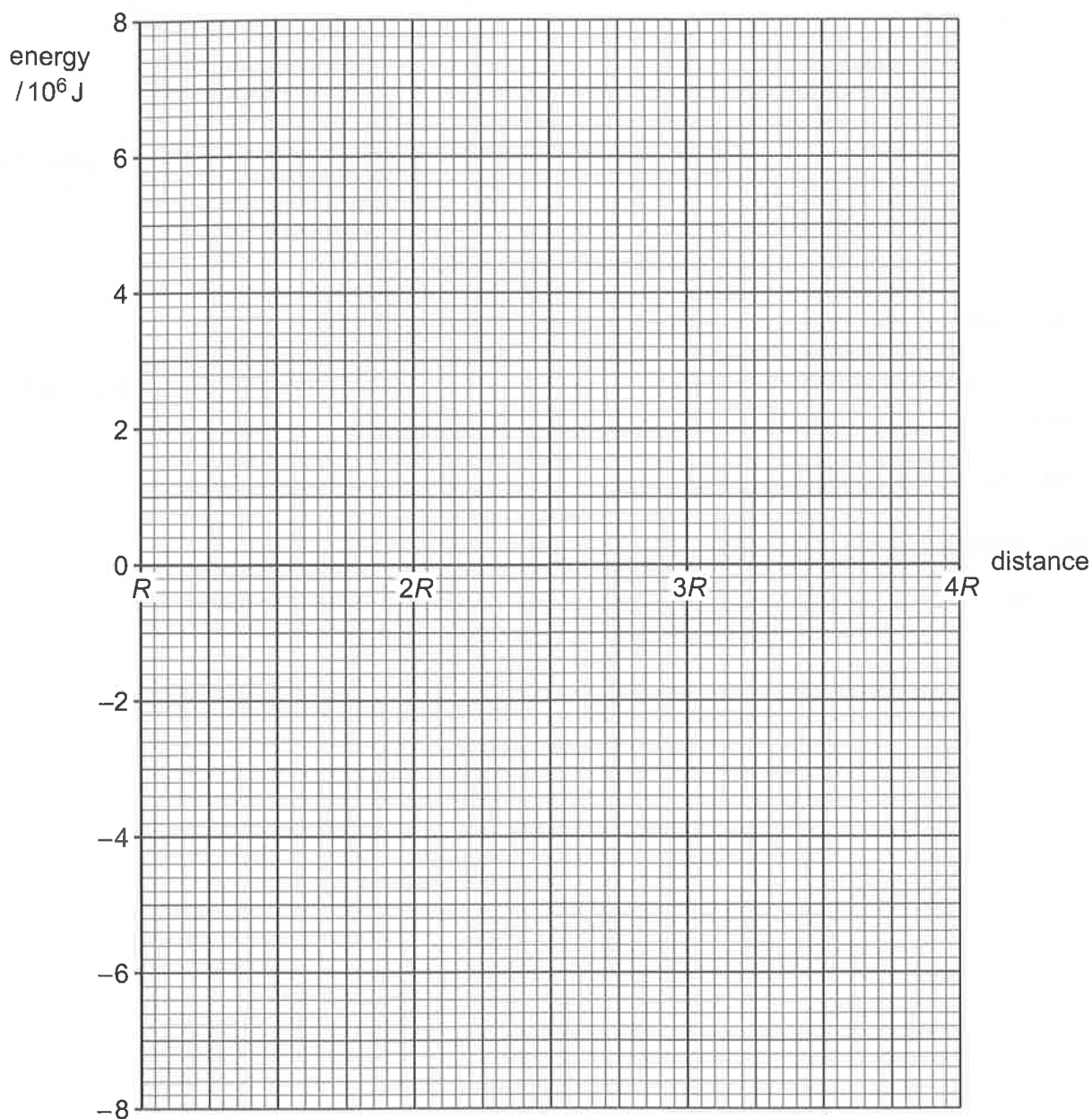


Fig. 5.1

[Total: 9]