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1. Before a train can be seen approaching a station, it can be heard through a whistling sound in the rails.

(a) Calculate how much faster the sound travels through steel rails than through air.

Speed of sound in air =  $330 \text{ m s}^{-1}$

Density of steel =  $7.9 \times 10^3 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$

Young modulus of steel =  $2.1 \times 10^{11} \text{ N m}^{-2}$

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$$\frac{\text{Speed of sound in steel}}{\text{Speed of sound in air}} = \dots\dots\dots$$

**(3)**

(b) Suggest why sound travels much faster through steel rails than through air.

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**(2)**

(c) Also, sound through the air is reduced in intensity according to the relationship  $F = \frac{L}{4\pi d^2}$ . Suggest why this is not an appropriate relationship for the attenuation of the sound through the rails.

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**(2)**

**Q1**

**(Total 7 marks)**



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2. Buildings situated close to railway lines should be constructed in a manner which minimises noise and vibrations from passing trains.

(a) Discuss how a suitable choice of construction materials could reduce the noise which enters the building.

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**(3)**

(b) Vibrations could cause parts of the building to resonate. Describe the meaning of the word **resonate** in this context.

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**(2)**

(c) Some buildings, which are subject to vibrations, are constructed on springs.

(i) Suggest how springs could prevent these buildings from vibrating.

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**(2)**

(ii) It is said that such buildings would also suffer less damage in the event of an earthquake. Comment on this statement.

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**(1)**

**(Total 8 marks)**

Q2



3. Meteosat is a weather satellite which is in a geostationary orbit around the Earth, i.e. it stays above the same point on the Earth's surface all the time.

(a) Write down an expression for the gravitational force on this satellite, mass  $m$ , in an orbit of radius  $r$  around the Earth, mass  $M$ .

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**(1)**

(b) Hence derive an expression for the gravitational field strength at a distance  $r$  from the centre of the Earth.

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**(1)**

(c) Use this, together with an expression for the centripetal acceleration, to show that the radius  $r$  of the geostationary orbit is given by

$$r^3 = \frac{GMT^2}{4\pi^2}$$

where  $T$  is the time for one orbit of the satellite.

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**(3)**

(d) Calculate this radius.

Mass  $M$  of the Earth =  $6.0 \times 10^{24}$  kg.

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Radius = .....  
**(2)**



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(e) The mass and speed of the satellite do not appear in the above equation. Explain whether a satellite could remain in geostationary orbit with

(i) a greater mass.

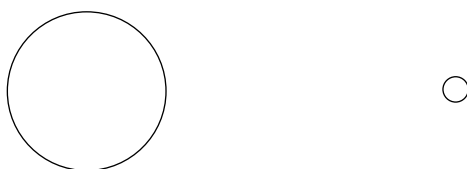
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(ii) a greater speed.

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**(2)**

(f) Explain why a satellite has to be over the equator to remain in a geostationary orbit. You may use the diagram to help your explanation.



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**(2)**

**(Total 11 marks)**

**Q3**

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4. The Joint European Torus (JET) was a nuclear fusion experiment near Oxford in England. JET was the first experiment to produce a controlled nuclear fusion reaction.

(a) Describe the process of nuclear fusion.

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**(2)**

(b) Explain why it is difficult to maintain the conditions for nuclear fusion in a reactor.

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**(2)**

(c) The nuclei which fused were two isotopes of hydrogen. Why should the fusing of hydrogen nuclei release energy?

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**(2)**

**(Total 6 marks)**

**Q4**



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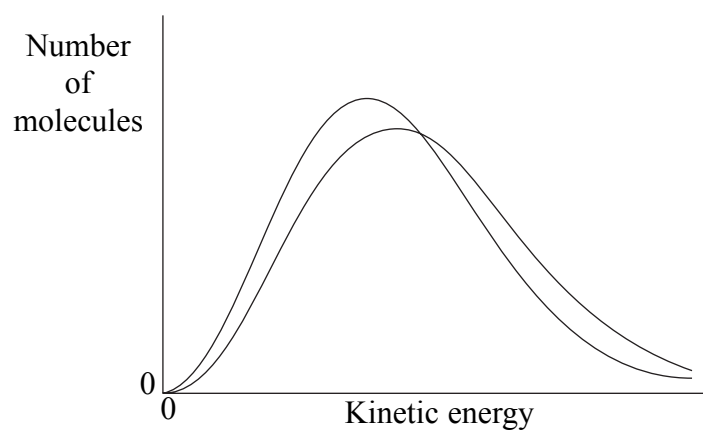






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(b) The graphs below show the distributions of kinetic energy of the molecules in the atmosphere at sea level and at 40 km.



Label the sea level graph and give a reason for your answer.

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(2)

Q5

(Total 8 marks)

**TOTAL FOR PAPER: 40 MARKS**

**END**



## List of data, formulae and relationships

### Data

Gravitational constant	$G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N m}^2 \text{ kg}^{-2}$	
Acceleration of free fall	$g = 9.81 \text{ m s}^{-2}$	(close to Earth's surface)
Gravitational field strength	$g = 9.81 \text{ N kg}^{-1}$	(close to Earth's surface)
Electronic charge	$e = -1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$	
Electronic mass	$m_e = 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$	
Electronvolt	$1 \text{ eV} = 1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$	
Proton mass	$m_p = 1.67 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$	
Planck constant	$h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}$	
Speed of light in a vacuum	$c = 3.00 \times 10^8 \text{ m s}^{-1}$	
Molar gas constant	$R = 8.31 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$	
Boltzmann constant	$k = 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J K}^{-1}$	
Permittivity of free space	$\epsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12} \text{ F m}^{-1}$	
Permeability of free space	$\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ N A}^{-2}$	

### Unit 1

#### Physics at work, rest and play

##### Mechanics

Kinematic equations of motion  $s = ut + \frac{1}{2}at^2$   
 $v^2 = u^2 + 2as$

##### Energy

$\% \text{ efficiency} = [\text{useful energy (or power) output} / \text{total energy (or power) input}] \times 100\%$

Heating  $\Delta E = mc\Delta\theta$

##### Quantum Phenomena

Photon model  $E = hf$

##### Waves and Oscillations

For waves on a wire or string  $v = \sqrt{(T/\mu)}$

For a lens  $P = 1/f$



## Unit 2

### Physics for life

#### Quantum Phenomena

Photoelectric effect  $hf = \phi + \frac{1}{2}mv_{\max}^2$

#### Materials

Elastic strain energy  $\Delta E_{\text{el}} = F\Delta x/2$

Stress  $\sigma = F/A$

Strain  $\varepsilon = \Delta x/x$

Young modulus  $E = \sigma/\varepsilon$

Stokes' law  $F = 6\pi\eta rv$

#### Waves and Oscillations

Refraction  $\mu = \sin i / \sin r = v_1/v_2$

For lenses  $P = P_1 + P_2$

$$1/u + 1/v = 1/f$$

#### Mathematics

Volume of sphere  $V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$

## Unit 4

### Moving with physics

#### Mechanics

Motion in a circle  $v = \omega r$

$$T = 2\pi/\omega$$

#### Energy

Attenuation  $I = I_0 e^{-\mu x}$

#### Nuclear Physics

Mass-energy  $\Delta E = c^2\Delta m$

#### Quantum Phenomena

de Broglie wavelength  $\lambda = h/p$

#### Fields

Electric field  $E = F/Q$

$$E = V/d$$

In a magnetic field  $F = BIl \sin \theta$

$$F = Bqv \sin \theta$$

$$r = p/BQ$$

Energy stored in capacitor  $W = \frac{1}{2}QV$

Capacitor discharge  $Q = Q_0 e^{-t/RC}$

#### Magnetic Effects of Currents

Faraday's and Lenz's Laws  $E = -d(N\Phi)/dt$



N 2 0 9 6 7 A 0 1 1 1 2

## Unit 5

### Physics from creation to collapse

#### Mechanics

Two masses in mutual orbit  $1/T^2 = G(m_1 + m_2) / 4\pi^2 r^3$

#### Energy

Radiant energy flux  $F = L / 4\pi d^2$

Molecular kinetic theory  $\frac{1}{2} m \langle c^2 \rangle = \frac{3}{2} kT$

#### Nuclear Physics

Radioactive decay  $dN/dt = -\lambda N$

$$\lambda = \ln 2 / t_{1/2}$$

$$N = N_0 e^{-\lambda t}$$

#### Waves and Oscillations

Waves in a solid  $v = \sqrt{E/\rho}$

Redshift of electromagnetic radiation  $z = \Delta\lambda/\lambda \approx \Delta f/f \approx v/c$

Cosmological redshift  $z = \Delta\lambda/\lambda = H_0 d / c$

Simple harmonic motion  $a = -\omega^2 x$

$$a = -A\omega^2 \cos \omega t$$

$$x = A \cos \omega t$$

$$\begin{aligned} E = E_k + E_p &= \frac{1}{2} m v^2 + \frac{1}{2} k x^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 (A^2 - x^2) + \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 x^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 A^2 \end{aligned}$$

