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PHYSICS & CHEMISTRY

# Physics

## Preliminary Course

Module 1  
Kinematics

Module 1: Kinematics

Topic 1.1: Motion in a Straight Line

————— **Foundation** —————

1. Convert the following speed values into  $\text{m s}^{-1}$ .

(a)  $60 \text{ km h}^{-1}$

$$\begin{aligned}v &= 60 \text{ km h}^{-1} \times \frac{1 \text{ m s}^{-1}}{3.6 \text{ km h}^{-1}} \\&= 16.7 \text{ m s}^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

(b)  $80 \text{ km h}^{-1}$

$$\begin{aligned}v &= 80 \text{ km h}^{-1} \times \frac{1 \text{ m s}^{-1}}{3.6 \text{ km h}^{-1}} \\&= 22.2 \text{ m s}^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

(c)  $90 \text{ km h}^{-1}$

$$\begin{aligned}v &= 90 \text{ km h}^{-1} \times \frac{1 \text{ m s}^{-1}}{3.6 \text{ km h}^{-1}} \\&= 25 \text{ m s}^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

2. Convert the following speed values into  $\text{km h}^{-1}$ .

(a)  $10 \text{ m s}^{-1}$

$$\begin{aligned}v &= 10 \text{ m s}^{-1} \times \frac{3.6 \text{ km h}^{-1}}{1 \text{ m s}^{-1}} \\&= 36 \text{ km h}^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

(b)  $27 \text{ m s}^{-1}$

$$\begin{aligned}v &= 27 \text{ m s}^{-1} \times \frac{3.6 \text{ km h}^{-1}}{1 \text{ m s}^{-1}} \\&= 97.2 \text{ km h}^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

(c)  $45 \text{ m s}^{-1}$

$$\begin{aligned}v &= 45 \text{ m s}^{-1} \times \frac{3.6 \text{ km h}^{-1}}{1 \text{ m s}^{-1}} \\ &= 162 \text{ km h}^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

3. Define the following terms and give TWO examples of each.

(a) Scalar quantity

A scalar quantity is one which only has a magnitude. Examples include distance and speed.

(b) Vector quantity

A vector quantity is one which has both a magnitude and a direction. Examples include displacement and velocity.

4. Compare the differences between the following terms:

(a) Distance and displacement

Distance is a scalar quantity that measures the total length travelled from start to stop. In contrast, displacement is a vector quantity that measures the direct distance from start to stop.

(b) Speed and velocity

Speed is a scalar quantity and is the rate of change of distance with respect to time. In contrast, velocity is a vector quantity and is the rate of change of displacement with respect to time.

5. Calculate the distance travelled when:

(a) A person walks for 3 hours at an average speed of  $4 \text{ km h}^{-1}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}s &= vt \\ &= 4 \text{ km h}^{-1} \times 3 \text{ h} \\ &= 12 \text{ km}\end{aligned}$$

(b) A car travels from home to school for 20 minutes at an average speed of  $60 \text{ km h}^{-1}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}t &= 20 \text{ min} \times \frac{1 \text{ h}}{60 \text{ min}} \\ &= 0.33 \text{ h} \\ s &= vt \\ &= 60 \text{ km h}^{-1} \times 0.33 \text{ h} \\ &= 20 \text{ km}\end{aligned}$$

————— Development —————

1. A car travels 10 km east and then 40 km west.

(a) Calculate the distance travelled by the car.

1

$$\begin{aligned}s &= 10 \text{ km} + 40 \text{ km} \\ &= 50 \text{ km}\end{aligned}$$

1 mark – Calculates the correct distance travelled by the car

(b) Calculate the displacement of the car at the end of the trip.

1

Take the east direction to be positive.

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{s} &= 10 \text{ km} + (-40 \text{ km}) \\ &= -30 \text{ km}\end{aligned}$$

∴ The displacement of the car is 30 km west of its starting position.

1 mark – Calculates the correct displacement of the car

2. A car travels 10 km north and then 5 km south. The total trip took 15 minutes.

(a) Calculate the average speed of the car during this trip in  $\text{m s}^{-1}$ .

2

$$\begin{aligned}t &= 15 \text{ min} \times \frac{60 \text{ s}}{1 \text{ min}} \\ &= 900 \text{ s} \\ s &= 10 \text{ km} + 5 \text{ km} \\ &= 15 \text{ km} \\ s &= 15 \text{ km} \times \frac{1000 \text{ m}}{1 \text{ km}} \\ &= 15000 \text{ m} \\ v &= \frac{s}{t} \\ &= \frac{15000 \text{ m}}{900 \text{ s}} \\ &= 16.67 \text{ m s}^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

2 marks – Calculates the correct distance travelled and the correct speed of the car (1 mark each)

(b) Calculate the average velocity of the car during this trip in  $\text{m s}^{-1}$ .

2

Take the north direction to be positive.

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{s} &= 10 \text{ km} + (-5 \text{ km}) \\ &= 5 \text{ km}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{s} &= 5 \text{ km} \times \frac{1000 \text{ m}}{1 \text{ km}} \\ &= 5000 \text{ m}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{v} &= \frac{\vec{s}}{t} \\ &= \frac{5000 \text{ m}}{900 \text{ s}} \\ &= 5.56 \text{ m s}^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  The velocity of the car is  $5.56 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  north.

2 marks – Calculates the correct displacement and the correct velocity of the car (1 mark each)

3. A hare and a tortoise competed against each other in a 1 km race. The tortoise has a maximum speed of  $0.075 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  while the hare has a maximum speed of  $20 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ . Both animals ran at their maximum speed throughout the race, however, the hare took a nap in the middle of the race.

3

If both the hare and the tortoise crossed the finish line at the same time, calculate the duration of the hare's mid-race nap.

$$s = 1 \text{ km} \times \frac{1000 \text{ m}}{1 \text{ km}}$$

$$= 1000 \text{ m}$$

$$t_{\text{tortoise}} = \frac{s}{v}$$

$$= \frac{1000 \text{ m}}{0.075 \text{ m s}^{-1}}$$

$$= 13333.33 \text{ s}$$

$$t_{\text{hare}} = \frac{s}{v} + t_{\text{nap}}$$

$$= \frac{1000 \text{ m}}{20 \text{ m s}^{-1}} + t_{\text{nap}}$$

$$= 50 \text{ s} + t_{\text{nap}}$$

$$t_{\text{tortoise}} = t_{\text{hare}}$$

$$\Rightarrow 13333.33 \text{ s} = 50 \text{ s} + t_{\text{nap}}$$

$$t_{\text{nap}} = 13283.33 \text{ s}$$

2 marks – Calculates the correct times needed by the tortoise and hare to cross the finish line at their maximum speeds (1 mark each)

1 mark – Calculates the correct duration of the hare's nap