

VCE Physics Units 1&2

Written Examination

Suggested Solutions

SECTION A – MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

1	☐ A	☒ B	☐ C	☐ D
2	☒ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
3	☐ A	☒ B	☐ C	☐ D
4	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☒ D
5	☐ A	☐ B	☒ C	☐ D
6	☐ A	☐ B	☒ C	☐ D
7	☐ A	☐ B	☒ C	☐ D
8	☐ A	☐ B	☒ C	☐ D
9	☐ A	☒ B	☐ C	☐ D
10	☐ A	☒ B	☐ C	☐ D
11	☒ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
12	☐ A	☒ B	☐ C	☐ D
13	☒ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
14	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☒ D
15	☐ A	☐ B	☒ C	☐ D
16	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☒ D
17	☐ A	☒ B	☐ C	☐ D
18	☐ A	☒ B	☐ C	☐ D
19	☐ A	☐ B	☒ C	☐ D
20	☐ A	☒ B	☐ C	☐ D

Question 1 B

B is correct. Convection is the transfer of thermal energy through liquids and gasses via currents that are set up in a fluid and that travel between different temperatures and, hence, different fluid densities.

A is incorrect. Conduction relies on vibrations passing between atoms, not on the atoms moving from a hot region to a cooler one.

C and **D** are incorrect. Radiation is the transfer of heat in the form of electromagnetic radiation, which can travel through a vacuum and does not require a medium.

Question 2 A

A is correct.

$$\begin{aligned} W &= Q - \Delta U \\ &= 840 - 1125 \\ &= -285 \text{ J} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, 285 J of work is done on the system.

B and **D** are incorrect. Work is not done by the system.

C is incorrect. If 1965 J of work was done on the system, the increase in the system's internal energy would have been 2805 J.

Question 3 B

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_{\max} &= \frac{0.0029 \text{ mK}}{T} \\ T &= \frac{0.0029}{0.5 \times 10^{-6}} \\ &= 5.8 \times 10^3 \text{ K} \\ &= 5.8 \times 10^3 - 273 \\ &= 5527^\circ\text{C} \\ &= 5.5 \times 10^3^\circ\text{C} \end{aligned}$$

Question 4 D

$$\begin{aligned} Q &= n_{\text{electrons}} \times q \\ n_{\text{electrons}} &= \frac{1}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}} \\ &\approx 6.3 \times 10^{18} \end{aligned}$$

Question 5 C

$$\begin{aligned} V &= \frac{E}{It} \\ &= \frac{2.88 \times 10^4}{4.0 \times 120} \\ &= 60 \text{ V} \end{aligned}$$

Question 6 C

When the switch is open, the circuit is a simple series circuit where $R_{\text{total}} = 2R$. Therefore, the voltage across each resistor is half the voltage of the battery. When the switch is closed, the circuit is a combination circuit where $R_{\text{total}} = 1.5R$. The voltage across the parallel combination is half the voltage across the single resistor. Therefore, the parallel combination takes a third of the voltage of the battery.

Question 7 C

There is 3.0 V across the LED. Therefore, there is 9.0 V across the variable resistor. A current of 150 mA is required for full brightness.

$$\begin{aligned} R &= \frac{V}{I} \\ &= \frac{9.0}{0.15} \\ &= 60 \, \Omega \\ &= 6.0 \times 10^1 \, \Omega \end{aligned}$$

Question 8 C

If $\frac{7}{8}$ of the source has decayed, there is $\frac{1}{8}$ remaining. The number of half-lives is, therefore, $3 \times 25 = 75$ s.

Question 9 B

B is correct. When uranium-238 undergoes α -decay, the atomic number goes down by two and the mass number goes down by four. Hence, it becomes thorium-230.

A is incorrect. The number of neutrons is 140, not the mass number.

C and **D** are incorrect. The final type of decay is not β -decay.

Question 10 B

The inflationary epoch (event 4) was followed by the formation of elementary particles (event 3). Next, nuclear fusion began (event 2) and nucleosynthesis occurred. This was followed by a recombination period where neutral atoms began to form (event 1). The correct order of events is, therefore, 4, 3, 2, 1.

Question 11 A

$$\Delta v = \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ 10 \text{ m s}^{-1} \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \longrightarrow \\ 20 \text{ m s}^{-1} \end{array}$$

$$= \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ 10 \text{ m s}^{-1} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \longleftarrow \\ 20 \text{ m s}^{-1} \end{array}$$

$$= \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \longleftarrow 20 \text{ m s}^{-1} \\ \nearrow \\ 10 \text{ m s}^{-1} \end{array} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta v &= v - u \\ &= \sqrt{10^2 + 20^2} \\ &= 22 \text{ m s}^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tan \theta &= \frac{20}{10} \\ \theta &= 63^\circ \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the car's change in velocity is 22 m s^{-1} N 63° W.

Question 12 B

$$\begin{aligned} v_{\text{average}} &= \frac{\text{total displacement}}{\text{total time}} \\ &= \frac{\left(\left(\frac{1}{2} \times 3.0 \times 6.0 \right) + (4.0 \times 6.0) + \left(\frac{1}{2} \times 3.0 \times 6.0 \right) - \left(\frac{1}{2} \times 2.0 \times 5.0 \right) \right)}{15.0} \\ &= 2.4666 \\ &\approx 2.5 \text{ m s}^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

Question 13 A

$$\begin{aligned} u &= \frac{144}{3.6} \\ &= 40 \text{ m s}^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} v &= \frac{252}{3.6} \\ &= 70 \text{ m s}^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$t = 10 \text{ s}$$

$$\begin{aligned} v &= u + at \\ 70 &= 40 + 10a \\ a &= 3 \text{ m s}^{-2} \end{aligned}$$

Question 14 D

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_W &= mg \\
 &= 80.0 \times 9.8 \\
 &= 784 \text{ N}
 \end{aligned}$$

Question 15 C

Taking up as positive gives:

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_{\text{net}} &= ma \\
 N - W &= ma \\
 N &= ms + W \\
 N &> W
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the force exerted by the floor of the elevator on Sung-Hoon is more than Sung-Hoon's weight.

Question 16 D

The work done on an object is equal to the area under an s versus F graph representing its movement.

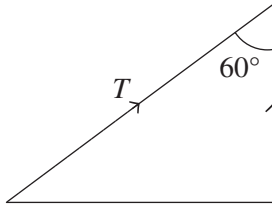
$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{work done} &= (0.150 \times 80.0) + \left(\frac{1}{2} \times 0.05 \times 80.0 \right) \\
 &= 140 \text{ J}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta E_k = \text{work done} = 140 \text{ J}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{1}{2} \times 5.0 \times v^2 - \frac{1}{2} \times 5.0 \times 10.0^2 &= 140 \\
 2.5v^2 &= 390 \\
 v &= \sqrt{\frac{390}{2.5}} \\
 &= 12.5 \text{ m s}^{-1}
 \end{aligned}$$

Question 17 B

$$\begin{aligned}
 P &= F \times v \\
 v &= \frac{230}{3.6} \\
 &= 100 \text{ m s}^{-1} \\
 P &= 2500 \times 100 \\
 &= 2.5 \times 10^5 \text{ W}
 \end{aligned}$$

Question 18 B

$$F_{\text{up}} \text{ for one wire} = \frac{10.0 \times 9.8}{2}$$

$$\cos 60 = \frac{\left(\frac{10.0 \times 9.8}{2} \right)}{T}$$

$$T = 98.0 \text{ N}$$

Question 19 C

$$F_{\text{net}} = ma$$

$$12 = 6.0 \times a$$

$$a = 2.0 \text{ m s}^{-2}$$

$$\Sigma \text{ forces}_{\text{horizontally on B}} = m_B \times a$$

$$12 - F_{\text{A on B}} = 1.0 \times 2.0$$

$$F_{\text{A on B}} = 10 \text{ N}$$

Question 20 B

B is correct. An independent variable is the variable varied by the experimenter and it is assumed to directly affect the dependent variable.

A is incorrect. This option would not be relevant to the investigation.

C is incorrect. This option refers to a controlled variable.

D is incorrect. This option refers to the dependent variable.

SECTION B**Question 1** (8 marks)

- a. 200 K (*read from graph*) 1 mark

$$200 - 273 = -73^{\circ}\text{C} \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

- b. When it reached 360 K, the sample changed state. 1 mark

It changed from a liquid into a gas via vaporisation. 1 mark

- c. $Q = mL_{\text{fusion}}$

$$L_{\text{fusion}} = \frac{8.0 \times 10^4 - 2.0 \times 10^4}{0.25} \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

$$= 2.4 \times 10^5 \text{ J kg}^{-1} \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

- d. $Q = mc\Delta T$

$$1.4 \times 10^5 - 8.0 \times 10^4 = 0.25 \times c \times (360 - 200) \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

$$c = 1.5 \times 10^3 \text{ J kg}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1} \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

Question 2 (6 marks)

- a. $\Delta Q = mc\Delta T$

$$= 0.50 \times 2500 (78 - 25) \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

$$= 6.63 \times 10^4 \text{ J} \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

- b. $\Delta Q = mL_v$

$$= 0.50 \times 8.5 \times 10^5 \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

$$= 4.25 \times 10^5 \text{ J} \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

- c. $\Delta Q = 6.63 \times 10^4 + 4.25 \times 10^5$

$$= 4.91 \times 10^5 \text{ J} \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

$$= 4.9 \times 10^5 \text{ J} \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

Question 3 (4 marks)

$$Q = mc\Delta T$$

$$0.2 \times 4200 \times (26.6 - 25.0) = m \times 450 \times (85.0 - 26.6) \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

$$1344 = 26\,280m \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

$$m = 0.05114 \text{ kg} \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

$$\approx 51 \text{ g} \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

Question 4 (10 marks)

- a.** resistor A 1 mark
- The graph for resistor A shows a proportional relationship between voltage and current, which, therefore, shows a constant resistance. 1 mark
- b.** 200 mA 1 mark
- When the voltage across resistor A is 2.0 V, the current flowing through resistor A is 200 mA. Because the two resistors are in series, the current is the same when it flows through resistor B. 1 mark
- c.** The current flowing through resistor A is 400 mA. 1 mark
- The current flowing through resistor B is 200 mA. 1 mark
- Total current flowing through the variable supply:
- $$\begin{aligned} I_T &= I_1 + I_2 \\ &= 400 + 200 \\ &= 600 \text{ mA} \end{aligned}$$
- 1 mark
- d.** $R_{\text{total}} = \frac{V_{\text{total}}}{I_{\text{total}}}$ 1 mark
- $$= \frac{2.0}{0.6}$$
- 1 mark
- $$= 3.3 \, \Omega$$
- 1 mark

Question 5 (7 marks)

- a.** energy = $1.6 \times 1.5 \times 5$ 1 mark
- $$= 12.0 \text{ kWh}$$
- 1 mark
- b.** cost = energy $\times$ tariff
- $$32.51 = 12.0 \times n \times 0.25$$
- 1 mark
- $$n = 10.8$$
- 1 mark
- $$\approx 11 \text{ weeks}$$
- c.** $I = \frac{P}{V}$
- $$= \frac{1700}{240}$$
- 1 mark
- $$= 7.1 \text{ A}$$
- 1 mark
- The fuse will not blow because 7.1 A is below 10.0 A. 1 mark

Question 6 (3 marks)

- a. $A = 239 + 0$
 $= 239$ 1 mark
- $Z = 94 - 1$
 $= 93$ 1 mark
- b. neptunium (*as found on the periodic table*) 1 mark

Question 7 (9 marks)

- a. LHS = RHS
 $235 + 1 = 144 + 89 + Y$ 1 mark
 $Y = 3$ 1 mark
 $92 = 56 + Z$ 1 mark
 $Z = 36$ 1 mark
- b. krypton (*as found on the periodic table*) 1 mark

Note: Consequential on answer to Question 7a.

- c. $168 \text{ MeV} = 1.68 \times 10^8 \text{ eV}$ 1 mark
 $1.60 \times 10^7 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19} = 2.56 \times 10^{-11} \text{ J}$ 1 mark
 $E = mc^2$
 $m = \frac{2.56 \times 10^{-11}}{(3.0 \times 10^8)^2}$ 1 mark
 $= 2.84 \times 10^{-28} \text{ kg}$ 1 mark

Question 8 (8 marks)

- a. i. arrow D 1 mark
 $13.1 - 10.2 = 2.9 \text{ eV upwards}$ 1 mark
- ii. arrow A 1 mark
 $13.1 - 10.2 = 2.9 \text{ eV}$ 1 mark
 $2.9 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19} = 4.64 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$ 1 mark
- b. No. 1 mark
 Photon emissions and absorptions can only happen as electrons move from one level to another. 1 mark
 1 mark

Question 9 (9 marks)

a. displacement = $4.0 + 4.0 + 4.0 + 4.0$
 $= 16.0 \text{ m}$

1 mark

1 mark

b. Reading from the graph gives:

2.0 to 3.0 seconds

1 mark

5.0 to 6.0 seconds

1 mark

c. Reading from the graph gives:

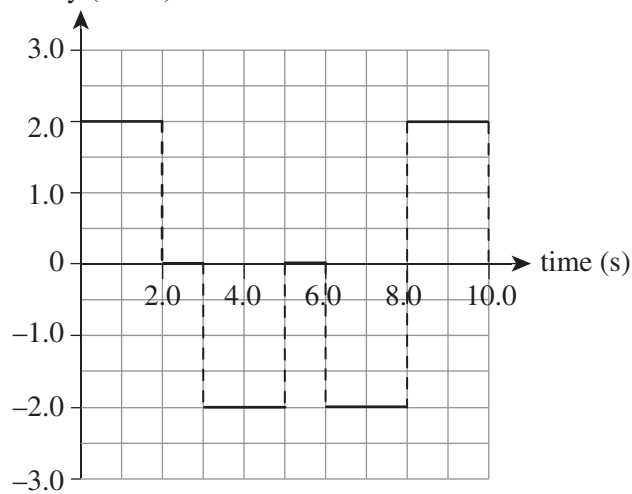
3.0 to 5.0 seconds

1 mark

8.0 to 10.0 seconds

1 mark

d. velocity (m s^{-1})



3 marks

1 mark for providing the correct scales.

1 mark for showing the correct plotted points.

1 mark for sketching the correct shape of the graph.

Question 10 (6 marks)

$F_{\text{net (vertical)}} = 12.0 \text{ N north}$

1 mark

$F_{\text{net (horizontal)}} = 10.0 \text{ N west}$

1 mark

$F_{\text{net}} = \sqrt{(12.0)^2 + (10.0)^2}$
 $= 15.6 \text{ N}$

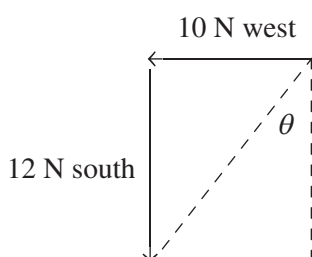
1 mark

1 mark

$\tan \theta = \frac{10.0}{12.0}$

1 mark

$\theta = 39.8^\circ$



S39.8°W

1 mark

Question 11 (5 marks)

- a. Let to the right be positive for velocity.

$$m_1 u_1 + m_2 u_2 = m_1 v_1 + m_2 v_2$$

$$3.0 \times 4.0 + 10 \times -2.5 = 3.0 \times 1.0 + 1.0v$$

1 mark

$$v = 6.5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

1 mark

b. $F_{\text{by cart B on cart A}} = \frac{mv - mu}{t}$

$$= \frac{3.0 \times 1.0 - 3.0 \times 4.0}{0.05}$$

$$= -180 \text{ N}$$

1 mark

magnitude of $F_{\text{by cart B on cart A}} = 180 \text{ N}$

1 mark

direction = left

1 mark

Question 12 (6 marks)

- a. Finding the acceleration of the 5.0 kg box gives:

$$F_{\text{net}} = ma$$

$$T = 5a$$

1 mark

Finding the acceleration of the 3.0 kg box gives:

$$F_{\text{net}} = ma$$

$$W - T = 3a$$

1 mark

$$3 \times 9.8 - T = 3a$$

$$29.4 - 5a = 3a$$

1 mark

$$a = 3.7 \text{ m s}^{-2}$$

1 mark

- b. $u = 0.0, s = 1.0 \text{ m}, a = 3.7, t = ?$

$$s = ut + \frac{1}{2}at^2$$

$$1.0 = 0 + \frac{1}{2} \times 3.7t^2$$

1 mark

$$t = 0.74 \text{ s}$$

1 mark

*Note: Consequential on answer to **Question 12a**.*

Question 13 (8 marks)

a. $E_K = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$
 $= \frac{1}{2} \times 1000.0 \times 5.00^2$ 1 mark
 $= 1.25 \times 10^4 \text{ J}$ 1 mark

b. $E_X = E_Y$
 $1.25 \times 10^4 + 1000.0 \times 9.8 \times 10.0 = \frac{1}{2} \times 1000 \times v^2$
 $v = 14.9 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ 1 mark

*1 mark for LHS substitution.**1 mark for RHS substitution.**Note: Consequential on answer to Question 13a.*

c. $E_X = E_Z$
 $1.11 \times 10^5 = 1000 \times 9.8 \times h$
 $h = 11.3 \text{ m}$ 1 mark

*1 mark for LHS substitution.**1 mark for RHS substitution.***Question 14** (6 marks)

a. $E_K = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$
 $2.0 = \frac{1}{2} \times 1.0 \times v^2$ 1 mark
 $v = 2.0 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ 1 mark

b. work done = ΔE_K
 $= 2.0 \text{ J}$ 1 mark

c. $U_s = 2.0 \text{ J}$ 1 mark
 $= \frac{1}{2}kx^2$
 $2.0 = \frac{1}{2} \times k \times (0.1)^2$ 1 mark
 $k = 400.0 \text{ or } 4.0 \times 10^2 \text{ N m}^{-1}$ 1 mark

Question 15 (5 marks)

a. $\tau_{\text{clockwise}} = \tau_{\text{anticlockwise}}$
 $F \times 0.800 = 10.0 \times 9.8 \times 0.200$
 $F = 24.5 \text{ N}$

1 mark

1 mark

b. Taking up as positive gives:

$$\Sigma F_{\text{vertical}} = 0$$

$$F + 10.0 \times 9.8 - F_R = 0$$

1 mark

$$F_R = 123 \text{ N}$$

1 mark

direction = up

1 mark

Note: Consequential on answer to Question 15a.

Question 16 (10 marks)

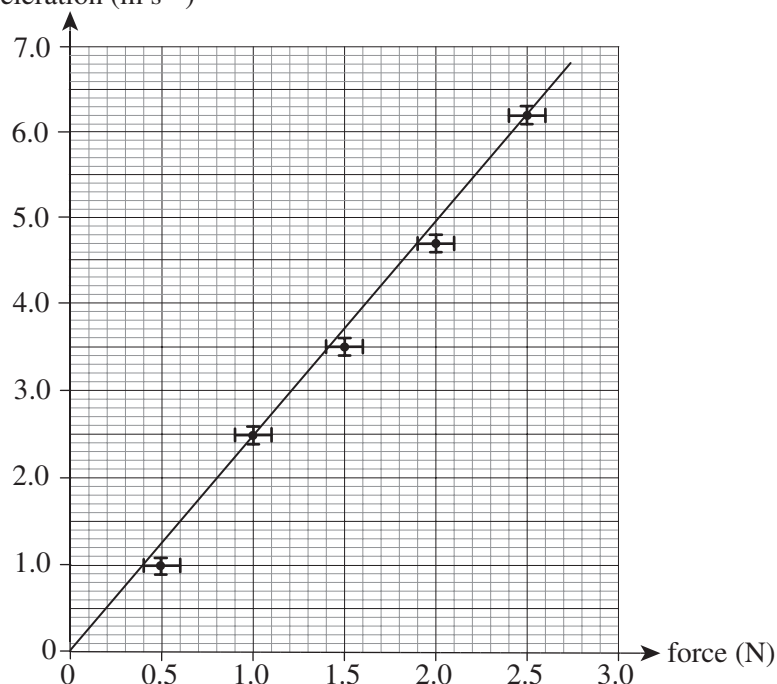
a.

Classification	Variable
independent	force applied
dependent	acceleration
controlled	mass of the glider

3 marks

1 mark for providing each correct variable.

b. acceleration (m s^{-1})



5 marks

1 mark for using the correct axes labels.

1 mark for using correct scales. (At least half of the provided grid must be used.)

1 mark for showing the correct plotted points.

1 mark for showing the correct line of best fit.

1 mark for showing the correct uncertainty bars.

c. $\text{gradient} = \frac{6.2}{2.5}$
 $= 2.48$

1 mark

$$\begin{aligned}\text{mass} &= \frac{1}{\text{gradient}} \\ &= \frac{1}{2.48} \\ &= 0.40 \text{ kg}\end{aligned}$$

1 mark

*Note: Consequential on answer to **Question 16b**.*