

VCE Physics Units 1&2

Written Examination

Suggested Solutions

SECTION A – MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

1	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
3	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
4	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D
5	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
6	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
7	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
8	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
9	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
10	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
11	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
12	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
13	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
14	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D
15	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
16	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D
17	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
18	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
19	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
20	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> 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

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

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

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

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

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

Therefore, the car's change in velocity is 22 m s^{-1} N63°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

$$u = \frac{144}{3.6}$$

$$= 40 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

$$v = \frac{252}{3.6}$$

$$= 70 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

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

$$v = u + at$$

$$70 = 40 + 10a$$

$$a = 3 \text{ m s}^{-2}$$

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.

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

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

$$\frac{1}{2} \times 5.0 \times v^2 - \frac{1}{2} \times 5.0 \times 10.0^2 = 140$$

$$2.5v^2 = 390$$

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{390}{2.5}}$$

$$= 12.5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

Question 17 B

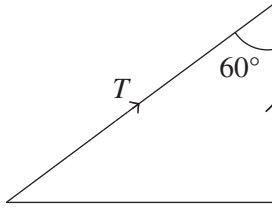
$$P = F \times v$$

$$v = \frac{230}{3.6}$$

$$= 100 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

$$P = 2500 \times 100$$

$$= 2.5 \times 10^5 \text{ W}$$

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:

$$\begin{aligned} I_T &= I_1 + I_2 \\ &= 400 + 200 \\ &= 600 \text{ mA} \end{aligned} \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

- d. $R_{\text{total}} = \frac{V_{\text{total}}}{I_{\text{total}}}$ 1 mark

$$= \frac{2.0}{0.6} \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

$$= 3.3 \Omega \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

Question 5 (7 marks)

- a. energy = $1.6 \times 1.5 \times 5$ 1 mark

$$= 12.0 \text{ kWh} \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

- b. cost = energy \times tariff

$$32.51 = 12.0 \times n \times 0.25 \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

$$n = 10.8 \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

$$\approx 11 \text{ weeks}$$

- c. $I = \frac{P}{V}$

$$= \frac{1700}{240} \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

$$= 7.1 \text{ A} \quad 1 \text{ mark}$$

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)

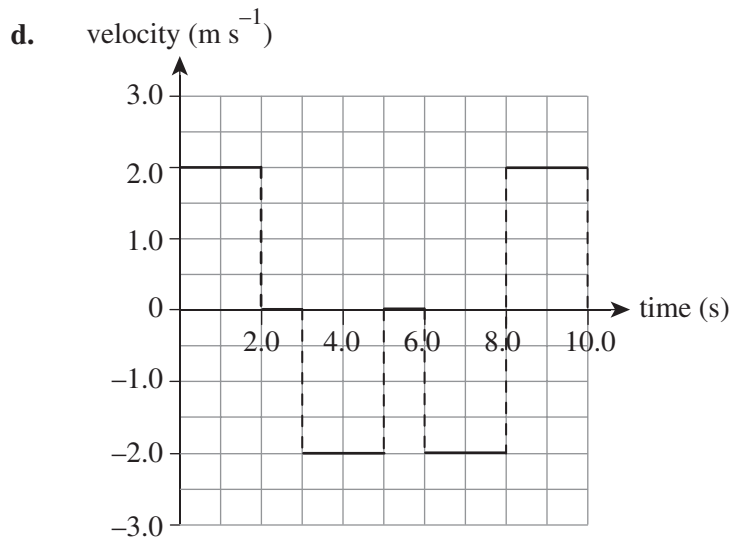
- a. i. arrow D 1 mark
- $13.1 - 10.2 = 2.9 \text{ eV upwards}$ 1 mark
- ii. arrow A 1 mark
- $13.1 - 10.2 = 2.9 \text{ eV}$ 1 mark
- $2.9 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19} = 4.64 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$ 1 mark
- b. No. 1 mark
- Photon emissions and absorptions can only happen 1 mark
as electrons move from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

Question 9 (9 marks)

a. displacement = $4.0 + 4.0 + 4.0 + 4.0$ 1 mark
 = 16.0 m 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



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.

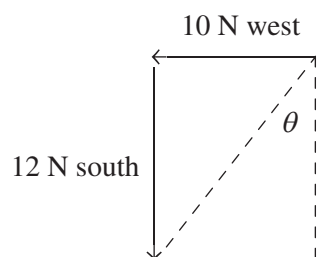
Question 10 (6 marks)

$F_{\text{net (vertical)}} = 12.0 \text{ N north}$ 1 mark

$F_{\text{net (horizontal)}} = 10.0 \text{ N west}$ 1 mark

$F_{\text{net}} = \sqrt{(12.0)^2 + (10.0)^2}$ 1 mark
 = 15.6 N 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.

$$m_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + m_2 \mathbf{u}_2 = m_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + m_2 \mathbf{v}_2$$

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

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 for LHS substitution.
1 mark for RHS substitution.
 1 mark

*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 for LHS substitution.
1 mark for RHS substitution.
 1 mark

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:

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

$$F + 10.0 \times 9.8 - F_{\text{R}} = 0$$

$$F_{\text{R}} = 123 \text{ N}$$

1 mark

1 mark

direction = up

1 mark

Note: Consequential on answer to Question 15a.

Question 16 (10 marks)

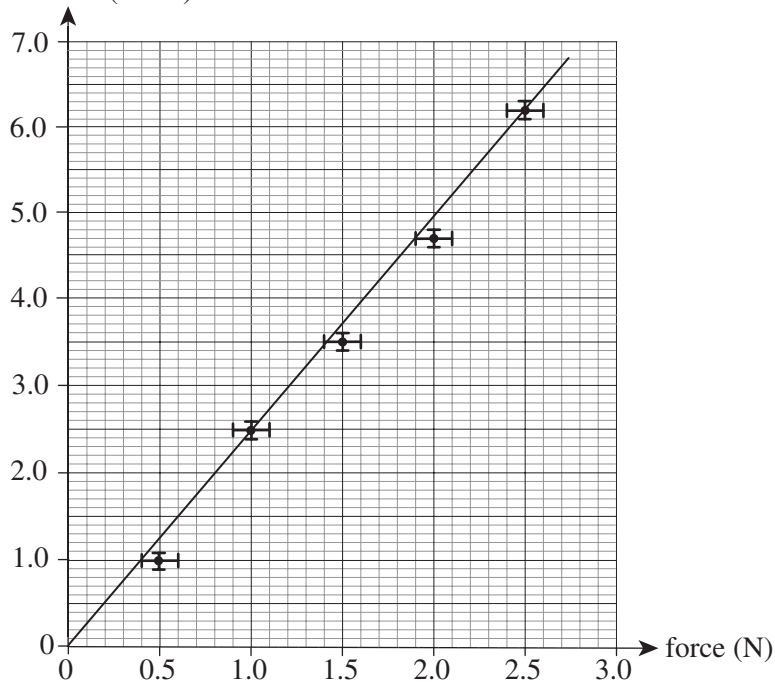
a.

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

$$\text{mass} = \frac{1}{\text{gradient}}$$
$$= \frac{1}{2.48}$$
$$= 0.40 \text{ kg}$$

1 mark

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