

**AP Physics 1**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**2021 Summer Assignment****DUE: At the beginning of the first day of class**

*My eyes are constantly wide open to the extraordinary fact of existence. Not just human existence, but the existence of life and how this breathtakingly powerful process, which is natural selection, has managed to take the very simple facts of physics and chemistry and build them up to redwood trees and humans.*

~ Richard Dawkins

Welcome to AP Physics 1! You have made an excellent choice in enrolling in this course. AP Physics 1 will challenge you to use logical and mathematical thinking to understand the natural world. Many, but by no means all, of the topics we will investigate you have already encountered freshman year in Concepts of Physics.

The following assignment includes some mathematical problems that are frequently encountered in AP Physics 1, as well as some concepts from freshman year that you need to review over the summer to be ready to hit the ground running in September. Part of the purpose of this summer assignment is to fight your “summer vacation inertia” and get you on the right path to success in the fall. ☺

The attached pages contain a brief review, hints, and example problems. It is hoped that, combined with your previous math and physics knowledge, this assignment is mostly a review and a means to brush up before school begins in the fall. Please read the text and instructions throughout. If you use any extra paper for scratch work, please attach it to the packet before you turn it in. You are welcome to contact me at any time over the summer if you want to ask a question about anything. This assignment is equal to a major test grade in quarter 1.

It is important that you do this work yourself so you know the material. Looking up answers on the internet or copying someone else’s work will do you no good because you will not have practiced the material. While it’s fine to ask for help or a hint on a problem here or there, you need to do the bulk of the work yourself to really understand the material.

Please ensure your full name is on every sheet of everything submitted if you are doing it on paper. iPad work is acceptable as well.

**Have a GREAT summer. See you in the fall!**

## Section 1: Math Review (Algebra)

Some of the important skills from algebra that are used on a routine basis in AP Physics include:

- Isolating a variable on one side of an equation (this is the single most important skill)
- The quadratic formula (rarely required, but extremely helpful)
- Factoring the difference of squares
- Solving simultaneous sets of equations
- Direct proportionality and inverse proportionality (and their corresponding graphs) ← SUPER important
- Graphing linear equations

Complete the following exercises. Show all your work.

Solve each equation for the variable indicated.

1.  $d = \frac{1}{2}at^2$ ; Solve for  $t$ .

6.  $a = \frac{v_f - v_0}{t}$ ; Solve for  $v_f$ .

2.  $T = 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{L}{g}}$ ; Solve for  $L$ .

7.  $U = mgh$ ; Solve for  $h$ .

3.  $g = \frac{GM}{d^2}$ ; Solve for  $d$ .

8.  $v = \sqrt{2gy}$ ; Solve for  $y$ .

4.  $x - x_0 = v_0 t + \frac{1}{2} a t^2$ ; Solve for  $t$ .

8.  $\frac{1}{k_1} + \frac{1}{k_2} = \frac{1}{k_{tot}}$ ; Solve for  $k_{tot}$ .

9.  $\frac{x-y}{6} = \frac{x+y}{4} - 1$ ; Solve for  $y$ .

**Solving systems of equations**

**Solve the following sets of equations as indicated.**

13. Eliminate  $T$  and write an equation for  $a$  in terms of the other variables.

$$T - f - m_1 g \sin \theta = m_1 a$$

$$m_2 g - T = m_2 a$$

14. Solve for  $T$  by eliminating  $v$ .

$$v = \frac{2\pi r}{T}$$

$$\frac{GM}{r^2} = \frac{v^2}{r}$$

15. Show that the following two equations can be reduced to the single equation:

$$x - y = a - b$$

$$(x^2 - y^2) = (a^2 - b^2)$$

$$x + y = a + b$$

16. Consider the equation  $F = \frac{Gm_1m_2}{d^2}$ .

a) Sketch a graph of  $F$  as a function of  $m_1$  for positive values of  $F$  and  $m_1$ .

b) Sketch a graph of  $F$  as a function of  $d$  for positive values of  $F$  and  $d$ .

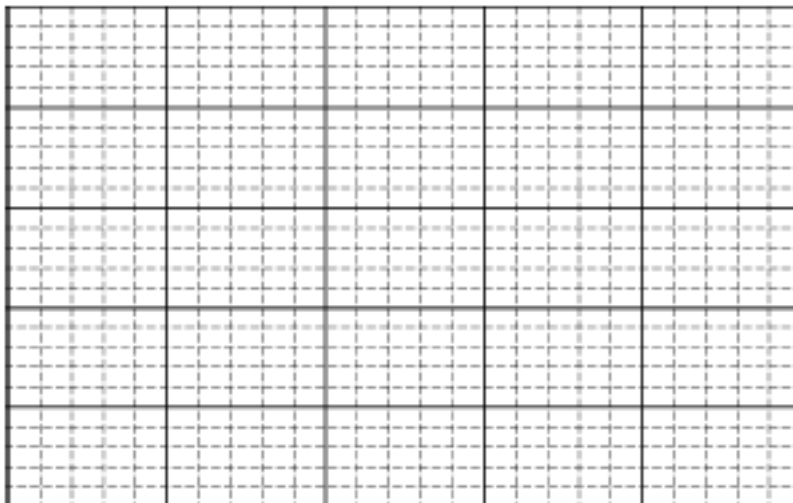
c) Sketch a graph of  $F$  as a function of  $d^2$  for positive values of  $F$  and  $d^2$ .

Making and interpreting graphs using data.

Note that the convention in physics will ALWAYS be to plot  $y$  vs.  $x$ . This means that if you are asked to plot a graph of velocity vs. time, you know immediately that velocity will be plotted on the  $y$ -axis and time will be plotted on the  $x$ -axis.

17. In the space provided, plot a graph of velocity vs. time, using the data given. Be sure to label all axes, including units.

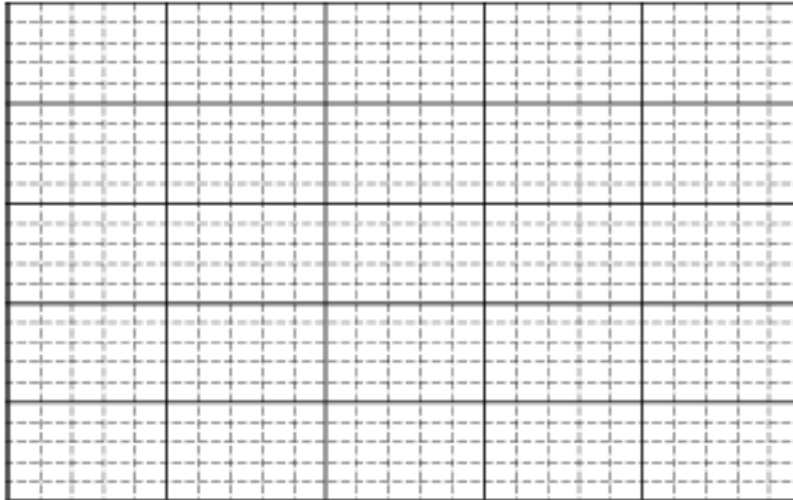
Time (s)	1	2	3	4	5	6
Velocity (m/s)	3.6	7.5	11.0	14.9	18.4	22.3



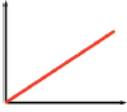
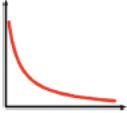

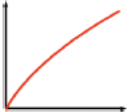
- What kind of curve did you obtain?
- What is the relationship between the variables?
- What was the velocity at  $t = 5.5$  s?
- What would you expect the velocity to be at  $t = 10$  s?

18. In the space provided, plot a graph of frequency vs. wavelength, using the data given. Be sure to label all axes, including units.

Wavelength (nm)	300	400	500	600	700	800
Frequency (Hz)	$10^{15}$	$7.5 \times 10^{14}$	$6 \times 10^{14}$	$5 \times 10^{14}$	$4.3 \times 10^{14}$	$3.75 \times 10^{14}$



- What kind of curve did you obtain?
- What is the relationship between the variables?
- What would be the frequency when the wavelength is 350 nm?
- What would be the wavelength when the frequency is  $6.5 \times 10^{14}$  Hz?

Graph	Relationship
	As $x$ increases, $y$ increases proportionally. $y$ is directly proportional to $x$ .
	As $x$ increases, $y$ decreases. $y$ is inversely proportional to $x$ .
	$y$ is proportional to the square of $x$ .
	The square of $y$ is proportional to $x$ .

Graphs are VERY important in physics because they show patterns between variables. A straight line graph that starts from the (0,0) point is the best proof that two variables are directly proportional. You should remember from Algebra 1 that the general equation for a straight line is  $y = mx + b$ , where  $m$  is the slope of the graph and  $b$  is the  $y$ -intercept.

Other types of graphs that you need to remember are quadratic graphs ( $y = ax^2 + bx + c$ ), inverse graphs ( $y = 1/x$ ), inverse square graphs ( $y = 1/x^2$ ), square root graphs ( $y = \sqrt{x}$ ), and sine/cosine graphs. These are the ones frequently seen in AP Physics 1.

Although the above list is important, when it comes to finding a relationship between two variables the only graph that can show this very clearly is the straight line graph.

#### Example

Let's say that you want to prove the relationship between the kinetic energy of an object and its speed. You plot speed on the  $x$ -axis and kinetic energy on the  $y$ -axis. You will get a curve which is a parabola (since the kinetic energy is directly proportional to the square of the velocity).

Now let's say you do another experiment that, unknown to you, also follows the same pattern. You will also get a curve when you plot the graph. Will you be able to recognize that this is a parabola? What if it is a curve that is very close to a parabola but not quite?

What can you do to be sure that you have cracked the relationship?

Think again about the example above. If instead of plotting kinetic energy against speed you plot kinetic energy against speed squared what will you get? You will get a straight line through the origin! Moreover, you will be certain that the relationship is that the kinetic energy is directly proportional to the speed squared.

So what have we learned so far?

**ALWAYS AIM AT PLOTTING TWO VARIABLES THAT WILL GIVE YOU A STRAIGHT LINE!**

Try these exercises:

19. The equation for the period of a pendulum, as we will prove, is  $T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{L}{g}}$ .

- Suppose you perform an experiment where you measure  $L$  and then correspondingly measure the effect on  $T$ . What variables should you plot against each other in order to get a graph that is a straight line?



20. The universal gravitational law, as we'll see, is given by the equation  $F = \frac{Gm_1m_2}{r^2}$ .

a) What variables should you plot against each other in order to prove that the force  $F$  is directly proportional to the product of the masses of the objects?

b) What variables should you plot against each other in order to prove that the force is inversely proportional to the distance squared ( $r^2$ ) between the objects?

### The significance of the slope

Throughout this course you will be asked to decide which graphs to plot in order to show a relationship or to calculate a physical constant.

We have already noted how important it is to aim at plotting a graph that will end up being a straight line. This gives you a definite answer about the relationship between the two variables. But there is more to it. The slope of this line will give you information about a constant in your experiment.

### Example

Let's say that you want to measure the gravitational field strength of Earth with a pendulum. You vary the length and measure the period. You then decide to plot  $T^2$  against  $L$ . The graph will be a straight line. What will its slope be? To find this, compare the pendulum equation with the straight line equation as shown below:

$$T^2 = 4\pi^2 \frac{L}{g}$$
$$y = mx + b$$

You should be able to see that  $T^2$  corresponds to  $y$ ,  $L$  corresponds to  $x$ .  $4\pi^2/g$  corresponds to  $m$ , and 0 corresponds to  $b$ . We will be doing this often in lab experiments so it's important that you get comfortable with the process.

The last four pages are the most important in this packet. Pause to go back review them and make sure you're comfortable.

## Section 2: Math Review (Geometry/Trig)

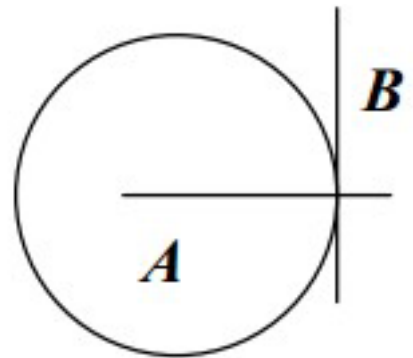
Some of the important skills from geometry and trigonometry that are used on a routine basis in AP Physics include:

- Complementary angles
- Relationship between tangent lines and radial lines for circles
- Alternate interior angles of a line
- Right triangle trigonometry
- Pythagorean theorem (very frequently)
- The sine, cosine, and tangent functions
- Inverse sine, cosine and tangent functions
- Drawing a normal line

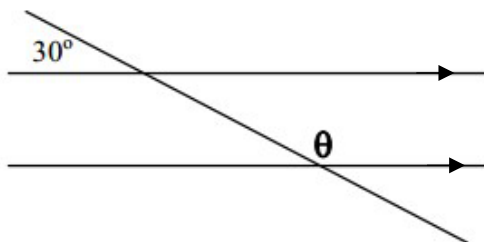
Solve the following geometric problems.

1. Line **B** touches the circle at a single point. Line **A** extends through the center of the circle.

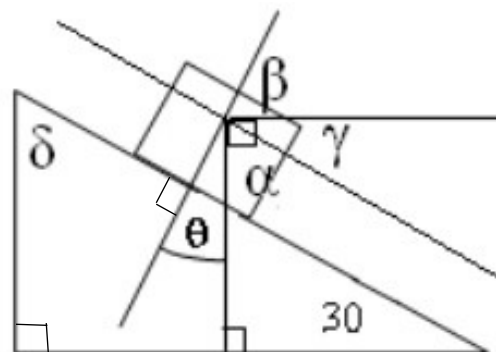
- a) Line **A** is called a \_\_\_\_\_ line and line **B** is called a \_\_\_\_\_ line.
- b) What must be the angle between lines A and B?



2. What is angle  $\theta$ ?

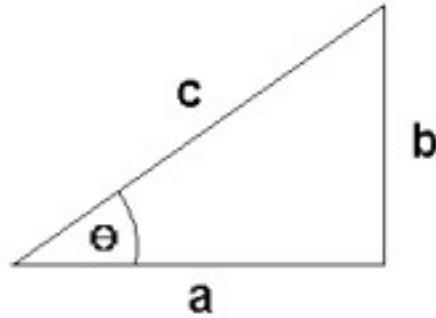


3. How large are angles  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ ,  $\delta$ , and  $\theta$ ?





Use the generic triangle shown below, right-triangle trigonometry, and the Pythagorean theorem to solve the following problems. Note that your calculator must be set to degree mode.



8.  $\theta = 55^\circ$  and **c** = 32 m; solve for **a** and **b**.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9.  $\theta = 45^\circ$  and **a** = 15 m/s; solve for **b** and **c**.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. **b** = 17.8 m and  $\theta = 65^\circ$ ; solve for **a** and **c**.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
11. **a** = 250 m and **b** = 180 m; solve for  $\theta$  and **c**.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
12. **a** = 25 cm and **c** = 32 cm; solve for **b** and  $\theta$ .

## Section 3: Math Review (Precalculus)

Some of the important skills from precalculus that are used in AP Physics include:

- Graphs of the sine and cosine functions
- Some common trig identities
- Radian measure

1. For the function  $x = A \sin(\omega t + \phi)$ ,

a) Which variable represents the amplitude?

b) What is the period of the function?

c) Which variable represents the phase shift?

2. Consider the function,  $x = 2 \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} t\right)$ , where  $x$  is measured in meters and  $t$  is measured in seconds. (The units on  $\pi/2$  are  $\text{s}^{-1}$ .)

a) What is the amplitude of the function?

b) What is the period of the function?

c) Sketch a graph of the function, showing two full periods.

d) Where is the particle at  $t = 0$ ?

3. Consider the function,  $x = -1.5 \cos(2\pi t)$ , where  $x$  is measured in meters and  $t$  is measured in seconds. (The units on  $2\pi$  are  $s^{-1}$ .)

a) What is the amplitude of the function?

b) What is the period of the function?

c) Sketch a graph of the function, showing two full periods.

d) Where is the particle at  $t = 0$ ?

Convert the following angle measurements in degrees to radians. Leave your answer in terms of  $\pi$ .

4.  $30^\circ$

8.  $180^\circ$

5.  $45^\circ$

9.  $270^\circ$

6.  $60^\circ$

10.  $360^\circ$

7.  $90^\circ$

### Trig Identities

The most common trig identities used in AP Physics are below. Complete the identity.

1.  $\sin^2\theta + \cos^2\theta =$

2.  $\frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} =$

3.  $\sin(2\theta) =$

4.  $\cos(90 - \theta) =$

5.  $\sin(90 - \theta) =$

It is hoped that you will recognize these when they are encountered.

## Section 4: Unit Conversions & The Metric System

Physics uses the International System of Units (abbreviated SI from French: Le Système International d'Unités) with the MKS base unit system. MKS stands for meter, kilogram, and second. These are the units of choice of physics, and most other units are derived from these three. The equations in physics depend on unit agreement so you must convert to MKS in most problems to arrive at the correct answer. Common conversions encountered in AP Physics C are:

- kilometers (km) to meters (m) and meters to kilometers
- centimeters (cm) to meters (m) and meters to centimeters
- millimeters (mm) to meters (m) and meters to millimeters
- micrometers ( $\mu\text{m}$ ) to meters (m) and meters to micrometers
- nanometers (nm) to meters (m) and meters to nanometers
- grams (g) to kilograms (kg) and kilograms to grams

Other conversions will be taught as they become necessary.

It is expected that you be skilled at unit conversions and that you know the most common metric prefixes by heart (kilo, centi, milli).

Convert the following. Show all work.

1. 4008 g to kg

6. 25.0  $\mu\text{m}$  to m

2. 1.2 km to m

7. 2.65 mm to m

3. 823 nm to m

8. 8.23  $\mu\text{m}$  to m



4. 0.77 m to cm

9. 40.0 cm to m

5.  $8.8 \times 10^{-8}$  m to mm

10.  $1.5 \times 10^{11}$  m to km

A very useful method of converting one unit to an equivalent unit is called the factor-label method of unit conversion. Perhaps you used this in chemistry. Suppose you are given the speed of an object as 25 km/h and wish to express it in m/s. To make this conversion, you must change km to m and h to s by multiplying by a series of factors so that the units you do not want will cancel out and the units you want will remain.

Conversion: 1000 m = 1 km and 3600 s = 1 h

$$25 \frac{\cancel{\text{km}}}{\cancel{\text{h}}} \times \frac{1000 \text{ m}}{1 \cancel{\text{km}}} \times \frac{1 \cancel{\text{h}}}{3600 \text{ s}} \approx 6.94 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$$

Carry out the following conversions using the factor-label method. Show all your work.

11. How many seconds are in a year?

12. How many centimeters are in 24 kilometers?

13. How many milligrams are in 55 kilograms?

14. How many kilometers per month are in  $3 \times 10^8$  m/s?

15. How many  $\text{cm}^2$  are in  $18.8 \text{ m}^2$ ?

16. What is the volume of a sphere, in  $\text{m}^3$ , if its radius is  $6.7 \text{ cm}$ ?

## Section 5: Scientific Notation & Order of Magnitude

It is expected that you be comfortable working with large or small numbers expressed in scientific notation. It is also expected that you understand how to perform calculations with scientific notation accurately using your calculator.

Practice with the following exercises. Place the answer in scientific notation when appropriate and simplify the units. Scientific notation is used when it takes less time to write than the ordinary number does. As an example 200 is easier to write than  $2.00 \times 10^2$ , but  $2.00 \times 10^8$  is easier to write than 200,000,000. Cancel units, and show the simplified units in the final answer.

$$1. F = \frac{6.67 \times 10^{-11} \frac{N \cdot m^2}{kg^2} (2 \times 10^{30} kg)(6 \times 10^{24} kg)}{(1.5 \times 10^{11} m)^2} \quad F =$$

$$2. g = \frac{6.67 \times 10^{-11} \frac{N \cdot m^2}{kg^2} (6 \times 10^{24} kg)}{(6.38 \times 10^6 m)^2} \quad g =$$

$$3. E = (5 \times 10^{-3} kg)(3 \times 10^8 \frac{m}{s})^2 \quad E =$$

$$4. K = \frac{1}{2} (3.6 \times 10^{-4} kg)(4.7 \times 10^5 \frac{m}{s})^2 \quad K =$$

$$5. \quad p = (9.8 \times 10^5 \text{ kg})(1.5 \times 10^{-6} \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}) \qquad p =$$

$$6. \quad v_f = 10^4 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} - 10^3 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \qquad v_f =$$

$$7. \quad \varphi = \frac{9.92 \times 10^9 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^{-1}}}{2.43 \times 10^{-12} \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^{-1}}} \qquad \varphi =$$

Order of magnitude refers to the approximate measure of the size of a number, equal to the  $\log_{10}$  rounded to a whole number, using the usual rules for rounding.

Usual rules for rounding:

If the number you are rounding is followed by 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9, round the number up.

Example: 3.8 rounded to the nearest whole number is 4. If the number you are rounding is followed by 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4, round the number down. Example: 3.4 rounded to the nearest whole number is 3.

A number such as 3.45 rounded to the nearest whole number would be 3, because 3.45 is closer to 3 than it is to 4.

As an example of order of magnitude, the order of magnitude of 30,000 is 4, because  $30,000 = 3 \times 10^4$ . Watch a classic video on orders of magnitude:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0fKBhvDjuy0>.

If that link doesn't work, google "Powers of Ten video 1977".

An order of magnitude calculation involves estimating an answer based on which power of 10 it is closest to.

Example 1: The mass of a proton is  $1.67 \times 10^{-27}$  kg. Order of magnitude, this is  $\sim 10^{-27}$  kg.

Example 2: The acceleration due to gravity at Earth's surface is about  $9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$ . Order of magnitude, this is  $\sim 10 \text{ m/s}^2$ . Using 10 instead of 9.8 makes calculations easier and quicker.

Give the order of magnitude of the following. You will have to look up some values. Show all your work.

8. The mass of a hydrogen-1 atom, in kg.

9. The mass of Earth plus the mass of the Sun, in kg.

10. 10 years plus one day, expressed in seconds.

11. The mass of the Moon plus the mass of the Earth, in kg.

12. 300 kilometers plus 10 meters.

## Section 6: Newton's Laws & Other Things You Need To Remember From Freshman Year

So as to be able to spend our class time on the deeper ideas and problems, it is expected that you are comfortable with the statements of Newton's three laws of motion and that you can easily answer simple questions involving them.

State Newton's three laws of motion in your own words. Explain any terms that need to be explained.

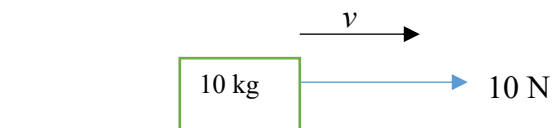
Newton's 1<sup>st</sup> Law:

Newton's 2<sup>nd</sup> Law:

Newton's 3<sup>rd</sup> Law:

Newton's Laws Exercises.

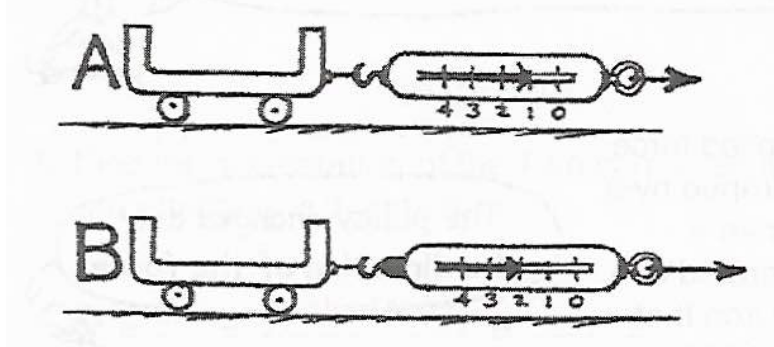
1. The 10 kg box shown in the figure below is sliding to the right along the floor. A horizontal force of 10 N is being applied to the right. The force of friction between the box and the floor is 2 N.



a) What is the net force on the box?

b) Is the box in equilibrium?

2. Consider the carts shown below. Cart A has a mass of 1 kg and is pulled with a force of 1 N. Cart B also has a mass of 1 kg but is pulled with a force of 2 N. Which undergoes the greater acceleration?



3. Grace exerts a horizontal force  $F$  on a book of mass  $m$  on a horizontal surface where the force of friction is  $f$ .
- Write an equation for the resulting acceleration.
  - Calculate the acceleration when her push is 10 N, the mass of the book is 0.5 kg, and the friction force is 5 N.
4. A car, traveling with a velocity of 30 m/s to the right, slows to a stop in 5 s. The net force on the car is 6000 N.
- What is the acceleration of the car? Give magnitude and direction.
  - What is the car's mass?





- d) What is the direction of the acceleration on the way **up**? Is the magnitude of the acceleration increasing, decreasing or constant?
- e) What is the direction of the acceleration on the way **down**? Is the magnitude of the acceleration increasing, decreasing or constant?
- f) What is the direction of the acceleration at the highest point? What is the magnitude of the acceleration?
9. A ball is thrown upward with an initial velocity  $v_0$ . The ball reaches height  $h$  in time  $t$ . What is the acceleration of the ball at the highest point?
10. An object has weight  $W$ . How would you calculate the mass of that object?
11. An object has a weight of 550 N. Calculate the object's mass.
12. How is work related to force? How is work related to energy? Use the equations to help explain.

13. A block has 1500 J of potential energy and 700 J of kinetic energy. Ten seconds later, the block has 100 J of potential energy and 900 J of kinetic energy. Friction is the only external force acting on the block. How much work was done on this block by friction?

Congratulations, you're done!  
See you in August!