



**JARAMOGI OGINGA ODINGA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**  
**SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES**  
**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION**  
**(SCIENCE)**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR 1<sup>ST</sup> SEMESTER 2022/2023**  
**MAIN SPECIAL**

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**COURSE CODE: SPB 9111**

**COURSE TITLE: MECHANICS**

**EXAM VENUE:**

**STREAM: (BED SCI)**

**DATE:**

**EXAM SESSION:**

**TIME: 2:00HRS**

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**Instructions:**

- 1. Answer question 1 (Compulsory) in Section A and ANY other 2 questions in Section B.**
- 2. Candidates are advised not to write on the question paper.**
- 3. Candidates must hand in their answer booklets to the invigilator while in the examination room**

*Useful constants*

*Acceleration due to gravity ,  $g$ , =  $9.8 \text{ m s}^{-2}$*

*Universal gravitational constant,  $G$  =  $6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N m}^2 \text{ kg}^{-2}$*

*Radius of the earth =  $6.37 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$*

### Question 1

(a) (i) Check whether the right hand side of the following equation is dimensionally consistent.

(4 Marks)

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

(ii) The period of oscillation of a simple pendulum is given by

$$T = km^x l^y g^z$$

Use dimensional analysis to find  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$ , hence write down the complete equation.

(4 Marks)

(b) A tennis player moves in a straight-line path as shown in Figure 1. Find:

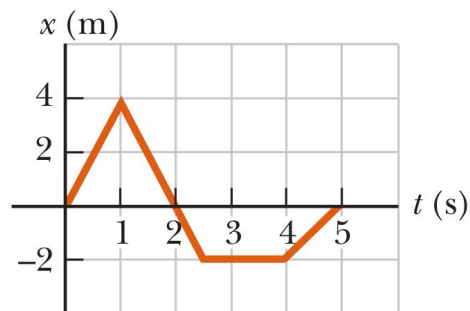


Figure 1

- (i) her displacement in the time interval 1 - 4.0 s.
- (ii) her velocity at  $t = 2.0$  s.
- (iii) her average velocity in the time interval 0.5 - 3.0 s

(6 Marks)

(c) State Newton's first law of motion and explain its implications. (2 Marks)

(d) A block of wood of mass 4 kg lies on a horizontal surface for which the coefficient of static friction  $\mu_s = 0.25$  and the coefficient of kinetic friction  $\mu_k = 0.15$ . It is pulled by a 10 N force directed at  $53^\circ$  above the horizontal. Find the force of friction on the block if it is at rest. (6 Marks)

(e) A ball is projected horizontally at 20 m/s from a cliff of height 30 m. Find its range. (5 Marks)

(f) A rocket of mass  $m$  is fired from a point  $P$  on the surface of the earth so that it just escapes from the gravitational influence of the Earth. Find the minimum velocity at which the rocket must move. (3 Marks)

## Question 2

(a) Derive the work-energy theorem. (6 Marks)

(b) A 1.8 kg block is moved at constant speed over a horizontal surface for which  $\mu_k = 0.25$ . The displacement is 2 m. It is pulled by a force  $F = 20$  N directed at  $45^\circ$  to the horizontal. Find the work done on the block by:

(i) the force  $F$ .

(ii) friction

(iii) gravity

(7 Marks)

(iv) What is the final velocity of the block if its initial velocity was 3 m/s?

(3 Marks)

(c) The length of an elastic spring with spring constant  $k$  changes from  $x_1$  to  $x_2$  when it is acted upon by a force  $F$ . Find the work done in stretching the spring.

(4 Marks)

### Question 3

(a)(i) State the law of conservation of linear momentum. (1 Mark)

(ii) A bullet of mass 10 g travelling horizontally with a velocity of 300 m/s strikes a block of wood of mass 290 g which rests on a rough horizontal floor. After impact, the block and bullet move together and come to rest when the block has travelled a distance of 15 m. Calculate the coefficient of kinetic friction between the block and floor.

(10 Marks)

(b) A rifle of mass 3.25 kg, initially at rest, fires a 12.8 g bullet with a muzzle velocity of 800 m/s.

(i) Find the recoil velocity of the rifle. (4 Marks)

(ii) Determine the ratio of the kinetic energies of the bullet and the rifle.

(5 Marks)

#### Question 4

(a) A projectile is fired from the ground with an initial velocity  $u$  at an angle  $\theta$  to the horizontal. It returns to the same horizontal level. Find:

(i) the time of flight.

(5 Marks)

(ii) the horizontal range,  $R$ .

(4 Marks)

(iii) the equation of the trajectory.

(3 Marks)

(b) A ball is thrown at 21 m/s at  $30^\circ$  above the horizontal from the top of a roof 16 m high. Find:

(i) the maximum height reached.

(3 Marks)

(ii) the time of flight.

(5 Marks)

### Question 5

(a)(i) State Newton's law of universal gravitation.

(1

Mark)

(ii) A satellite orbits the earth at a considerable distance  $R$  from the center of the earth in the plane of the equator and in the same direction of rotation as the earth. Show that the period of the satellite  $T$  is given by

$$T^2 = \frac{4\pi R^3}{gr^2}$$

where  $g$  is the gravitational acceleration and  $r$  is the radius of the earth.

(8 Marks)

(iii) If  $R = 25000$  km, find  $T$ .

(2 Marks)

(b) Given the first equation of linear motion, derive the second equation of motion.

(5 Marks)

(c) An aircraft has a liftoff speed of 120 km/h.

(i) What minimum constant acceleration does the aircraft require if it is to be airborne after a takeoff run of 240 m?

(3 Marks)

(ii) How long does it take the aircraft to become airborne?