

Hi all and welcome to AP Physics C! This course is designed to be a college level introductory Physics course, both for people who have taken high school Physics and for people who are ready to dive right into an Calculus-based college level class.

In class we will work to prepare you to take the AP Physics C exam in the spring of 2021. All students in this class will be expected to take that exam.

The required books for this class are Halliday/Resnick/Walker: *Fundamentals of Physics* and Jacobs: *5 Steps to a 5 AP Physics C: 2019*.

Assignment

I have included several problems for you to do over the summer that will help you assess your comfort with the concepts that will be covered in this class. This work is not calculus-based, but you will need an understanding of basic Physics concepts to complete. This work is intended for you to assess your level and to give you feedback in areas that might need extra enrichment before we dive into it more deeply next year.

It will not be graded, but I expect you to demonstrate an attempt on every problem before the first class next year. Please do not try to do it all at once (There is a lot). In total, we're talking about four hours of work. Pace yourself and have fun thinking through each problem.

Remember: Physics is Phun!

Kinematics Conceptual Questions

1. What is a safe following distance between you and the car in front of you?
2. Can you be moving and not moving at the same time?
3. Why do physicists say that an upward thrown object is falling?

Review Problems

4. When applying the equations of kinematics for an object moving in one dimension, which of the following statements must be true? (a) The velocity of the object must remain constant. (b) The acceleration of the object must remain constant. (c) The velocity of the object must increase with time. (d) The position of the object must increase with time. (e) The velocity of the object must always be in the same direction as the acceleration.

5. A juggler throws a bowling pin straight up in the air. After the pin leaves his hand and while it is in the air, which statement is true? (a) The velocity of the pin is always in the same direction as its acceleration. (b) The velocity of the pin is never in the same direction as its acceleration. (c) The acceleration of the pin is zero. (d) The velocity of the pin is opposite its acceleration on the way up. (e) The velocity of the pin is in the same direction as its acceleration on the way up.
6. When the pilot reverses the propeller in a boat moving north, the boat moves with an acceleration directed south. Assume the acceleration of the boat remains constant in magnitude and direction. What happens to the boat? (a) It eventually stops and remains stopped. (b) It eventually stops and then speeds up in the forward direction. (c) It eventually stops and then speeds up in the reverse direction. (d) It never stops but loses speed more and more slowly forever. (e) It never stops but continues to speed up in the forward direction.
7. If the velocity of a particle is nonzero, can the particle's acceleration be zero? Explain.
8. A particle moves according to the equation $x = 2.00t^3$, where x is in meters and t is in seconds. (a) Find the average velocity for the time interval from 2.00 s to 3.00 s. (b) Find the average velocity for the time interval from 2.00 s to 2.10 s.
9. In which of the following situations is the moving object appropriately modeled as a projectile? Choose all correct answers. (a) A shoe is tossed in an arbitrary direction. (b) A jet airplane crosses the sky with its engines thrusting the plane forward. (c) A rocket leaves the launch pad. (d) A rocket moves through the sky, at much less than the speed of sound, after its fuel has been used up. (e) A diver throws a stone under water.
10. Does a car moving around a circular track with a constant speed have (a) zero acceleration, (b) an acceleration in the direction of its velocity, (c) an acceleration directed away from the center of its path, (d) an acceleration directed toward the center of its path, or (e) an acceleration with a direction that cannot be determined from the given information?
11. A baseball is thrown from the outfield toward the catcher. When the ball reaches its highest point, which statement is true? (a) Its velocity and its acceleration are both zero. (b) Its velocity is not zero, but its acceleration is zero. (c) Its velocity is perpendicular to its acceleration. (d) Its acceleration depends on the angle at which the ball was thrown. (e) None of statements (a) through (d) is true.
12. A police car traveling at 95.0 km/h is traveling west, chasing a motorist traveling at 80.0 km/h. (a) What is the velocity of the motorist relative to the police car? (b) What is the velocity of the police car relative to the motorist? (c) If they are originally 250 m apart, in what time interval will the police car overtake the motorist?

Newton's Laws & Uniform Circular Motion Conceptual Questions

13. If you stand on a bathroom scale in a moving elevator, does its reading change?
14. How does friction help us walk?

15. Why do pilots sometimes black out while pulling out at the bottom of a dive?

16. Why do you tend to slide across the car seat when the car makes a sharp turn?

Review Problems

17. An experiment is performed on a puck on a level air hockey table, where friction is negligible. A constant horizontal force is applied to the puck, and the puck's acceleration is measured. Now the same puck is transported far into outer space, where both friction and gravity are negligible. The same constant force is applied to the puck (through a spring scale that stretches the same amount), and the puck's acceleration (relative to the distant stars) is measured. What is the puck's acceleration in outer space? (a) It is somewhat greater than its acceleration on the Earth. (b) It is the same as its acceleration on the Earth. (c) It is less than its acceleration on the Earth. (d) It is infinite because neither friction nor gravity constrains it. (e) It is very large because acceleration is inversely proportional to weight and the puck's weight is very small but not zero.

18. The manager of a department store is pushing horizontally with a force of magnitude 200 N on a box of shirts. The box is sliding across the horizontal floor with a forward acceleration. Nothing else touches the box. What must be true about the magnitude of the force of kinetic friction action on the box (choose one)? (a) It is greater than 200 N. (b) It is less than 200 N. (c) It is equal to 200 N. (d) None of those statements is necessarily true.

19. A person holds a ball in her hand. (a) Identify all the external forces acting on the ball and the Newton's third-law reaction force to each one. (b) If the ball is dropped, what force is exerted on it while it is falling? Identify the reaction force in this case. (Ignore air resistance.)

20. A passenger sitting in the rear of a bus claims that she was injured when the driver slammed on the brakes, causing a suitcase to come flying toward her from the front of the bus. If you were the judge in this case, what disposition would you make? Why?

21. A child tosses a ball straight up. She says that the ball is moving away from her hand because the ball feels an upward "force of the throw" as well as the gravitational force. (a) Can the "force of the throw" exceed the gravitational force? How would the ball move if it did? (b) Can the "force of the throw" be equal in magnitude to the gravitational force? Explain. (c) What strength can accurately be attributed to the "force of the throw?" Explain. (d) Why does the ball move away from the child's hand?

22. Describe two examples in which the force of friction exerted on an object is in the direction of motion of the object.

23. A block slides down a frictionless plane having an inclination of $\theta = 15^\circ$. The block starts from rest at the top, and the length of the incline is 2.00 m. (a) Draw a free-body diagram of the block. Find (b) the acceleration of the block and (c) its speed when it reaches the bottom of the incline.

24. A rifle bullet with a mass of 12.0 g traveling toward the right at 260 m/s strikes a large bag of sand and penetrates it to a depth of 23.0 cm. Determine the magnitude and direction of the friction force (assumed constant) that acts on the bullet.

25. A 25.0 kg block is initially at rest on a horizontal surface. A horizontal force of 75.0 N is required to set the block in motion, after which a horizontal force of 60.0 N is required to keep the block moving with constant speed. Find (a) the coefficient of static friction and (b) the coefficient of kinetic friction between the block and the surface.

26. A hockey puck struck by a hockey stick is given an initial speed v_i in the positive x direction. The coefficient of kinetic friction between the ice and the puck is μ_k . (a) Obtain an expression for the acceleration of the puck as it slides across the ice. (b) Use the result of part (a) to obtain an expression for the distance d the puck slides. The answer should be in terms of the variables v_i , μ_k , and g only.

Energy & Momentum Conceptual Questions

27. Why is it impossible to build a perpetual motion machine?

28. Why do seat belts and air bags save lives?

Review Problems

29. Mark and David are loading identical cement blocks onto David's pickup truck. Mark lifts his block straight up from the ground to the truck, whereas David slides his block up a ramp containing frictionless rollers. Which statement is true about the work done on the block-Earth system? (a) Mark does more work than David. (b) Mark and David do the same amount of work. (c) David does more work than Mark. (d) None of those statements is necessarily true because the angle of the incline is unknown. (e) None of those statements is necessarily true because the mass of one block is not given.

30. If the net work done by external forces on a particle is zero, which of the following statements about the particle must be true? (a) Its velocity is zero. (b) Its velocity is decreased. (c) Its velocity is unchanged. (d) Its speed is unchanged. (e) More information is needed.

31. A sled of mass m is given a kick on a frozen pond. The kick imparts to the sled an initial speed of 2.00 m/s. The coefficient of kinetic friction between sled and ice is 0.100. Use energy considerations to find the distance the sled moves before it stops.

32. A crate of mass 10.0 kg is pulled up a rough incline with an initial speed of 1.50 m/s. The pulling force is 100 N parallel to the incline, which makes an angle of 20.0° with the horizontal. The coefficient of kinetic friction is 0.400, and the crate is pulled 5.00 m. (a) How much work is done by the gravitational force on the crate? (b) Determine the increase in internal energy of the crate-incline system owing to friction. (c) How much work is done by the 100 N force on the crate? (d) What is the change in kinetic energy of the crate? (e) What is the speed of the crate after being pulled 5.00 m?

33. A boy in a wheelchair (total mass 47.0 kg) has speed 1.40 m/s at the crest of a slope 2.60 m high and 12.4 m long. At the bottom of the slope his speed is 6.20 m/s. Assume air resistance and rolling resistance can be modeled as a constant friction force of 41.0 N. Find the work he did in pushing forward on his wheels during the downhill ride.
34. Two students hold a large bed sheet vertically between them. A third student, who happens to be the star pitcher on the school baseball team, throws a raw egg at the center of the sheet. Explain why the egg does not break when it hits the sheet, regardless of its initial speed.
35. At one instant, a 17.5 kg sled is moving over a horizontal surface of snow at 3.50 m/s. After 8.75 s has elapsed, the sled stops. Use a momentum approach to find the average friction force acting on the sled while it was moving.
36. A tennis player receives a shot with the ball (0.0600 kg) traveling horizontally at 50.0 m/s and returns the shot with the ball traveling horizontally at 40.0 m/s in the opposite direction. (a) What is the impulse delivered to the ball by the tennis racquet? (b) What work does the racquet do on the ball?
37. A 10.0 g bullet is fired into a stationary block of wood having mass $m = 5.00$ kg. The bullet imbeds into the block. The speed of the bullet-plus-wood combination immediately after the collision is 0.600 m/s. What was the original speed of the bullet?
- Rotation, Gravitation, & Oscillations Conceptual Questions:
38. Why are doorknobs located on the side of the door opposite the hinges?
39. Are astronauts really “weightless” while in orbit?
40. Why do you need to “pump” your legs when you begin swinging on a park swing?

Review Problems

41. Consider an object on a rotating disk a distance r from its center, held in place on the disk by static friction. Which of the following statements is not true concerning this object? (a) If the angular speed is constant, the object must have constant tangential speed. (b) If the angular speed is constant, the object is not accelerated. (c) The object has a tangential acceleration on if the disk has an angular acceleration. (d) If the disk has an angular acceleration, the object has both a centripetal acceleration and a tangential acceleration. (e) The object always has a centripetal acceleration except when the angular speed is zero.
42. Suppose just two external forces act on a stationary, rigid object and the two forces are equal in magnitude and opposite in direction. Under what condition does the object start to rotate?
43. If you see an object rotating, is there necessarily a net torque acting on it?

44. A disk 8.00 cm in radius rotates at a constant rate of 1200 rev/min about its central axis. Determine (a) its angular speed in radians per second, (b) the tangential speed at a point 3.00 cm from its center, (c) the radial acceleration of a point on the rim, and (d) the total distance a point on the rim moves in 2.00 s.
45. A grinding wheel is in the form of a uniform solid disk of radius 7.00 cm and mass 2.00 kg. It starts from rest and accelerates uniformly under the action of the constant torque of 0.600 Nm that the motor exerts on the wheel. (a) How long does the wheel take to reach its final operating speed of 1200 rev/min? (b) Through how many revolutions does it turn while accelerating?
46. A playground merry-go-round of radius $R = 2.00$ m has a moment of inertia $I = 250$ kgm² and is rotating at 10.0 rev/min about a frictionless, vertical axle. Facing the axle, a 25.0 kg child hops onto the merry-go-round and manages to sit down on the edge. What is the new angular speed of the merry-go-round?
47. Can an object be in equilibrium if it is in motion? Explain.
48. (a) Give an example in which the net force acting on an object is zero and yet the net torque is nonzero. (b) Give an example in which the net torque acting on an object is zero and yet the net force is nonzero.
49. When a falling meteoroid is at a distance above the Earth's surface of 3.00 times the Earth's radius, what is its acceleration due to the Earth's gravitation?
50. Which of the following statements is not true regarding a mass-spring system that moves with simple harmonic motion in the absence of friction? (a) The total energy of the system remains constant. (b) The energy of the system is continually transformed between kinetic and potential energy. (c) The total energy of the system is proportional to the square of the amplitude. (d) The potential energy stored in the system is greatest when the mass passes through the equilibrium position. (e) The velocity of the oscillating mass has its maximum value when the mass passes through the equilibrium position. 5
51. When a 4.25 kg object is placed on top of a vertical spring, the spring compresses a distance of 2.62 cm. What is the force constant of the spring?

Electrostatics & Circuits Conceptual Questions

52. Why is your hair attracted to a plastic comb after combing?
53. Why is it safe to sit in a car during a lightning storm?
54. How does a lightning rod protect a building?
55. Why are modern buildings equipped with electrical circuit breakers?
56. Why is it dangerous to use a hair dryer while taking a bath?

Review Problems

57. What happens when a charged insulator is placed near an uncharged metallic object? (a) They repel each other. (b) They attract each other. (c) They may attract or repel each other, depending on whether the charge on the insulator is positive or negative. (d) They exert no electrostatic force on each other. (e) The charged insulator always spontaneously discharges.

58. A glass object receives a positive charge by rubbing it with a silk cloth. In the rubbing process, have protons been added to the object or have electrons been removed from it?

59. A 7.50 nC point charge is located 1.80 m from a 4.20 nC point charge. (a) Find the magnitude of the electric force that one particle exerts on the other. (b) Is the force attractive or repulsive?

60. What factors affect the resistance of a conductor?

61. A proton beam in an accelerator carries a current of 125 μA . If the beam is incident on a target, how many protons strike the target in a period of 23.0 s?

62. A lightbulb has a resistance of 240 Ω when operating with a potential difference of 120 V across it. What is the current in the lightbulb?

63. Several resistors are connected in parallel. Which of the following statements are correct? Choose all that are correct. (a) The equivalent resistance is greater than any of the resistances in the group. (b) The equivalent resistance is less than any of the resistances in the group. (c) The equivalent resistance depends on the potential difference applied across the group. (d) The equivalent resistance is equal to the sum of the resistances in the group. (e) None of those statements is correct.

64. Several resistors are connected in series. Which of the following statements are correct? Choose all that are correct. (a) The equivalent resistance is greater than any of the resistances in the group. (b) The equivalent resistance is less than any of the resistances in the group. (c) The equivalent resistance depends on the potential difference applied across the group. (d) The equivalent resistance is equal to the sum of the resistances in the group. (e) None of those statements is correct.