

# Mixed questions

A.C. NORMAN

anorman@bishopheber.cheshire.sch.uk

$$\text{Force} = \frac{\text{change in momentum}}{\text{time}}$$

$$\text{momentum} = \text{mass} \times \text{velocity}$$

$$\text{work done by a force} = \text{Force} \times \text{distance moved in the direction of the force}$$

$$\text{kinetic energy} = \frac{1}{2} \times \text{mass} \times \text{velocity}^2$$

$$\text{gravitational potential energy} = \text{weight} \times \text{height}$$

1. A cannon of mass 200 kg stands on the deck of a ship of mass 50 000 kg. This cannon fires a cannonball of mass 5 kg north at 250 m/s. The cannon recoils, but is restrained by its gun crew.
  - (a) Will the boat move? If so, which way?
  - (b) What was the total momentum of the cannon, cannonball and boat before the shot is fired?
  - (c) What is the momentum of the cannonball as it is fired?
  - (d) What is the momentum of the boat and cannon after the cannon is restrained?
  - (e) How fast will the boat move?
2. Two skateboarders are standing on their skateboards at a skatepark. Alice weighs 80 kg and Bob weighs 60 kg. They push away from each other, and Alice starts to move at 3 m/s.
  - (a) Draw a diagram of the situation, showing which way each of the skaters will move, their masses and Alice's velocity.
  - (b) What is the total momentum of Alice and Bob before they push off?
  - (c) What is Alice's momentum afterwards?
  - (d) What is Bob's momentum afterwards?
  - (e) What speed does Bob move off with?
  - (f) What is the total momentum afterwards?
3. A car of mass 1000 kg is moving at 20 m/s. The driver applies the brakes, and the car comes to a standstill in a distance of 50 m, which takes 5 s.
  - (a) What is the momentum of the car to start with?

- (b) What is the kinetic energy of the car to start with?
  - (c) What is the momentum of the car at the end?
  - (d) What force has been applied by the brakes on the car?
  - (e) How much energy has been absorbed by the brakes (hint: think about how much work the car has done on the brakes)?
4. A car of mass 1000 kg is attached to pulls a caravan of mass 800 kg. The car and caravan accelerate from rest to a speed of 15 m/s in a time of 5 s. During this time, the car covers 37.5 m.
- (a) What is the change in momentum?
  - (b) What is the total force exerted by the car's wheels on the road (the driving force)?
  - (c) What is the work done by the engine in driving?
  - (d) What is the force of the car on the caravan?
  - (e) What is the force of the caravan on the car?
  - (f) Show that the total impulse (Force  $\times$  time) is equal to the car's change in momentum.
5. A large drop of rain is falling vertically. It strikes a stationary caterpillar<sup>1</sup>, of mass 1 g, on the edge of a leaf. The drop is in contact with the caterpillar for 0.1 ms (1 ms is 1/1000 s) and the caterpillar moves off as a result of the impact, with a velocity of 2 m/s downwards.
- (a) Draw a diagram of this situation, showing all the relevant information.
  - (b) What is the momentum change, **in kg m/s**, of the caterpillar?
  - (c) What is the force exerted on the caterpillar?
  - (d) What kinetic energy does the caterpillar leave the leaf with?
  - (e) If the leaf is in a tree, 10 m above the ground, how much energy (from gravitational potential) does the caterpillar gain during its fall?

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<sup>1</sup>Small caterpillars crawl under leaves when heavy rain falls. It isn't that they just want to keep dry, they also need to avoid the devastating blow of a direct hit from a raindrop, which could prove fatal.