

# Ap Physics 1 Response Practice Exam Answer Key

Ap Physics 1 Response Practice Exam Answer Key AP Physics 1 Response Practice Exam Answer Key A Comprehensive Guide to Success The AP Physics 1 exam is a challenging yet rewarding test that assesses your understanding of fundamental physics principles Mastering the content is crucial but equally important is the ability to apply those principles to solve complex problems and communicate your reasoning effectively This article provides a comprehensive answer key to a practice exam specifically designed to help you hone your response writing skills and excel on the actual exam Practice Exam Structure This practice exam is structured to mirror the format of the real AP Physics 1 exam consisting of two sections Multiple Choice This section tests your understanding of key concepts and your ability to apply them to various scenarios It includes 50 questions with a time limit of 90 minutes Free Response This section challenges you to demonstrate your problemsolving abilities explain your reasoning and communicate your solutions effectively It includes 5 questions with a time limit of 90 minutes Free Response Question Breakdown and Answer Key The following section provides a detailed breakdown of each free response question and its corresponding answer key Each answer will include Question Statement The original question prompt Key Concepts Relevant physics principles and equations Solution Steps A stepbystep guide to solving the problem Explanation Detailed reasoning for each step and justification of the answer Tips for Success Strategies to improve your response writing and avoid common pitfalls Question 1 Kinematics Question Statement A car accelerates uniformly from rest to a speed of 20 ms in 5 seconds a What is the cars acceleration 2 b How far does the car travel during this time Key Concepts Uniform acceleration Constant rate of change in velocity Kinematic equations Equations relating displacement velocity acceleration and time Solution

Steps a Using the equation  $v = u + at$  where  $v$  is final velocity  $u$  is initial velocity  $a$  is acceleration and  $t$  is time  $v = 20 \text{ ms}$   $u = 0 \text{ ms}$   $t = 5 \text{ s}$  Therefore  $a = \frac{v - u}{t} = \frac{20 - 0}{5} = 4 \text{ ms}^{-2}$  b Using the equation  $s = ut + \frac{1}{2}at^2$  where  $s$  is displacement  $u = 0 \text{ ms}^{-1}$   $a = 4 \text{ ms}^{-2}$   $t = 5 \text{ s}$  Therefore  $s = 0 + \frac{1}{2}(4)(5)^2 = 50 \text{ m}$  Explanation a The car starts from rest meaning its initial velocity is zero Acceleration is the rate of change of velocity which is calculated by dividing the change in velocity by the time taken b The distance traveled is calculated using the displacement formula which accounts for both initial velocity and acceleration Tips for Success Identify the relevant kinematic equations and variables Clearly label your units and use correct significant figures Show all your work in a logical and organized manner Explain your reasoning clearly and concisely

Question 2 Forces and Newtons Laws Question Statement A 10 kg block rests on a horizontal surface The coefficient of static friction between the block and the surface is 0.4 A horizontal force of 30 N is applied to the block 3 a Will the block move Explain your answer b What is the magnitude of the force of static friction acting on the block Key Concepts Force of friction Force that opposes motion between two surfaces in contact Static friction Force that prevents an object from moving when a force is applied Maximum static friction The maximum force that can be exerted by static friction before the object starts to move Newtons First Law An object at rest stays at rest and an object in motion stays in motion with the same speed and in the same direction unless acted upon by an unbalanced force Solution Steps a The maximum force of static friction is calculated by  $F_{\text{max}} = \mu_s N$  where  $\mu_s$  is the coefficient of static friction and  $N$  is the normal force  $N = mg$  where  $m$  is the mass of the block and  $g$  is the acceleration due to gravity  $9.8 \text{ ms}^{-2}$  Therefore  $F_{\text{max}} = 0.4(10 \text{ kg})(9.8 \text{ ms}^{-2}) = 39.2 \text{ N}$  Since the applied force 30 N is less than the maximum static friction force 39.2 N the block will not move b The force of static friction is equal and opposite to the applied force which is 30 N Explanation a The maximum static friction force represents the threshold beyond which the static friction force can no longer hold the block in place Since the applied force is lower than this threshold the block remains stationary due to the balance between the applied force and the static friction force b The force of static friction always acts opposite to the direction of the applied force creating a balanced force that prevents motion Tips

for Success Clearly define the forces acting on the block Use free body diagrams to visualize the forces involved Apply Newtons laws to analyze the forces and determine the net force Be aware of the difference between static and kinetic friction

Question 3 Energy and Work Question Statement A 2 kg block is released from rest at the top of a frictionless ramp that is 4.5 meters long and inclined at 30 degrees to the horizontal

a What is the potential energy of the block at the top of the ramp  
b What is the speed of the block at the bottom of the ramp

Key Concepts Potential energy Energy stored due to an objects position or configuration Kinetic energy Energy possessed by an object due to its motion Conservation of energy In a closed system the total energy remains constant though it may be transformed from one form to another

Solution Steps a The potential energy of the block is calculated by  $PE = mgh$  where  $m$  is the mass  $g$  is the acceleration due to gravity and  $h$  is the height of the block above the ground  $h = 4.5 \text{ m} \sin 30^\circ = 2.25 \text{ m}$  Therefore  $PE = 2 \text{ kg} \cdot 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2 \cdot 2.25 \text{ m} = 49 \text{ J}$

b Using the conservation of energy principle  $PE_{\text{top}} = KE_{\text{bottom}}$  Since the block starts from rest  $KE_{\text{top}} = 0 \text{ J}$  At the bottom of the ramp  $PE_{\text{bottom}} = 0 \text{ J}$  Therefore  $KE_{\text{bottom}} = PE_{\text{top}} = 49 \text{ J}$  Using the equation  $KE = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$  where  $v$  is the speed  $49 \text{ J} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2 \text{ kg} \cdot v^2$  Solving for  $v$  we get  $v = 7 \text{ m/s}$

Explanation a The potential energy of the block is determined by its height above the ground As the block is released its potential energy is converted into kinetic energy as it moves down the ramp  
b The conservation of energy principle states that the total energy of the system remains constant As the block descends its potential energy is converted into kinetic energy resulting in an increase in its speed

Tips for Success Clearly identify the types of energy involved in the system 5 Apply the conservation of energy principle to relate the different forms of energy Be careful with units and conversions Use appropriate equations to solve for the unknown quantities

Question 4 Momentum and Impulse Question Statement A 0.5 kg ball moving at 10 m/s to the right collides headon with a stationary 1 kg ball After the collision the 0.5 kg ball moves at 2 m/s to the left

a What is the velocity of the 1 kg ball after the collision  
b What is the impulse experienced by the 0.5 kg ball during the collision

Key Concepts Momentum A measure of an objects mass in motion Impulse Change in momentum of an object Conservation of momentum In a closed system the total

momentum remains constant even if collisions occur

**Solution Steps**

a Using the conservation of momentum principle  $p_{\text{initial}} = p_{\text{final}}$   $m_1 v_{1\text{initial}} + m_2 v_{2\text{initial}} = m_1 v_{1\text{final}} + m_2 v_{2\text{final}}$   
 $0.5 \text{ kg} (10 \text{ m/s}) + 1 \text{ kg} (0 \text{ m/s}) = 0.5 \text{ kg} (2 \text{ m/s}) + 1 \text{ kg} (v_{\text{final}})$   
 Solving for  $v_{\text{final}}$  we get  $v_{\text{final}} = 6 \text{ m/s}$  to the right

b The impulse experienced by the 0.5 kg ball is calculated by  $\text{Impulse} = \Delta p = m \Delta v = m (v_{\text{final}} - v_{\text{initial}})$   
 $\text{Impulse} = 0.5 \text{ kg} (2 \text{ m/s} - 10 \text{ m/s}) = -4 \text{ N}\cdot\text{s}$   
 Therefore Impulse =  $-4 \text{ N}\cdot\text{s}$

**Explanation**

a The total momentum before the collision must equal the total momentum after the collision. Since the 0.5 kg ball changes its velocity, the 1 kg ball must gain a velocity to conserve the total momentum of the system.

b The impulse is the change in momentum experienced by the object. The negative sign indicates that the impulse is in the opposite direction to the initial velocity of the 0.5 kg ball.

**Tips for Success**

6 Clearly identify the system and the objects involved. Use the conservation of momentum principle to analyze the collision. Choose a positive direction and consistently apply it to all velocities. Be aware of the relationship between momentum and impulse.

**Question 5 Rotational Motion and Torque**

**Question Statement** A uniform rod of length 2 m and mass 3 kg is pivoted at one end. A force of 10 N is applied perpendicularly to the rod at a distance of 1.5 m from the pivot point.

a Calculate the torque produced by the force.

b Calculate the angular acceleration of the rod.

**Key Concepts**

**Torque** A rotational force that tends to cause an object to rotate about an axis.

**Moment of inertia** A measure of an object's resistance to rotational motion.

**Rotational kinematics** Equations relating angular displacement, angular velocity, angular acceleration, and time.

**Solution Steps**

a The torque produced by the force is calculated by  $\tau = r F \sin \theta$  where  $F$  is the force,  $r$  is the distance from the pivot point, and  $\theta$  is the angle between the force and the lever arm, which is  $90^\circ$  in this case. Therefore  $\tau = 10 \text{ N} (1.5 \text{ m}) \sin 90^\circ = 15 \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}$ .

b The angular acceleration is calculated by  $\tau = I \alpha$  where  $I$  is the moment of inertia and  $\alpha$  is the angular acceleration. The moment of inertia of a uniform rod about one end is  $I = \frac{1}{3} m l^2$  where  $m$  is the mass and  $l$  is the length. Therefore  $I = \frac{1}{3} (3 \text{ kg}) (2 \text{ m})^2 = 4 \text{ kg}\cdot\text{m}^2$ . Hence  $\alpha = \frac{\tau}{I} = \frac{15 \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}}{4 \text{ kg}\cdot\text{m}^2} = 3.75 \text{ rad/s}^2$ .

**Explanation**

a The torque is a measure of the force's ability to cause rotation. It depends on the magnitude of the force, the distance from the pivot point, and the angle between the force and the lever arm.

b The angular acceleration is the rate of change of angular velocity. It is directly proportional to the torque and

inversely proportional to the moment of inertia 7 Tips for Success Clearly define the pivot point and the lever arm Understand the concept of moment of inertia and its dependence on mass distribution Use the correct equations for torque and angular acceleration Be careful with units and conversions Conclusion This practice exam and answer key provide a valuable resource for preparing for the AP Physics 1 exam By understanding the key concepts applying the correct problemsolving techniques and practicing your response writing skills you can confidently tackle the challenge of the exam and achieve success Remember to review and practice regularly focusing on the specific areas where you need improvement With dedication and effort you can master the fundamentals of physics and demonstrate your understanding on the AP Physics 1 exam

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