

NOTE: reasonable estimates

- Mass of apple = 150 – 250 g
- Weight of apple = 1N
- Mass of car = 1000 – 2000 kg
- Mass of a raindrop = 10^{-5} kg
- Mass of a man = 70kg
- Running speed of a man = 5 m/s
- KE of a man running = $\frac{1}{2} \times 70 \times 5^2 = 875 = 1000$ approx
- Running speed of male Olympic runner = 10 m/s
- Running speed of female Olympic runner = 9 m/s
- KE of a olympian running = $\frac{1}{2} \times 70 \times 11^2 = 4000$ approx
- Frequency of a radio wave = 3 kHz – 300 GHz
- Mass of an atom = 10^{-27} kg
- Young's modulus of a metal (copper) = 10^{11} Pa
- Wavelength of violet: 380–450 nm
- Wavelength of blue: 450–495 nm
- Wavelength of green: 495–570 nm
- Wavelength of yellow: 570–590 nm
- Wavelength of orange: 590–620 nm
- Wavelength of red: 620–750 nm
- Atmospheric pressure at sea level = 10^5 Pa
- Distance between earth & sun = 1.5×10^{11} m
- Speed of light in vacuum = 2×10^8 m/s
- Speed of sound in air = 300 m/s
- Frequency of UV light = 7.5×10^{14} Hz to 3×10^{16} Hz
- Wavelength of UV light = 10 nm – 400 nm
- Lifespan of a man = 2×10^9 s
- Current in a fan heater = 12 A
- Water pressure at the bottom of a garden pond = 7500 Pa
- A4 sheet dimensions = 210 x 297 mm
- Thickness of sheet of paper = 0.05mm or 0.1mm
- Volume of exam paper = 6000mm³
- Speed of a container ship = 10 m/s
- Speed of a racing car = 90 m/s
- Speed of a snail = 1/360 m/s

1.

The radius of the Earth is approximately 6.4×10^6 m, and the radius of the Moon is approximately 1.7×10^6 m. A student wishes to build a scale model of the Solar System in the classroom, using a football of radius 0.12 m to represent the Earth.

Which object would best represent the Moon?

- A basketball
- B cherry
- C golf ball
- D tennis ball

Ans: D

Using ratio, radius of moon ball is approx 3cm, thus tennis ball

2.

Which quantity with its unit is correct?

- A acceleration of a bicycle = 1.4 m s^{-1}
- B electric current in a lamp = 0.25 A s^{-1}
- C electric potential difference across a battery = 8.0 J C^{-1}
- D kinetic energy of a car = 4500 N m^{-1}

Ans: C

$E = VIt$

$V = E/It = E/((Q/I)t) = E/Q$

3.

The luminosity L of a star is given by

$$L = 4\pi r^2 \sigma T^4$$

where

r is the radius of the star,

T is the temperature of the star and

σ is a constant with units $\text{W m}^{-2} \text{K}^{-4}$.

What are the SI base units of L ?

- A $\text{kg m}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$
- B $\text{kg m}^2 \text{s}^{-2}$
- C $\text{kg m}^2 \text{s}^{-3}$
- D $\text{kg m}^2 \text{s}^{-4}$

Ans: C

$$W = \frac{J}{s} = \frac{kg \cdot m^2}{s^2 \cdot s} = kg \cdot m^2 \cdot s^{-3}$$

4.

A man of mass 75.2 kg uses a set of weighing scales to measure his mass three times. He obtains the following readings.

| | mass / kg |
|-----------|-----------|
| reading 1 | 80.2 |
| reading 2 | 80.1 |
| reading 3 | 80.2 |

Which statement describes the precision and accuracy of the weighing scales?

- A not precise to ± 0.1 kg and accurate to ± 0.1 kg
- B not precise to ± 0.1 kg and not accurate to ± 0.1 kg
- C precise to ± 0.1 kg and accurate to ± 0.1 kg
- D precise to ± 0.1 kg and not accurate to ± 0.1 kg

Ans: D

- Precise to = all of them measures up to 1 dp.
- Accurate = all values would've been the same (80.2); since one value is different, it is not accurate.

5.

A digital meter has an accuracy of $\pm 1\%$.

The meter is used to measure the current in an electrical circuit.

The reading on the meter varies between 3.04 A and 3.08 A.

What is the value of the current, with its uncertainty?

- A (3.06 ± 0.02) A
- B (3.06 ± 0.04) A
- C (3.06 ± 0.05) A
- D (3.06 ± 0.07) A

Ans: C

$$I_{\text{avg}} = \frac{3.04 + 3.08}{2} = 3.06$$

From meter:

$$\frac{1}{100} \times 3.06 = \pm 0.0306 \\ = \pm 0.03 \text{ A}$$

From experimental:

$$\frac{3.08 - 3.04}{2} = \pm 0.02 \text{ A}$$

Combine both uncertainties:

$$0.03 + 0.02 \\ = 0.05$$

$$\therefore (3.06 \pm 0.05) \text{ A}$$

6.

Which term represents a physical quantity?

- A metre
- B percentage uncertainty
- C quark flavour
- D spring constant

Ans: D

Spring constant has a value, as well as a unit (N m^{-1})

NOTE: Physical quantity = something that has a value AND a unit.

7.

A value for the acceleration of free fall on Earth is given as $(10 \pm 2) \text{ m s}^{-2}$.

Which statement is correct?

- A The value is accurate but not precise.
- B The value is both precise and accurate.
- C The value is neither precise nor accurate.
- D The value is precise but not accurate.

Ans: A

- Accurate and precise value = 9.81
- 10 is close to 9.81, thus it is accurate.
- However 10 is not precise to 2 dp.

8.

A hollow cylinder, which is open at both ends, has a radius of (3.0 ± 0.1) cm and a length of (15.0 ± 0.1) cm.

What is the value, with its absolute uncertainty, of the surface area of the cylinder?

- A (280 ± 10) cm²
- B (282.7 ± 0.2) cm²
- C (420 ± 30) cm²
- D (424.1 ± 0.3) cm²

Ans: A

$$SA = 2\pi rh$$

$$\% \text{ uncertainty in } r = \frac{0.1}{3} \times 100 = \frac{10}{3}$$

$$\% \text{ uncertainty in } h = \frac{0.1}{15} \times 100 = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\text{total \% uncertainty} = 4\%$$

$$SA = 2\pi \times 3 \times 15 \\ = 282.7 = 280$$

absolute uncertainty =

$$\frac{4}{100} \times 282.7 = 11.3$$

$$\downarrow \quad \quad \quad \text{given to} \\ 280 \pm 10 \quad \quad \quad 1 \text{ s.f.} = 10$$

9.

What is the best estimate of the number of atoms in a piece of metal of volume 50 cm³?

- A 5×10^{15}
- B 5×10^{25}
- C 5×10^{29}
- D 5×10^{31}

Ans: B

- Diameter of atom = 10^{-10} m
- Volume of metal = $50 \times (10^{-2})^3 = 5 \times 10^{-5}$
- No of atoms = $(5 \times 10^{-5}) / (10^{-10})^3 = 5 \times 10^{25}$

REMEMBER

Surface area of cylinder = $2\pi rh + 2\pi r^2$

Volume of cylinder = $\pi r^2 h$

10.

What is a reasonable estimate of the volume of one page from this examination paper?

- A 60 mm³
- B 600 mm³
- C 6000 mm³
- D 60 000 mm³

Ans: C

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