



## GARISSA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION **2017/2018** ACADEMIC YEAR **ONE**  
**FIRST** SEMESTER EXAMINATION

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION, ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)

COURSE CODE: PHY 112

COURSE TITLE: MECHANICS 1

EXAMINATION DURATION: 3 HOURS

**DATE: 07/12/17**

**TIME: 2.00-5.00 PM**

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### INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES

- The examination has **SIX (6)** questions
- Question **ONE (1)** is **COMPULSORY**
- Choose any other **THREE (3)** questions from the remaining **FIVE (5)** questions
- Use sketch diagrams to illustrate your answer whenever necessary
- Do not carry mobile phones or any other written materials in examination room
- Do not write on this paper

This paper consists of **FIVE (5)** printed pages

*please turn over*



**QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY)**

- (a) i) Define the term ‘system of units’ [1 mark]  
 ii) State two importance of dimensional analysis [2 marks]
- (b) The energy  $E$  of a body due to its motion is found to depend on the weight  $W$  of the body, speed  $U$  with which the body is moving and the acceleration due to gravity  $g$ . Use dimensional analysis to find the form of this relationship. [4 marks]
- (c) Briefly describe the two types of errors encountered in measurement [2 marks]
- (d) Clearly define instantaneous velocity and instantaneous acceleration [2 marks]
- (e) A particle undergoes a displacement given by  $S = (2i+3j+4k)$  m, when acted upon by a force  $F = (5i+6j-7k)$  N.  
 i. Find the work done by the force [2 marks]  
 ii. Determine angle does the force make with the displacement [2 marks]
- (f) Differentiate contact and non-contact forces [2 marks]
- (g) A box of weight  $mg$  is dragged with force  $F$  at an angle  $\theta$  above the horizontal. Find:  
 i. The force exerted by the floor on the box. [2 marks]  
 ii. The acceleration of the box if the coefficient of friction with the floor is  $\mu$  [3 marks]
- (h) Two masses of 0.5 and 0.25Kg are connected by a light inextensible string, which passes over a smooth pulley. If the system is released from rest with the string taut, find the acceleration of each mass. [3 marks]

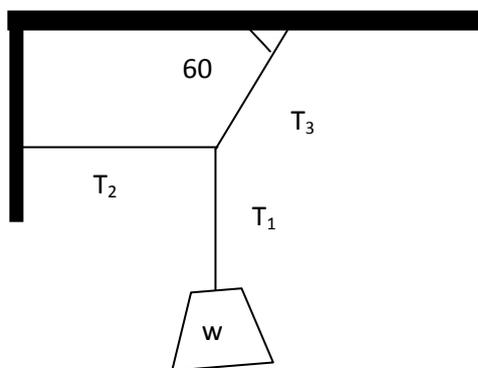
**QUESTION TWO**

- (a) Define the terms angular velocity and centripetal acceleration [2 marks]
- (b) A block of 2 g when released on an inclined plane describes a circle of radius 12 cm in the vertical plane on reaching the bottom. Find the minimum height of the incline [2 marks]
- (c) A conical pendulum consists of a small massive bob of mass  $M$  hung from a string of length  $L$  and rotating steadily in a horizontal circle of radius  $R$ , the bob is displaced at angle  $\theta$ . With the help of diagram  
 i. Indicate all the forces acting on the bob [2 marks]  
 ii. Show that its period of oscillation is given by  $T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{L \cos \theta}{g}}$  [5 marks]
- (d) The orbit of an electron in the hydrogen atom may be considered to be a circle of radius  $5 \times 10^{-11}$  M, and the period of motion is  $1.5 \times 10^{-6}$  s. Calculate  
 i. The angular speed of the electron [2 marks]  
 ii. The centripetal acceleration [2 marks]



**QUESTION THREE**

- (a) State the law of conservation of energy **[1 mark]**
- (b) A uniform ladder 10m long weighing 295N rests against a smooth vertical wall with its base on a rough floor, and 4M from the wall. If the coefficient of friction between the ladder and the floor is 0.166, how far along the ladder will a 70Kg man climb before the ladder slips from under him? **[3 marks]**
- (c) Clearly distinguish between coplanar forces and concurrent forces **[2 marks]**
- (d) A block of weight  $W$  hangs from a cord, which is attached at point  $O$  to two other cords, one fastened to the ceiling and the other to the wall. Find the tensions in this three cords (assume the weights of the cords to be negligible) **[5 marks]**



- (e) i) state the Newton's law of universal gravitation **[1 mark]**
- ii) state the three Kepler's laws of planetary motion **[3 marks]**

**QUESTION FOUR**

- (a) i) state the law of conservation of linear momentum **[2 marks]**
- ii) Differentiate between elastic and inelastic collisions **[2 marks]**
- (b) A particle of mass  $m$  with initial velocity  $u$  makes an elastic collision with a particle of mass  $M$  initially at rest. After the collision the particles have equal and opposite velocities. Find
  - i. the ratio  $M/m$ ; **[2 marks]**
  - ii. The velocity of centre of mass; **[2 marks]**
- (c) Clearly distinguish between conservative and non- conservative forces and give one example of each of the forces. **[3 marks]**
- (d) Show that in case of a conservative force the work done round a closed path is zero **[4 marks]**

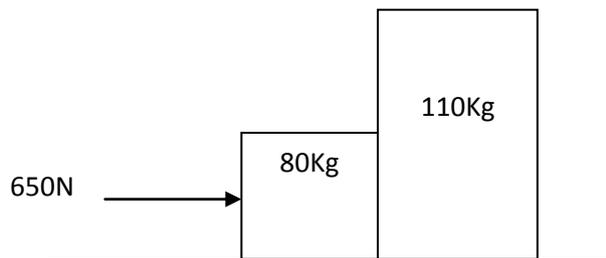


**QUESTION FIVE**

(a) i) state the work-energy theorem **[1 mark]**

(ii) State the three Newton’s laws of motion **[3 marks]**

- (b) Two boxes of mass 80Kg and 110Kg are in contact and at rest on a horizontal
- i. Surface as shown. A 650N push is exerted on the 80Kg box in the direction
  - ii. Shown. If the coefficient of friction is 0.2 calculate



iii. The acceleration of the system **[3 marks]**

iv. The force each box exerts on the other **[2 marks]**

(c) Show that  $X = X_o + V_o t + \frac{1}{2}at^2$  Where the symbols used have their usual meaning **[3 marks]**

(d) Consider a liquid of density  $\rho$  flowing through a tube of cross-sectional area  $A_1$  at speed  $V_1$  to another narrow tube of cross-sectional area  $A_2$  at speed  $V_2$ . With the aid of diagram derive the equation of continuity **[3 marks]**

**QUESTION SIX**

(a) Define the term “projectile motion” **[1 mark]**

(b) If a projectile at a point O on the ground is projected with a velocity  $u$  at an angle  $\alpha$  to the horizontal motion separately, show that.

i. Time taken to reach maximum height is given by

$$t = \frac{u \sin \alpha}{g} \quad \text{[4 marks]}$$

ii. Total time of flight is given by

$$t = \frac{2u \sin \alpha}{g} \quad \text{[3 marks]}$$



iii. Maximum horizontal range is given by

$$R = \frac{u^2}{g}$$

[3 marks]

(c) Define

i. viscosity

[1 mark]

ii. With the aid of a diagram, derive the expression of viscosity

$$\eta = \frac{2gR^2(\rho - \sigma)}{9v}$$

[3 marks]

