

Free Fall (p. 72 - 75)

I. Free Fall

1. Define the term free fall.

Free Fall - motion of a body when air resistance is negligible and the action can be considered due to gravity alone.

II. Acceleration Due To Gravity

1. Who studied the motion of falling objects about 400 years ago?

Galileo Galilei

Leaning Tower of Pisa

2. All objects in free fall have the same acceleration.

Circle One : True False

DEMO

3. The average rate of free fall on Earth is :

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$g = 9.8 \text{ meters/sec.}^2$

Small variations on Earth.

4. Define the term acceleration due to gravity.

Acceleration Due To Gravity - acceleration of an object in free fall that results from the influence of Earth's gravity

5. As an object free falls, the velocity remains constant.

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Circle One : True False

Falling downward = ↑ velocity

6. Before performing a free fall calculation, why must a positive or negative coordinate system be identified?

To keep all signs constant
(I will use up as positive)

7. Which form of g is used when an object is accelerating? (Don't confuse with direction.)

Downward acceleration is equal to upward direction!

Downward : $a = -9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$

Upward : $a = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$

↓
I use opposite!

8. As an object is thrust into the air, the velocity ~~increases~~ ^{decreases}.

Circle One : True False

9. An object thrown into the air has zero velocity when it reaches its highest point.

Circle One : True False

10. What is the acceleration of an object at the top its flight?

9.8 m/s² (Must go somewhere!)

11. What are three components of many amusement park rides (roller coasters)?

1. The ride to the top.
2. Momentary suspension
3. The plunge downward.

12. Circle the letter of the type of rider that would fall with greatest acceleration?

- a. A small rider
- b. A large rider
- c. Mr. Reuter
- d. All objects fall with the same rate of acceleration.

13. Which equation would be used to determine each of the following for free falling objects?

Velocity at a given time

$$v_f = v_i + \bar{a} t_f$$

\bar{a} = acceleration due to gravity
(-9.8 m/s²)

Time given a certain velocity

$$t_f = \frac{v_f - v_i}{\bar{a}}$$

Distance given velocity & time

$$d_f = d_i + v_i t_f + \frac{1}{2} \bar{a} t_f^2$$

Velocity given distance

$$v_f^2 = v_i^2 + 2\bar{a}(d_f - d_i)$$

Weightlessness in space!