Learning Centre

Work, Energy & Power

FORMULAS

W = Fd

 $P = \frac{W}{t} = \frac{Fd}{t} = F\overline{v}$ PE = mgh

KE = ½mv²

1 hp = 746 watts

CONSERVATION OF MECHANICAL ENERGY

In the absence of friction, air resistance or other dissipative forces, the total mechanical energy (PE + KE) of a system remains constant.

 $PE_i + KE_i = PE_f + KE_f$

WORK-ENERGY PRINCIPLE

The net work done on a body is equal to the change in KE or PE of the body.

Work =
$$\Delta KE = \frac{1}{2}m(v_f^2 - v_i^2)$$

Work = $\Delta PE = mg(h_f - h_i)$

KILOWATT-HOURS

If the power output of a machine is measured in kilowatts, and its time of operation is in hours, the product of power and time would give the work in kilowatt-hours (kWh).

Example 1: How much gravitational potential energy is stored in a 12-kg ball that has been lifted 1.5 m?

Solution: PE = mgh = (12 kg)(10 m/s)(1.5 m) = 180 J

Example 2: Find the kinetic energy of a 5-kg object moving with a speed of 4 %.

Solution: $KE = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 = \frac{1}{2}(5 \text{ kg})(4 \text{ m/s}^2)^2 = 40 \text{ J}$

EXERCISES

A. What conditions must be met in order for work to be done?

- B. Using a force of 85 N, you push a trunk 7.5 m across the floor. How much work do you do?
- C. If you do 1450 J of work in carrying a load of books up a flight of stairs, covering a vertical distance of 15 m, what is the mass of the books?
- D. What is the mass of a baseball that has 120 J of kinetic energy when it is going 25 $^{m}\!\!/_{s}?$





- E. How much power is needed to pump 50.5 kg of water up a vertical distance of 12.5 m in 11.5 s?
- F. In how many seconds must an 85-kg man climb 6.0 m to his third floor apartment in order to expend power at a rate of 1 hp?
- G. How much work is required to accelerate a 1500-kg automobile from 10.0 $^{m}\!\!/_{s}$ to 20.0 $^{m}\!\!/_{s}?$
- H. A stone having a mass of 5.0 kg is dropped from a height of 200 m. Calculate the PE and the KE of the stone:

1) at t = 0 2)at t = 5.0 s 3) when the stone strikes the ground

- I. A pendulum is pulled to one side and released from a point 12.5 cm above is equilibrium position. Find the speed of the bob as it passes through the equilibrium position.
- J. A plane airdrops a 91.5-kg anvil from a height of 0.535 km without a parachute. When it lands, it sinks into soft ground a distance of 2.75 m. What was the average retarding force of the ground? [*Hint: How fast was the anvil going when it collided with the ground*?]
- K. A frictionless roller coaster starts from rest atop a 45-m hill (point A).

1) Determine the velocity of the roller coaster at the bottom of this hill (point B).

2) After passing through point B, the roller coaster climbs a second hill. At what height above point B will its speed be halved?



L. A student throws a 0.25-kg rock from the top of a 25-m building with a speed of 15.5 m /s. Find:

1) its kinetic energy when it lands

2) its speed when it lands

- M. Convert the following:
 - 1) 10.0 hp = _____ kW 2) 37.3 kW = _____ hp
- N. At 5¢ per kWh, what does it cost to operate a 100-watt light bulb for 8 hours?

SOLUTIONS

- A. Work is done when a force acts on a body and the body moves some distance.
- B. 640 J C. 9.7 kg D. 0.38 kg E. 549 W F. 6.8 s G. 2.25 × 10⁵ J
- H. (1) PE = 1.0×10^4 J, KE = 0 J (2) PE = 3.8×10^3 J, KE = 6.3×10^3 J (3) PE = 0 J, KE = 1.0×10^4 J
- I. 1.6 $^{m}\!\!\!/_{s}$ J. 1.74 × 10⁵ N K. (1) 30 $^{m}\!\!\!/_{s}$ (2) 34 m L. (1) 93 J (2) 27 $^{m}\!\!\!/_{s}$
- M. (1) 7.46 kW (2) 50.0 hp N. 4¢

