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# AFRICA NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

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**CENTRE:** RONGAI  
**DEPARTMENT:** COMPUTER SCIENCE  
**UNIT TITLE:** PRINCIPLES OF PHYSICS  
**UNIT CODE:** PHY 101  
**LECTURER:** DR. G. KIHARA  
**TRIMESTER:** 3<sup>RD</sup> TRIMESTER 2012/2013  
**DATE:** 5<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2013  
**TIME:** 9.00AM – 12 NOON

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**Instructions:**

1. The paper consists of **FOUR** questions.
2. Attempt **ALL** questions in this paper.
3. You may find the following useful:  
Acceleration due to gravity :  $g = 10 \text{ N/kg}$   
Specific heat capacity of water:  $C = 4200 \text{ J/kg}^\circ\text{C}$
4. Write all your answers in the answer booklet provided.
5. Time allowed: Three hours

### Question One

- (a). Explain why you can hold your fingers beside the candle flame without harm but not above the flame. (2 marks)
- (b). What are the temperatures for freezing and boiling water on the Celsius and Fahrenheit scales? (2 marks)
- (c). Explain why water is the preferred liquid in cooling automobile engines. (2 marks)
- (d). State Kirchoff's rules of circuit analysis. (2 marks)
- (e). Three resistors  $3\ \Omega$ ,  $4\ \Omega$  and  $5\ \Omega$  are connected in parallel in a d.c circuit. Calculate the value of a single resistor that can replace the three. (2 marks)
- (f). How do you connect an Ammeter and a Voltmeter in an electrical circuit. Give a reason in each case. (2 marks)
- (g). State Newton's third law of motion and write down two scenarios where it is observed to play a role. (3 marks)
- (h). Describe the torsion balance experiment performed by Charles Coulomb. Include a diagram. What is the significance of this experiment? (5 marks)

### Question Two

- (a). Convert the following units as required in each case:
  - (i).  $40\ \text{nm}$  to  $\mu\text{m}$
  - (ii).  $1500\ \text{kg}$  to  $\text{mg}$ . (Write your answers in standard form in each case) (2 marks)
- (b). Write down the following quantities in terms of length, mass and time:
  - (i). Force (2 marks)
  - (ii). Density (2 marks)
- (c). A bulb has a resistance of  $15\ \Omega$  and is connected across a  $240\ \text{V}$  source. Calculate the amount of current drawn by the bulb. Determine also the power of this bulb. (2 marks)
- (d). Where would your weight be greater- on the earth or on the moon? How about your mass? Explain in each case. (2 marks)
- (e). Cite two examples of a vector quantity and two of a scalar quantity. (2 marks)
- (f). When can a  $2000\ \text{kg}$  car and a  $3000\ \text{kg}$  truck have the same momentum? (2 marks)
- (g). What is the evidence for saying whether or not work is done on an object? (2 marks)

- (h). Water is heated in a pot from an initial temperature of  $25^{\circ}\text{C}$  to a final temperature of  $85^{\circ}\text{C}$ . If  $2.55 \times 10^6$  joules of heat were used, calculate the amount of water in the pot. **(3 marks)**
- (i). Describe the energy transformations in the following cases:
- (i). Hammering a nail.
  - (ii). Lighting a bulb using a battery.
  - (iii). Energy from the sun, contained in petrol which moves a car. **(3 marks)**

### Question Three

- (a). What is the reactance of a  $5.2 \mu\text{F}$  capacitor at a frequency of  $60 \text{ Hz}$ ? **(2 marks)**
- (b). Draw the electric field distribution surrounding two positive electric charges of equal magnitude a distance  $d$  apart. **(2 marks)**
- (c). What do you understand by the following terms:
- (i). Electric dipole.
  - (ii). Electrostatic equilibrium **(2 marks)**
- (d). Explain the process by which objects becomes negatively and positively charged. **(2 marks)**
- (e). What is a Capacitor? List down any two uses of a capacitor. **(2 marks)**
- (f). What information do we obtain from the distribution of the electric field lines. **(2 marks)**
- (g). If a water wave oscillates up and down four times each second and the distance between wave crests is 6 meters:
- (i). What is its wavelength?
  - (ii). What is its wave speed. **(2 marks)**
- (h). Differentiate between a *transverse wave* and a *longitudinal wave*. Give an example in each case **(2 marks)**
- (i). When the current in a battery is  $0.35\text{A}$ , the electric potential difference across the terminals of the battery is  $1.425\text{V}$ , and the joule-heating rate in the battery is  $0.026\text{W}$ . What are the internal resistance and the e.m.f of the battery? Calculate also the rate at which chemical energy stored in the cell is decreasing **(4 marks)**

### Question Four

- (a). Calculate the length of a wire 3.4mm in diameter and resistivity  $8.0 \times 10^{-6} \Omega m$  that would have a resistance of  $5.85 \Omega$ . (2 marks)
- (b). Derive an expression for the combined resistance R, of three resistors  $R_1, R_2, R_3$  placed in parallel. (2 marks)
- (c). Give an example of a charge distribution around a point P for which:
- (i). The electric potential is zero at P but the electric field is non-zero.
- (ii). The electric field is zero at P but the electric potential is non-zero. (2 marks)
- (d). How much power is expended when lifting a 3000 N load through a vertical distance of 8 meters in a time of 5 seconds? (2 marks)
- (e). State Newton's second law of motion and hence show that:  $F = ma$  where  $F$  is the force,  $m$  is the mass and  $a$  acceleration. (3 marks)
- (f). List down four differences between charging by contact and charging by induction. (4 marks)
- (g). A  $8 \Omega$  resistor and a  $7 \Omega$  resistor are connected in parallel and the combination is connected across a 24 V D.C line.
- (i). What is the resistance of the parallel combination?
- (ii). What is the total current through the parallel combination?
- (iii). What is the current through each resistor? (5 marks)