

# PHYSICS PAST PAPERS

## PHYSICS PAPER 1 1995

1. Name the instrument that would be most suitable for measuring the thickest of one sheet of this question paper. (1 mk)

Figure 1 shows a worker ready to lift a load wheelbarrow



Fig. 1

Use the figure to answer questions 2 and 3

2. Indicate and label on the diagram three forces acting on the wheelbarrow when the person is just about to lift the handlebars (2 mks)
3. Suppose the handle bars of the wheelbarrow in question 2 were extended, which force(s) would change and how? (2 mks)

Figure 2 shows a liquid being siphoned from one beaker to another. Refer to this diagram when answering questions 4, 5 and 6

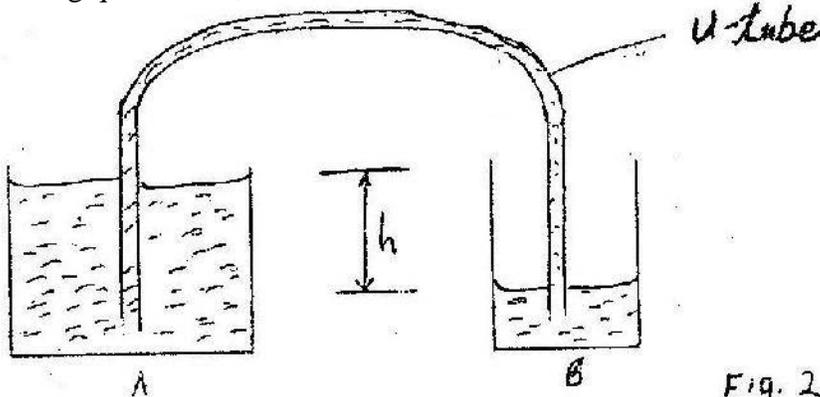
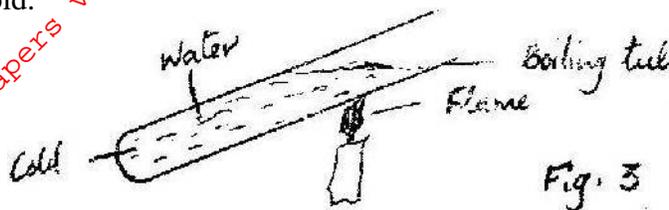


Fig. 2

4. Indicate on the diagram the direction of flow of the liquid (1 mk)
5. Show that the force driving the liquid through the U – tube is proportional to the height,  $h$  (3 mks)
6. State what would happen to the flow if the system in figure 2 were put in vacuum (1 mk)
7. State the assumption made when calculating the size of a molecule in the thin oil film experiment (1mk)

8. One property of a liquid that is considered while construction a liquid – in – glass thermometer is that the liquid expands more than the glass for the same temperature change. State any other two properties of the liquids that are considered ( 2 mks)
9. What property of light is suggested by the formation of shadows? ( 1 mk)
10. In the set up shown in figure 3, water near the top of the boiling tube boils while at the bottom it remains cold.

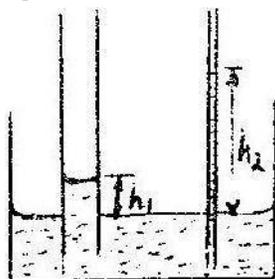


Give a reason for the observation (1mk)

11. You are provided with a charged electroscope, an insulator and a conductor. Describe how you would use these apparatus to distinguish in the insulator from the conductor ( 2 mks)

12. State two advantages of an alkaline battery over a lead acid battery ( 2 mks)

13. The diagram in figure 4 shows two glass tubes of different diameters dipped in water



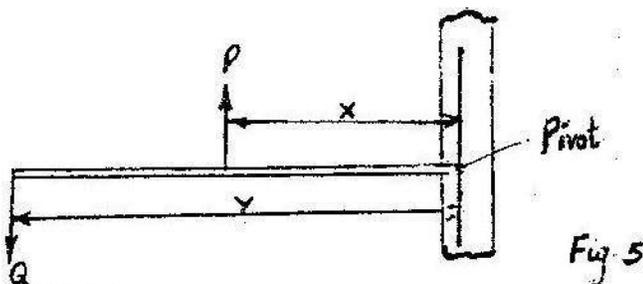
Explain why  $h_2$  is greater than  $h_1$  ( 3 mks)

14. The force on a conductor carrying a current in a magnetic field can be varied by changing, among others, the magnitude of the current and the magnetic field strength. Name two other factors that can be changed to vary the force.

( 2 mks)

15. Give a reason why attraction in magnesium is not regarded as a reliable method of testing for polarity. ( 1 mk)

16. State two ways by which the frequency of a note produced by a given guitar wire may be increased
17. The diagram in figure 5 shows a beam negligible weight balanced by constant forces P and Q.

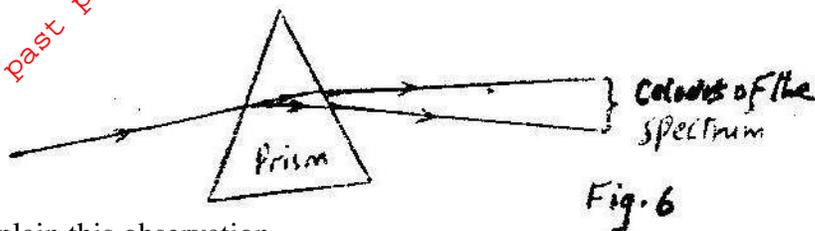


Derive the relationship between  $x$  and  $y$  ( 2 mks)

18. Light travels through glass of refractive index 1.5 with a speed  $v$ . Calculate the value of  $v$  ( speed of light in air =  $3.0 \times 10^8$  m/s) ( 3 mks)

19. In an experiment using a ripple tank the frequency,  $f$ , of the electric pulse generator was reduced to one third of its value. How does the new wavelength compare with the initial wavelength? Explain your answer. ( 3 mks)

20. A ray of light incident on the surface of a glass prism is observed to behave as represented in the diagram in figure 6

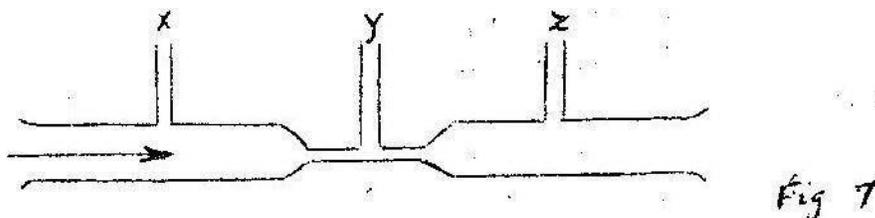


Explain this observation ( 3 mks)

21. State Newton's first law of motion ( 1mk)

22. Distinguish between heat capacity and specific heat capacity of a body ( 1 mk)

23. Figure 7 represents a tube through which a liquid is flowing in the flowing in the diagram shown by the arrow



Show on the diagram the relative positions of the levels of the liquid in section marked  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$

24. Figure 8 represents two parallel plates of a capacitor separated by a distance  $d$ . Each plate has an area of  $A$  square units

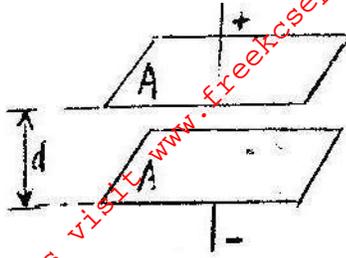


Fig. 8

Suggest two adjustments that can be made so as to reduce the effective capacitance

25. Name the property of light that shows that it is a transverse wave

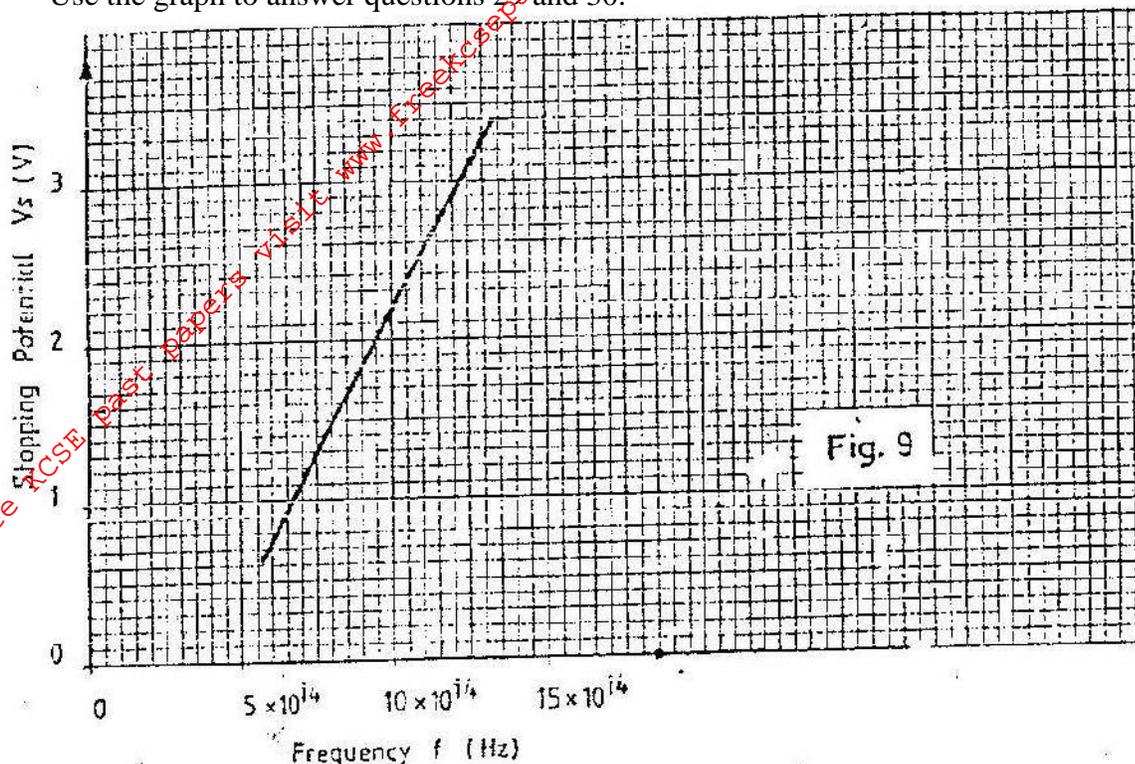
26. The table below shows the type of radiation, detection methods and uses of electromagnetic radiations. Complete the table.

Type of radiation	Detector	Uses
Ultra violet	Photographic paper fluorescence material	-----
-----	Phototransistor blackened thermometer	Warmth sensation
Radio waves	-----	Communication

27. An electron in an excited atom falls from energy levels  $E_2$  to energy level  $E_1$ . Write an equation relating the energy change to the frequency  $f$ , of the radiation emitted. Explain why new symbols used. (2 mks)

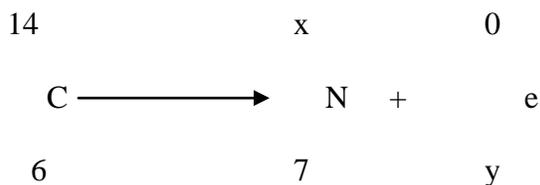
28. Name the metal used to shields X – rays operators from the radiation. Give a reason why it is used. (2 mks)

In an experiment on photo-electricity using metal X, the graph shown in figure 9 was obtained. Use the graph to answer questions 29 and 30.



29. Determine the minimum frequency  $f_0$  below which no photoelectric emission occurs (2 mks)
30. Sketch on the same axes, a graph for a metal, Y whose work function is higher than metal X (1mk)
31. State a characteristic of sound, which is determined by overtone (1 mk)

32. A radioactive carbon 14 decay to Nitrogen by beta emission as below



Determine the values of x and y in the equation (2 mks)

33. What is meant by the centre of gravity of a body? (1mk)
34. State two variables that must be controlled in an experiment for comparing the thermal conductivities of different metal rods of the same diameter (2 mks)
35. Figure 10 represent a signal being fed into a demodulator of a radio receiver. Sketch in the space provided, the output signal (1 mk)

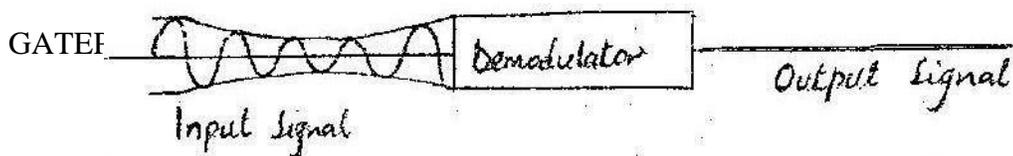


Fig. 10

36. Explain with the aid of a labeled ray diagram the wide field of view of a convex mirror  
( 2 mks)

For More Free KCSE past papers visit [www.freekcsepastpapers.com](http://www.freekcsepastpapers.com)