

JEE-MAIN EXAMINATION – JANUARY 2026

(HELD ON WEDNESDAY 21st JANUARY 2026)

TIME : 3:00 PM TO 6:00 PM

PHYSICS

TEST PAPER WITH SOLUTION

SECTION-A

26. Consider two identical metallic spheres of radius R each having charge Q and mass m . Their centers have an initial separation of $4R$. Both the spheres are given an initial speed of u towards each other. The minimum value of u , so that they can just touch each other is :

(Take $k = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}$ and assume $kQ^2 > Gm^2$ where G

is the Gravitational constant)

(1) $\sqrt{\frac{kQ^2}{4mR} \left(1 - \frac{Gm^2}{kQ^2}\right)}$ (2) $\sqrt{\frac{kQ^2}{4mR} \left(1 + \frac{Gm^2}{kQ^2}\right)}$
 (3) $\sqrt{\frac{kQ^2}{2mR} \left(1 - \frac{Gm^2}{kQ^2}\right)}$ (4) $\sqrt{\frac{kQ^2}{2mR} \left(1 - \frac{Gm^2}{2kQ^2}\right)}$

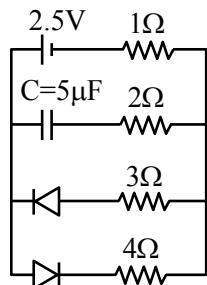
Ans. (1)

Sol. Using energy conservation

$$(2) \left(\frac{1}{2}mu^2 \right) - \frac{Gm^2}{4r} + \frac{KQ^2}{4r} = - \frac{Gm^2}{2r} + \frac{KQ^2}{2r}$$

$$u = \sqrt{\frac{1}{4mr} (KQ^2 - Gm^2)}$$

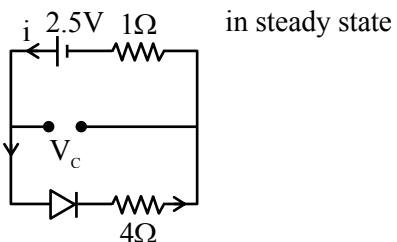
27. The charge stored by the capacitor C in the given circuit in the steady state is μC .



(1) 12.5 (2) 10
 (3) 7.5 (4) 5

Ans. (2)

Sol.



$$i = 2.5/5 = 0.5 \text{ A}$$

$$V_c = 4 \times 0.5$$

$$V_c = 2 \text{ V}$$

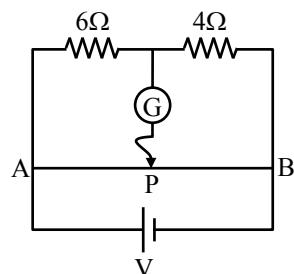
charge

$$Q = CV_c$$

$$= 5 \times 2$$

$$= 10 \mu \text{C}$$

28. The total length of potentiometer wire AB is 50 cm in the arrangement as shown in figure. If P is the point where the galvanometer shows zero reading then the length AP is cm.



(1) 15

(2) 30

(3) 25

(4) 20

Ans. (2)

$$\text{Sol. } \frac{6}{R_{AP}} = \frac{4}{R_{PB}} ;$$

$$\ell_{AP} + \ell_{PB} = 50 \quad \dots \dots (i)$$

$$\frac{R_{AP}}{R_{PB}} = \frac{\ell_{AP}}{\ell_{PB}} = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\ell_{AP} = \frac{3}{5} \times 50 = 30 \text{ cm}$$



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37. A spherical body of radius r and density σ falls freely through a viscous liquid having density ρ and viscosity η and attains a terminal velocity v_0 . Estimated maximum error in the quantity η is : (Ignore errors associated with σ , ρ and g , gravitational acceleration)

$$(1) 2 \frac{\Delta r}{r} - \frac{\Delta v_0}{v_0}$$

$$(2) \frac{2\Delta r}{r} + \frac{\Delta v_0}{v_0}$$

$$(3) 2 \left[\frac{\Delta r}{r} + \frac{\Delta v_0}{v_0} \right]$$

$$(4) 2 \left[\frac{\Delta r}{r} - \frac{\Delta v_0}{v_0} \right]$$

Ans. (2)

$$\text{Sol. } v_0 = \frac{2 r^2 g}{9 \eta} (\rho_B - \rho_L)$$

$$\eta = \frac{2 r^2 g}{9 v_0} (\rho_B - \rho_L)$$

$$\frac{\Delta \eta}{\eta} = \frac{2 \Delta r}{r} + \frac{\Delta v_0}{v_0}$$

38. Surface tension of two liquids (having same densities), T_1 and T_2 , are measured using capillary rise method utilizing two tubes with inner radii of r_1 and r_2 where $r_1 > r_2$. The measured liquid heights in these tubes are h_1 and h_2 respectively. [Ignore the weight of the liquid about the lowest point of miniscus]. The heights h_1 and h_2 and surface tensions T_1 and T_2 satisfy the relation :

$$(1) h_1 < h_2 \text{ and } T_1 = T_2$$

$$(2) h_1 = h_2 \text{ and } T_1 = T_2$$

$$(3) h_1 > h_2 \text{ and } T_1 = T_2$$

$$(4) h_1 > h_2 \text{ and } T_1 < T_2$$

Ans. (1)

$$\text{Sol. } h = \frac{2T}{\rho g r}$$

$$h \propto \frac{1}{r}$$

$$\text{If } r_1 > r_2 \Rightarrow h_2 > h_1$$

39. A river of width 200 m is flowing from west to east with a speed of 18 km/h. A boat, moving with speed of 36 km/h in still water, is made to travel one-round trip (bank to bank of the river). Minimum time taken by the boat for this journey and also the displacement along the river bank are _____ and _____ respectively.

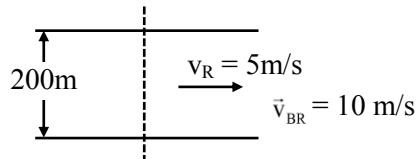
$$(1) 20 \text{ s and } 100 \text{ m}$$

$$(2) 40 \text{ s and } 0 \text{ m}$$

$$(3) 40 \text{ s and } 200 \text{ m}$$

$$(4) 40 \text{ s and } 100 \text{ m}$$

Ans. (3)



Sol.

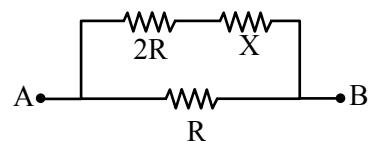
Minimum time :

$$t_{\min} = \frac{200}{10} = 20 \text{ sec}$$

For round trip = 40 sec.

Displacement along river bank = $40 \times 5 = 200 \text{ m}$

40. Two known resistance of $R \Omega$ and $2R \Omega$ and one unknown resistance $X \Omega$ are connected in a circuit as shown in the figure. If the equivalent resistance between points A and B in the circuit is $X \Omega$, then the value of X is _____ Ω .



$$(1) (\sqrt{3} - 1)R$$

$$(2) R$$

$$(3) 2(\sqrt{3} - 1)R$$

$$(4) (\sqrt{3} + 1)R$$

Ans. (1)

$$\text{Sol. } \frac{(2R + x)(R)}{3R + x} = x$$

$$x^2 + 2Rx - 2R^2 = 0$$

$$x = (\sqrt{3} - 1)R$$



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44. A body of mass 2 kg is moving along x-direction such that its displacement as function of time is given by $x(t) = \alpha t^2 + \beta t + \gamma m$, where $\alpha = 1 \text{ m/s}^2$, $\beta = 1 \text{ m/s}$ and $\gamma = 1 \text{ m}$. The work done on the body during the time interval $t = 2 \text{ s}$ to $t = 3 \text{ s}$, is _____ J.

(1) 49 (2) 42
(3) 24 (4) 12

Ans. (3)

Sol. $x(t) = t^2 + t + 1$

$v(t) = 2t + 1$

$a(t) = 2$

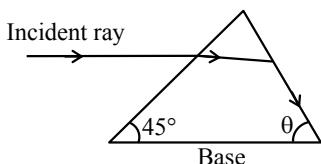
$F = 4 \text{ N}$

Displacement = $x(3) - x(2)$

= $13 - 7 = 6 \text{ m}$

$W = F.S = 4 \times 6 = 24 \text{ J}$

45. As shown in the diagram, when the incident ray is parallel to base of the prism, the emergent ray grazes along the second surface.

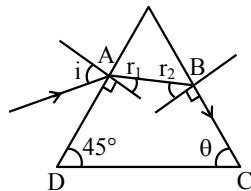


If refractive index of the material of prism is $\sqrt{2}$, the angle θ of prism is.

(1) 60° (2) 75°
(3) 90° (4) 45°

Ans. (1)

Sol.



For grazing emergence

$$\sin r_2 = \frac{1}{\mu}$$

By Snell's Law at incident surface

$$1 \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{2} \sin r_1$$

$$r_1 = 30$$

$$r_1 + r_2 = A$$

$$A = 75$$

$$75 + 45 + \theta = 180^\circ$$

$$\theta = 60^\circ$$

SECTION-B

46. An electromagnetic wave of frequency 100 MHz propagates through a medium of conductivity, $\sigma = 10 \text{ mho/m}$. The ratio of maximum conducting current density to maximum displacement current density is _____.

$$\left[\text{Take } \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} = 9 \times 10^9 \text{ Nm}^2 / \text{C}^2 \right]$$

Ans. (1800)

Sol. A

$$j_c = \sigma E$$

$$E \Rightarrow E_0 \sin(\omega t - kx)$$

$$j_c = \sigma E_0 \sin(\omega t - kx)$$

$$\Rightarrow (j_c)_{\max} = \sigma E_0 \quad \dots \text{(i)}$$

$$J_d \Rightarrow \frac{i_d}{A} = \frac{1}{A} \times \epsilon_0 \frac{AdE}{dt}$$

$$\Rightarrow \epsilon_0 \times E_0 \omega \cos(\omega t - kx)$$

$$(j_d)_{\max} \Rightarrow \epsilon_0 E_0 \omega \quad \dots \text{(ii)}$$

(i)/(ii)

$$\frac{(j_c)_{\max}}{(j_d)_{\max}} = \frac{\sigma E_0}{\epsilon_0 \omega E_0} \Rightarrow \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0 \omega}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{10 \times 4\pi \times 9 \times 10^9}{2\pi \times 100 \times 10^6}$$

$$\Rightarrow 1800$$

47. The terminal velocity of a metallic ball of radius 6 mm in a viscous fluid is 20 cm/s. The terminal velocity of another ball of same material and having radius 3 mm in the same fluid will be _____ cm/s.

Ans. (5)

Sol. We know :

$$\text{Terminal velocity} \propto (\text{radius})^2$$

$$\frac{(v_T)_1}{(v_T)_2} = \left(\frac{6}{3} \right)^2$$

$$(v_T)_2 = \frac{(v_T)_1}{4} = 5 \text{ cm/sec}$$



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48. A particle having electric charge 3×10^{-19} C and mass 6×10^{-27} kg is accelerated by applying an electric potential of 1.21 V. Wavelength of the matter wave associated with the particle is $\alpha \times 10^{-12}$ m. The value of α is _____.
(Take Planck's constant = 6.6×10^{-34} J.s)

Ans. (10)

Sol. $\lambda = \frac{h}{\sqrt{2mqV}}$

$$\lambda = \frac{6.6 \times 10^{-34}}{\sqrt{2 \times 18 \times 10^{-46} \times 1.21}}$$

$$\lambda = 10^{-11} \text{ m} = 10 \times 10^{-12} \text{ m}$$

$$\alpha = 10$$

49. In a Young's double slit experiment set up, the two slits are kept 0.4 mm apart and screen is placed at 1 m from slits. If a thin transparent sheet of thickness 20 μm is introduced in front of one of the slits then centre bring fringe shifts by 20 mm on the screen. The refractive index of transparent sheet is given by $\frac{\alpha}{10}$, where α is _____.
 $\alpha = 10$

Ans. (14)

Sol. $y_{\text{shift}} = \frac{(\mu - 1)tD}{d}$

$$20 \times 10^{-3} = \frac{(\mu - 1) \times 20 \times 10^{-6} \times 1}{0.4 \times 10^{-3}}$$

$$(\mu - 1) \Rightarrow 0.4$$

$$\mu \Rightarrow 1.4$$

$$\frac{\alpha}{10} = 1.4, \alpha = 14$$

50. A diatomic gas ($\gamma = 1.4$) does 100 J of work when it is expanded isobarically. Then the heat given to the gas _____ J.

Ans. (350)

Sol. $w = 100 \text{ J} = nR\Delta T$ for isobaric process.

$$Q = nC_p \Delta T = \left(\frac{f}{2} + 1 \right) nR\Delta T$$

$$= \frac{7}{2} \cdot (100) = 350 \text{ Joule.}$$



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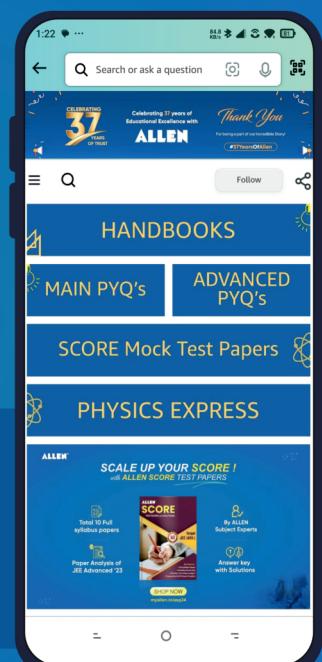
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