
Knowledge Test: Free Falling Bodies

Questions

1. What is free fall in the context of Earth's gravitational field, according to the conclusions discussed?

- A) Uniform motion along the lines of force of the gravitational field.
- B) Uniformly accelerated motion in which the only force is the force of gravity (ignoring air resistance).
- C) Motion in which the force of air resistance is greater than the force of gravity.
- D) Motion in which acceleration is proportional to body mass.

2. Why does a heavy stone fall faster in the air than a flat sheet of paper (when dropped side by side)?

- A) Earth's acceleration is greater for bodies with greater mass.
- B) The force of gravity acting on the stone is smaller, which minimises air resistance.
- C) The differences result from greater air resistance relative to weight for light and flat objects.
- D) The stone has a higher density, which causes a decrease in acceleration.

3. What is the main conclusion from the demonstration in which a piece of paper was dropped on a board and then fell with it?

- A) Gravity is the only force acting on a body falling through the air.
- B) Under conditions of minimal air resistance (or in a vacuum), all bodies fall with the same acceleration, regardless of their mass.
- C) The piece of paper and the board fall together only when their masses are equal.
- D) The board creates a vacuum as it falls, allowing the paper to fall faster.

str. 1

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4. Write down the formula that correctly describes the distance S travelled in time t by a body in free fall with zero initial velocity, if the acceleration due to gravity is g .

5. What is the main physical parameter measured directly by the EMPE lidar sensor in this experiment?

- A) Gravitational force.
- B) Earth's acceleration g .
- C) The instantaneous velocity of the body.
- D) The distance of the falling object from the sensor (as a function of time).

6. What shape does the graph of distance versus time ($s(t)$) have for a freely falling body (with zero initial velocity)?

- A) A straight, diagonal line passing through the origin of the coordinate system.
- B) A straight line parallel to the time axis.
- C) A parabola.
- D) A hyperbola.

7. On the graph of acceleration versus time for a freely falling body (after discarding momentary measurement errors) should appear...

- A) A straight line passing through zero and increasing linearly.
- B) A parabola.
- C) A straight line parallel to the time axis, at the level of g .
- D) A straight, diagonal line passing through the origin of the coordinate system.

str. 2

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8. Which of the following causes is NOT considered to be the source of the discrepancy between the determined and tabulated values of the acceleration due to gravity g in this experiment?

- A) Air resistance.
- B) Imperfect deceleration of the body (e.g. initial velocity).
- C) The independence of acceleration g from mass.
- D) Sensor delays (data recording frequency limit).

