Province of the
EASTERN CAPE
EDUCATION

NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE

GRADE 12

SEPTEMBER 2026

PHYSICAL SCIENCES P1

MARKS: 150

TIME: 3 hours

INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION

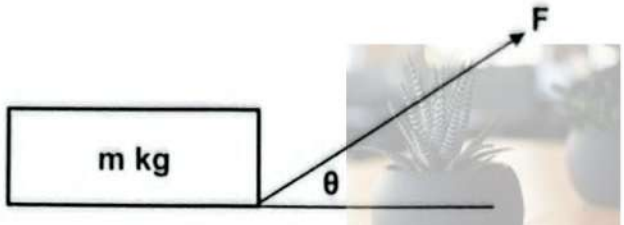
1. Write your full NAME and SURNAME in the appropriate spaces on the ANSWER BOOK.
2. This question paper consists of TEN questions. Answer ALL the questions.
3. Start EACH question on a NEW page.
4. Number the answers correctly according to the numbering system used in this question paper.
5. Leave ONE line between two sub questions, e.g. between QUESTION 2.1 and QUESTION 2.2.
6. You may use a non-programmable calculator.
7. You may use appropriate mathematical instrument.
8. Show ALL formulae and substitutions in ALL calculations.
9. Round off your final numerical answers to a minimum of TWO decimal places.
10. Give brief motivations, discussions, et cetera where required.
11. You are advised to use the attached DATA SHEET.
12. Write neatly and legibly.

QUESTION 1: MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

Various options are provided as possible answers to the following questions. Choose the answer and write only the letter (A–D) next to the question numbers (1.1 to 1.10) in the ANSWER BOOK, for example 1.11 B.

1.1 A constant force **F** is applied to a block of mass, m at an angle **θ** to the horizontal but the block did not move. The coefficient of static frictional force between the block and the surface is μ_s.

The magnitude of the static frictional force is equal to:



A F

B Fcosθ

C $\mu_s(mg - F\cos\theta)$

D $\mu_s(mg - F\sin\theta)$ (2)

1.2 Two isolated bodies, **A** and B, having masses m and 2m respectively, are placed at a distance **r** apart.

Consider the following statements regarding the gravitational force exerted by the bodies on each other.

(i) The force exerted by body **B** on body **A** is half that exerted by body **A** on body **B**.
(ii) The force exerted on the bodies is independent of the masses of the bodies.
(iii) The force exerted on body **A** by body **B** is equal but opposite to that exerted on body **B** by body **A**.
(iv) The forces will always be attractive.

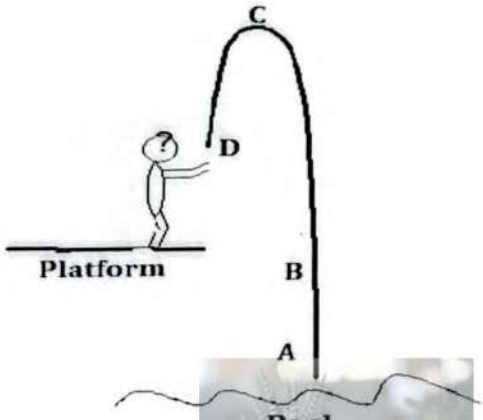
A (i), (ii) and (iv) only.

B (iii) and (iv) only.

C (ii), (iii), and (iv) only.

D (iv) only. (2)

1.3 A boy standing on a platform throws a stone up and into a pool that is below the platform. At which **ONE** of the positions **A, B, C** or **D** will the magnitude of the stone's Momentum be a maximum?



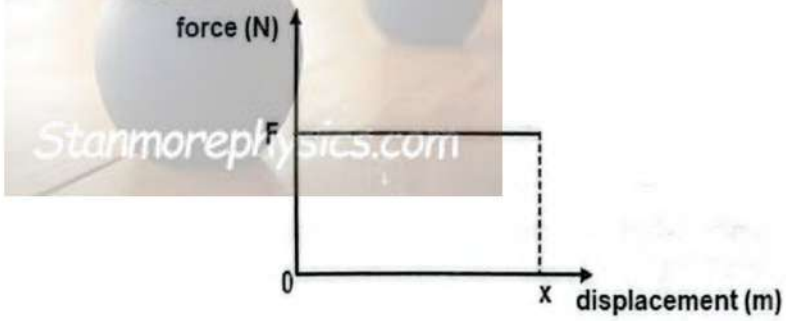
A Position **A**

B Position **B**

C Position **C**

D Position **D** (2)

1.4 The graph below represents a constant force **F** acting on an object over a displacement **X**. The force and displacement are in the same direction.



Which ONE of the following statements can be deduced from the graph?

A The gradient of the graph represents the work done by the force.

B The gradient of the graph represents the change in kinetic energy of the object.

C The area under the graph represents the work done by the force.

D The area under the graph represents the power dissipated by the force. (2)

1.5 A net force **F** accelerates two isolated objects, **X** and **Y** from rest in a straight line for time **t** as shown below. Object **X** experiences an acceleration of **a** and object **Y** an acceleration of **2a**. The mass of object **X** is TWICE that of object **Y**.

If the amount of work done by force **F** on Object **X** is **W**, then the amount of work done by a force **F** on Object **Y** is:

A ½ W

B W

C 4 W

D 2 W (2)

1.6 A listener moves at constant velocity towards a stationary source of sound. The frequency of sound heard by the listener is higher than the frequency of the sound emitted by the source, because …

A the wavelength observed by the listener becomes longer.

B more wave fronts reach the listener per second.

C less wave fronts reach the listener per second.

D the wavelength observed by the listener becomes shorter. (2)

1.7 The sketch diagram below shows two small metal spheres, **A** and **B**, on insulated stands carrying charges of magnitude ***q*** and ***2q*** respectively. The distance between the centres of the two spheres is ***r***.

The spheres exert a force of magnitude **F** on each other. What is the magnitude of the force that the spheres will exert on each other if the distance between them is $\frac{1}{2}$r?

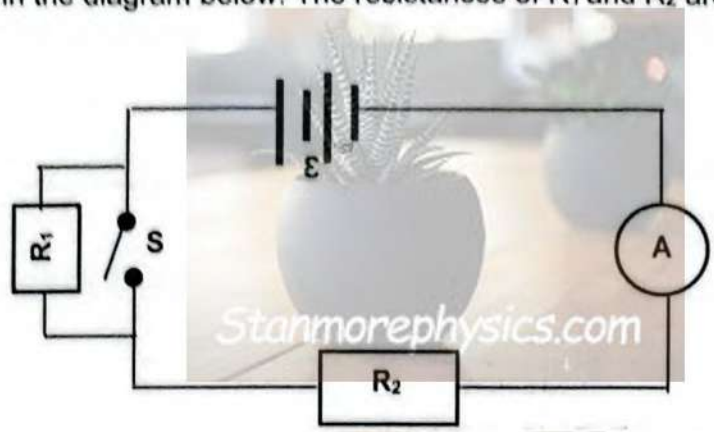
A **F**

B 4 **F**

C $\frac{1}{2}$**F**

D 2 **F** (2)

1.8 A battery of emf ε and negligible internal resistance is connected in a circuit, as shown in the diagram below. The resistances of R_1 and R_2 are high.



Which ONE of the following combinations about the ammeter readings will be CORRECT when switch **S** is open and when switch **S** is closed?

	SWITCH OPEN	SWITCH CLOSED
A	Ammeter reads only the current in R_1	Ammeter reads only the current in R_2
B	Ammeter reads only the current in R_2	Ammeter reads the current in both R_1 and R_2
C	Ammeter reads the current in both R_1 and R_2	Ammeter reads the current in both R_1 and R_2
D	Ammeter reads the current in both R_1 and R_2	Ammeter reads the current in R_2 only

(2)

1.9 Which ONE of the following changes to the design of an AC generator will increase its maximum emf?

A Increase the number of turns on the coil.

B Use larger brushes.

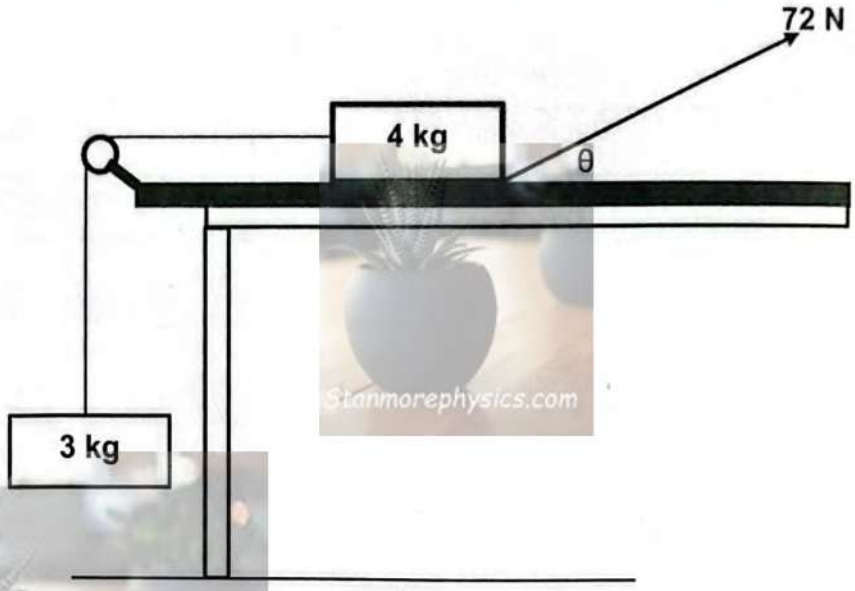
C Change the polarity of the magnets.

D Use larger slip rings. (2)

1.10 QUESTION is MISSING

QUESTION 2

A block of mass **4 kg** is at rest on a rough horizontal surface. The block is connected to another block of mass **3 kg** by means of a light inextensible string which hangs over a frictionless pulley. The surface exerts a force of 12,5 N perpendicular to the surface on the 4 kg block. A force of **72 N** is applied to the 4 kg block at an angle θ to the horizontal as shown in the diagram below. The system accelerates to the right. The coefficient of kinetic friction between the surface and the 4 kg block is 0,25. Ignore the effects of air friction.



2.1 Give one word or phrase that describes the underlined words. (1)

2.2 Calculate the angle θ. (2)

2.3 Draw a labelled free-body diagram indicating ALL the forces acting on the **4 kg block**. (5)

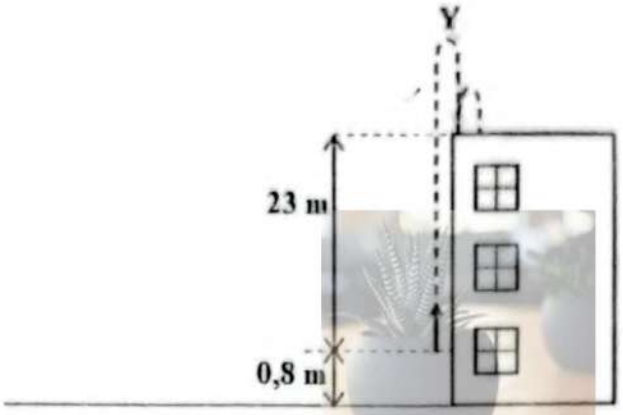
2.4 State Newton's Second law in words. (2)

2.5 Apply Newton's Second Law to each of the blocks separately and calculate the magnitude of the acceleration of the blocks. (6)

[16]

QUESTION 3

A boy kicks a ball of mass 700 g vertical upwards from a height of 0,8 m above the ground. The ball moves past the top of a building, 23 m higher than the point from where he kicked the ball. The ball falls back and hits the roof of the building 3,5 s after the ball was kicked. The ball bounces once on the roof of the building and then comes to rest on the roof of the building. Ignore all effects of air resistance.



3.1 Write down the magnitude and direction of the acceleration of the ball at point **Y** indicated in the sketch above. (1)

3.2 Calculate the:

3.2.1 Magnitude of the velocity with which the ball was kicked (3)

3.2.2 Maximum height that the ball reaches above the ground (4)

3.2.3 Velocity with which the ball hit the roof for the first time (3)

3.3 By referring to the sketch only, state if the collision of the ball with the roof is ELASTIC or INELASTIC. Explain the answer. (2)

3.4 The ball leaves the roof with a velocity of 6,3 $m \cdot s^{-1}$ after it bounced off the roof. Calculate the net force exerted on the ball by the roof if the ball was in contact with the roof for 0,01 s. (4)

3.5 Sketch a position versus time graph for the complete motion of the ball, from the moment it was kicked until it comes to rest after bouncing. Use the top of the roof as the **zero position**.

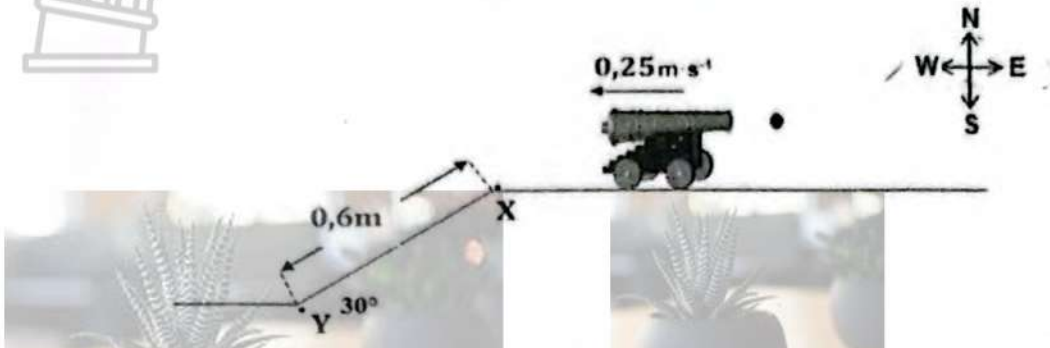
Indicate the following very clearly on the graph:

- The position of the ball when the boy kicks it.
- The position of the ball at point **Y**.
- The time when the ball hits the roof the first time. (3)

[20]

QUESTION 4

A toy canon, mass 1,8 kg, is at rest on a rough horizontal surface as shown in the diagram below. A steel ball, mass 0,07 kg, is fired horizontally to the east from the canon. Immediately after firing the ball, the canon moves at 0,25 m·s^{-1} to the west.



4.1 State the principle of conservation of linear momentum in words. (2)

4.2 Calculate the speed of the steel ball immediately after it was fired. (3)

4.3 Modern cars have airbags that are designed to minimise injury to passengers during a collision. Explain how airbags minimise injury to passengers during collision. (2)

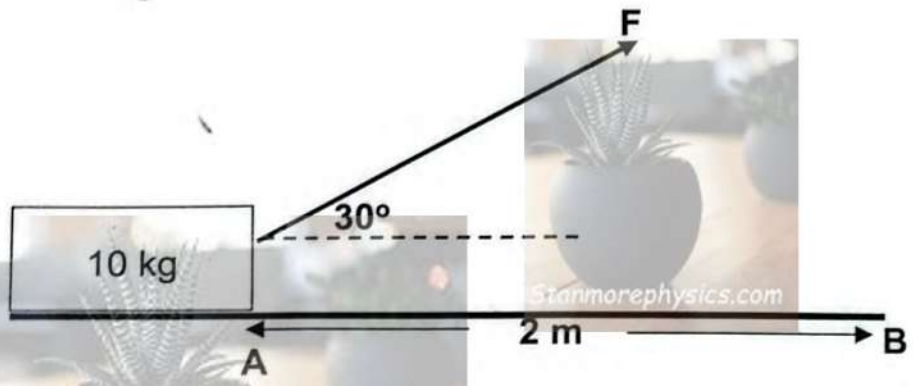
4.4 The canon reaches point **X** with a speed of 0,25 m·s^{-1} and then moves down a rough inclined surface **XY** 0,6 m along at angle of 30° to the horizontal as shown in the diagram above. The frictional force between the surface and the canon is 1,85 N.

Using **ENERGY PRINCIPLES** only, calculate the velocity of the canon at point **Y**, the bottom of the inclined surface. (5)

[12]

QUESTION 5

A constant force **F** is applied at an angle of 30° to the horizontal on a crate of mass 10 kg that is initially at rest, as shown in the diagram below. A constant frictional force of 10 N acts on the crate as it moves from rest at point **A** along a horizontal surface to point **B**. The distance between point **A** and point **B** is 2 m. The speed of the crate at point **B** is 2 m·s^{-1}.



5.1 Define the term *non-conservative force*. (2)

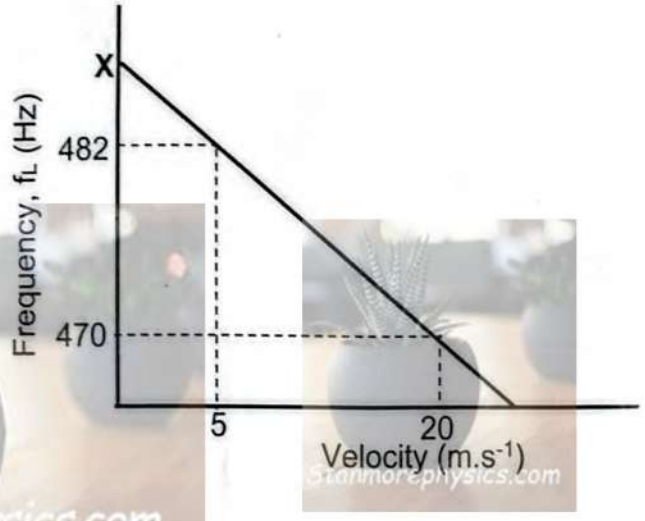
5.2 Using ENERGY PRINCIPLES ONLY, calculate the magnitude of force **F**. (4)

5.3 A 2 kg object is now placed in the crate. What effect will this change have on the work done by the same force **F** when the crate is again moved from point **A** to point **B**? Write down only INCREASES, DECREASES or REMAINS THE SAME. (2)

[8]

QUESTION 6

A fire truck with its siren on, is moving along a straight horizontal road. A detector placed on the side of the road records the frequency of the sound by the siren and velocity of the fire truck. The values are used to obtain the graph below, NOT DRAWN TO SCALE. Take velocity of sound in air as 340 $m.s^{-1}$.



6.1 Define the phenomenon represented on the graph above. (2)

6.2 Is the fire truck moving TOWARDS or AWAY from the detector? Explain your answer. (2)

6.3 Write down the relationship between the velocity of the fire truck and the observed frequency. (2)

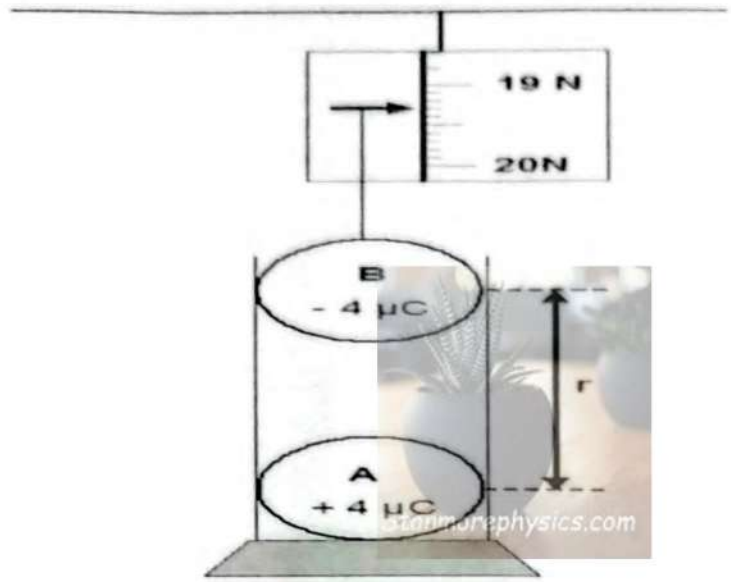
6.4 What does **X**, the intercept on the vertical axis, represent? (2)

6.5 Calculate the frequency of the siren of the fire truck. (5)

[13]

QUESTION 7

Sphere **A** has a charge of +4 µC and is placed in an insulated cylinder. A second identical sphere **B**, with opposite charge and mass 500 g, hangs vertically at rest at a distance **r**, directly above sphere **A**. Sphere **B** is attached to a scale as shown in the diagram below.

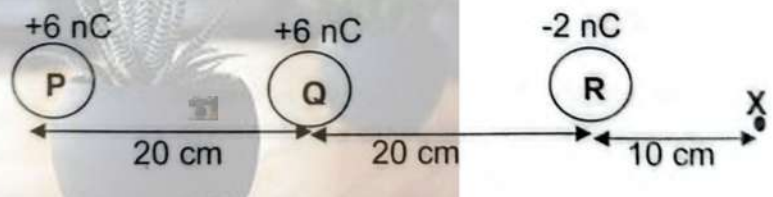


7.1 Draw the electric field pattern due to spheres **A** and **B**. (3)

7.2 What is the magnitude of the upward force that acts on sphere **B**? (1)

7.3 Calculate the distance **r** between spheres **A** and **B**. (5)

The diagram below shows three identical insulated metal spheres. Spheres **P** and **Q** each carry a charge of 6 nC and **R** carrying a charge of -2 nC. The point **X** is 10 cm to the right of **R** as shown in the diagram below.

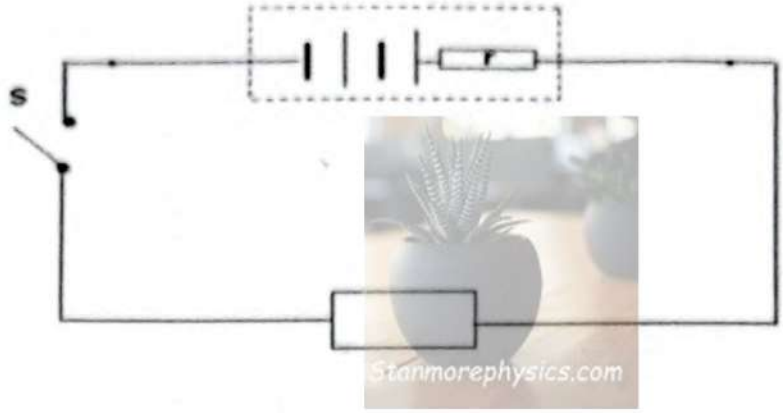


7.4 Define *electric field at a point* in words. (2)

7.5 Calculate the net electric field at point **X** due to spheres **P**, **Q** and **R**. (5)
[16]

QUESTION 8

Grade 12 learners conducted an experiment to determine the emf, ε and the internal resistance **r** of a battery by connecting three resistors one after the other in the circuit diagram below. Each time they read and recorded the reading of the voltmeter and ammeter.



The readings obtained are recorded in the table below:

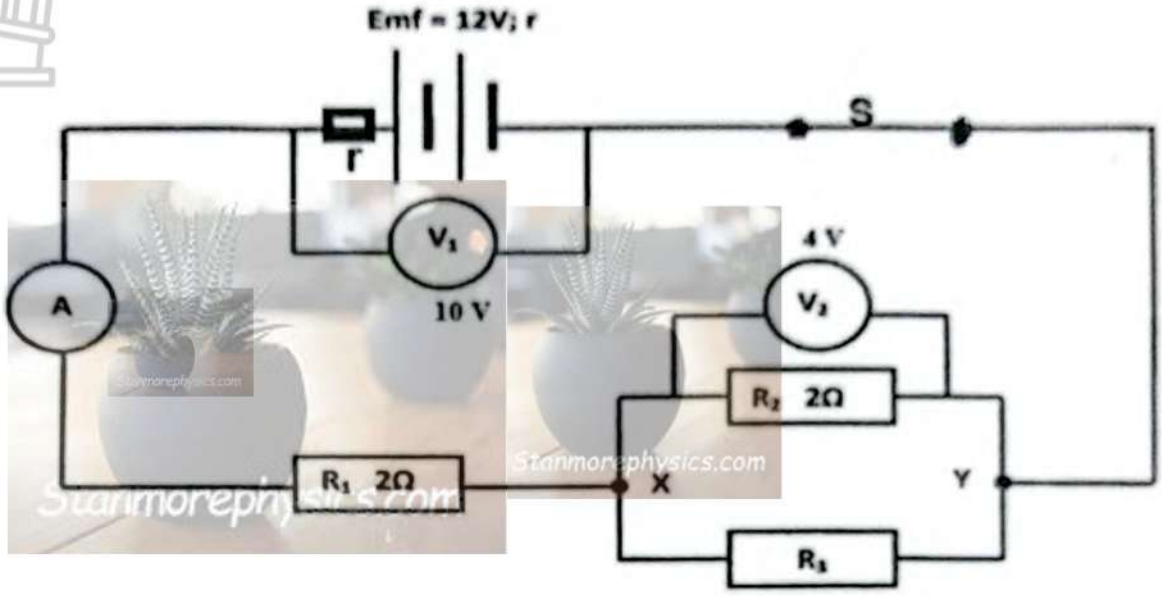
Number of resistors	Voltmeter reading (V)	Ammeter reading (A)
1	7,8	3,5
2	9,6	2,0
3	10,2	1,5

8.1 Sketch this circuit in your ANSWER BOOK. Show in your sketch where the learners connected the ammeter and the voltmeter. (2

8.2 Define the term *emf* of a battery. (2

8.3 Calculate the emf, ε of the battery, from the results of their investigation. (6

8.4 In the circuit diagram represented below, the battery has an unknown internal resistance and an emf of 12 V. When current flows through the circuit, the voltmeter across the battery V_1 reads 10 V and a voltmeter across R_2 V_2 reads 4 V.



Calculate the:

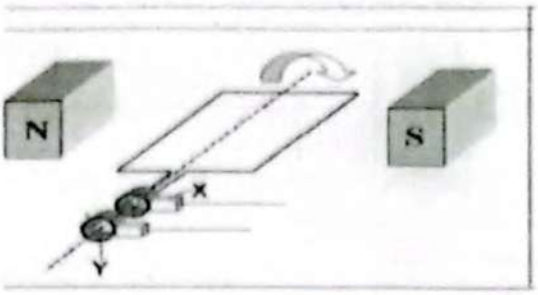
8.4.1 Resistance of resistor R_3 (6)

8.4.2 Internal resistance of the battery (3)

8.5 R_3 is now removed from the circuit and replaced with a wire of negligible resistance. What will be the effect on the reading on V_1. Write down INCREASE, DECREASE or REMAINS THE SAME. Explain your answer. (
[2

QUESTION 9

The simplified diagram below represent an alternating current (AC) generator that is rotated clockwise.



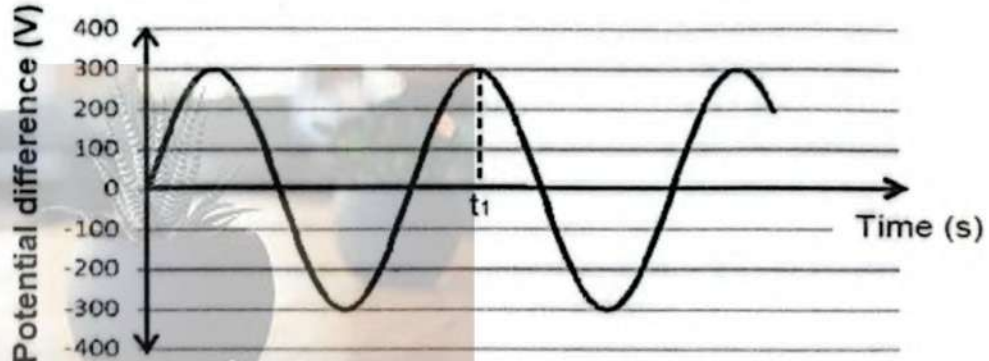
9.1 Write down the energy conversion that takes place in an AC generator. (1)

9.2 Write down the name of the following components:

9.2.1 **X** (1)

9.2.2 **Y** (1)

9.3 The maximum current output of this AC generator is 21 A. A graph of the potential difference output of the generator against time is shown below.



9.3.1 Define the term *root mean square (rms) potential difference*. (2)

9.3.2 Calculate the average power output for this generator. (5)

[10]

QUESTION 10

Learners perform an experiment to investigate the effect of the wavelength of light on the photo-electric effect. They irradiate a metal surface **M** with three light sources of different wavelengths and note the ejection of the photoelectrons from the metal surface.

The results obtained are shown in the table below:

LIGHT SOURCE	WAVELENGTH ($\times 10^{-9}$ M)	EJECTION OF PHOTOELECTRONS
A	480	Electrons ejected and moving away from the metal
B	620	No electrons ejected
C	570	Electrons ejected and NOT moving away from the metal

10.1 Define *the photo-electric effect* in words. (2)

10.2 Give a reason why light source **B** did not eject electrons from the metal surface **M**. (2)

10.3 Calculate the:

10.3.1 Work function of the metal **M** (3)

10.2.2 Maximum speed with which the electrons will be ejected from the metal surface **M** when it is irradiated with light source **A** (5)

10.4 Light source **A** is BLUE light and light source **B** is ORANGE light. Which colour is possibly light source **C**?

Choose only between VIOLET, GREEN or RED. (1)
[13]

TOTAL: 150