

# Topic Tests for IB Physics

## C. Wave Behaviour

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# Teacher's Introduction

These topic tests have been designed to help you and your students assess their knowledge of a topic after you have taught each part of **Theme C – Wave behaviour (Topics C.1–C.5)** for the **IB Physics Diploma Programme (standard level and higher level)**. This part of the course includes the following topics:

- C.1 Simple harmonic motion
- C.2 Wave model
- C.3 Wave phenomena
- C.4 Standing waves and resonance
- C.5 Doppler effect

Each topic test closely follows the content of the specification and includes:

- **Multiple-choice questions:** These are not in exam style, and the purpose of these is to test different elements, knowledge and skills from the specification in a variety of styles. Question types include general recall, explanation of key concepts, and application questions.
- **Structured-answer questions:** Where appropriate, topics may contain one or more extended-response questions to prepare students for what they might meet in the exam, and to test exam skills. Question types include long-form explanations and fact recall.

Mathematical skills are also covered in these topic tests.

The table below shows the content, specification reference and number of marks allocated to each test. Tests have been provided in both write-on and non-write-on formats.

Topic	Test title	Marks per section (SL)	Marks per section (HL)
C.1 Simple harmonic motion	Multiple-choice questions	9	14
	Structured-answer section	13	35
	<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>49</b>
C.2 Wave model	Multiple-choice questions	8	
	Structured-answer section	22	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	
C.3 Wave phenomena	Multiple-choice questions	7	9
	Structured-answer section	24	31
	<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>40</b>
C.4 Standing waves and resonance	Multiple-choice questions	6	
	Structured-answer section	37	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>	
C.5 Doppler effect	Multiple-choice questions	3	6
	Structured-answer section	15	24
	<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>30</b>

Tests have been designed to take approximately 30–45 minutes to complete, although some are shorter than others. Students are able to see the number of marks awarded for each question, allowing them to gauge the level of detail they will require for the answers. Full answers with marks are included at the end of each test. Additionally, it makes the resource a suitable tool for students to use independently.

The topic tests are suitable for a classroom assessment, revision aid or homework task and are, therefore, suitable for use immediately after a topic is completed in class or at the end of teaching the course.

It is recommended that students have access to a calculator to complete the questions.

We hope you find these tests useful during your teaching.

September 2024

## C.1 Simple harmonic motion

### Multiple-choice questions

- Which of the following can be considered to be performing simple harmonic motion?
  - a mass oscillating vertically on a spring
  - a mass oscillating horizontally on a spring
  - the ocean tides
  - a marble bouncing horizontally between two stretched elastic bands

A. (i) only ☐                      C. (i), (ii) and (iii) ☐  
 B. (i), (ii) only ☐                      D. (i), (iii) and (iv) ☐
- Which of the following is a condition for the oscillations of a simple pendulum to be simple harmonic?
  - It only works within certain length constraints – too long or too short
  - The mass of the bob must be small for SHM
  - The amplitude of oscillation must be small
  - It only works on Earth – oscillations of the pendulum will not be simple harmonic on other planets.
- A simple pendulum oscillates with a period of 2 seconds and an amplitude of 5 cm. Which statement below is correct?
  - The acceleration is a maximum at the equilibrium position ☐
  - The velocity is a maximum at the equilibrium position ☐
  - The amplitude is a maximum at the equilibrium position ☐
  - The frequency is a maximum at the equilibrium position ☐
- A simple pendulum, made of a bob of mass  $m$  kg, on a string of length  $L$  m. At one instant, the string makes an angle of  $\theta^\circ$  with the vertical. The tension in the string is  $T$  N. Which expression for the acceleration,  $a$ , of the bob is generally correct?
  - $a = gL$  ☐
  - $a = \frac{L \cos \theta}{m}$  ☐
  - $a = g \tan \theta$  ☐
  - $a = g \theta$  ☐
- A mass  $m$  kg performs SHM on the end of a spring of stiffness  $k \text{ Nm}^{-1}$ . Which expression for the maximum acceleration,  $a \text{ ms}^{-2}$ , of the mass is correct?
  - $-\frac{k}{m}A$  ☐
  - $\frac{k}{m}A$  ☐
  - $-\sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}A$  ☐
  - $\sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}A$  ☐
- Which of the following sets of data could be collected from a body performing simple harmonic motion?
  - $x = 3 \text{ cm}$      $v = 3 \text{ ms}^{-1}$      $a = -4 \text{ ms}^{-2}$  ☐
  - $x = -12 \text{ cm}$      $v = 4 \text{ ms}^{-1}$      $a = -7 \text{ ms}^{-2}$  ☐
  - $x = 7 \text{ cm}$      $v = 0 \text{ ms}^{-1}$      $a = 0 \text{ ms}^{-2}$  ☐
  - $x = -8 \text{ cm}$      $v = 0 \text{ ms}^{-1}$      $a = 0 \text{ ms}^{-2}$  ☐

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7. Which of the following describes the energy changes during one oscillation starting our consideration as it moves through the equilibrium position?
- elastic potential energy  $\rightarrow$  kinetic  $\rightarrow$  gravitational potential  $\rightarrow$  kinetic
  - elastic potential and kinetic energy  $\rightarrow$  kinetic  $\rightarrow$  gravitational potential  $\rightarrow$  elastic potential
  - elastic potential and kinetic energy  $\rightarrow$  gravitational potential  $\rightarrow$  kinetic and kinetic energy
  - elastic potential, gravitational potential and kinetic energy  $\rightarrow$  gravitational potential, elastic potential and kinetic energy  $\rightarrow$  elastic potential and gravitational potential and kinetic energy



8. A simple pendulum, length  $l$  (m) and a mass  $m$  (kg) on a spring of stiffness  $k$  (Nm<sup>-1</sup>). Which of the following expressions is correct for  $l$ ?

A.  $l = \frac{mg}{k}$  ☐

C.  $l = \frac{kg}{m}$  ☐

B.  $l = \frac{km}{g}$  ☐

D.  $l = \frac{km}{\pi g}$  ☐

9. A mass,  $m$  kg, is oscillating vertically on a spring of stiffness  $k$  Nm<sup>-1</sup>. At a point below the equilibrium position,  $x_0$ , at a displacement  $x$  m. Taking the acceleration as  $g$  ms<sup>-2</sup>, which of the following expressions is correct for the acceleration?

A.  $\frac{k(x_0 + x) - mg}{m}$  ☐

C.  $\frac{k(x_0 - x) + mg}{m}$  ☐

B.  $\frac{k(x_0 - x) - mg}{m}$  ☐

D.  $\frac{k(x_0 + x) + mg}{m}$  ☐

### Additional Higher Level Questions (HL)

10. What is the phase relationship between displacement and acceleration in simple harmonic motion?

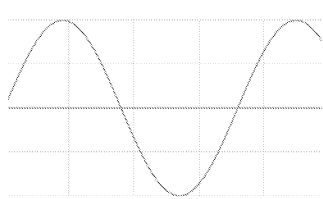
A. 0 radians ☐

C.  $\pi$  radians ☐

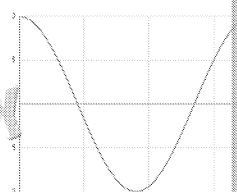
B.  $\frac{\pi}{2}$  radians ☐

D.  $\frac{3\pi}{2}$  radians ☐

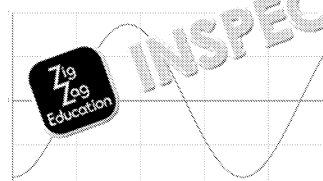
11. Which of the following represents the relationship between the acceleration of a mass performing SHM and its displacement from the equilibrium position?



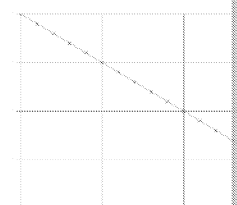
A.



B.



C.



D.



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12. A mass of 50 g on a spring of stiffness  $5 \text{ Nm}^{-1}$  performs simple harmonic motion with an amplitude of 10 cm. What will the velocity of the mass be when the displacement is 5 cm from the equilibrium position?

- A.  $1.0 \text{ ms}^{-1}$  ☐ C.  $0.9 \text{ ms}^{-1}$  ☐  
B.  $0.06 \text{ ms}^{-1}$  ☐ D.  $0.08 \text{ ms}^{-1}$  ☐

13. A simple pendulum performs simple harmonic motion with a period of 2.0 s and an amplitude of 3 cm. Which of the following is the displacement after 12 s?

- A. 3 cm ☐ C. 0.8 cm ☐  
B. 0 cm ☐ D. 0.07 cm ☐

14. Which of the following expressions is valid for the displacement of an object performing simple harmonic motion with a frequency  $f \text{ Hz}$  and potential energy  $E_p$ ?

- A.  $x = \sqrt{\frac{E_p}{8\pi f^2 m}}$  ☐ C.  $x = \sqrt{\frac{E_p}{\pi f^2 m}}$  ☐  
B.  $x = \sqrt{\frac{E_p}{4\pi f^2 m}}$  ☐ D.  $x = \sqrt{\frac{E_p}{2\pi f^2 m}}$  ☐

Total for section

### Structured-answer section

1. Define simple harmonic motion.

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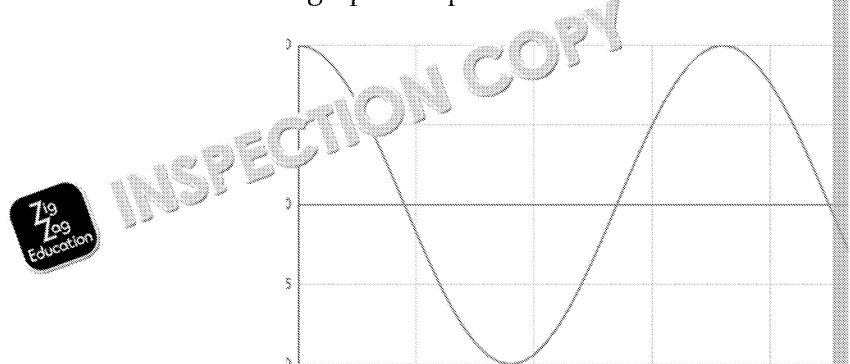
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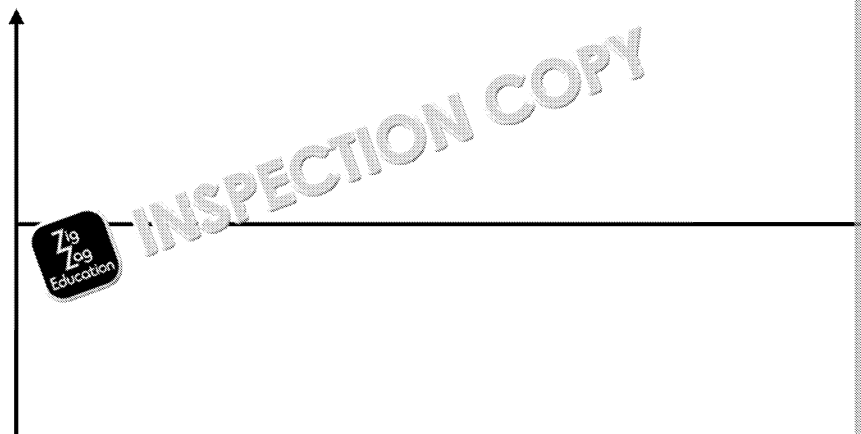
2. The graph below shows the variation of velocity with time of an object performing simple harmonic motion. Sketch on the axes a graph to represent the **acceleration** of the object.



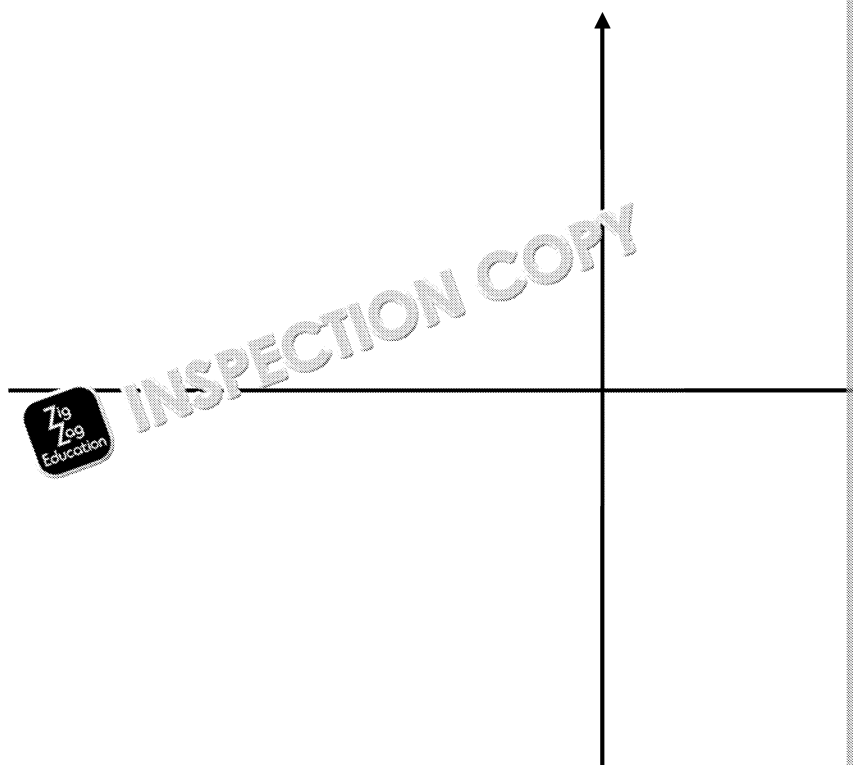
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3. a) A spring, of stiffness  $5 \text{ Ncm}^{-1}$ , is fixed at one end from the ceiling and suspended from the other end. It is pulled down  $5 \text{ cm}$  from the equilibrium position and released at the same instant as a stop clock is started. Sketch a displacement-time graph for the motion of the mass over at least three oscillations.



- b) Sketch a graph of acceleration against displacement for the mass-spring system.



Higher

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**Additional higher level (HL)**

4. A model to illustrate simple harmonic motion involves projecting the motion of a point on a vertical circle on to the vertical diameter of that circle.

The table below shows data collected from one such demonstration. The radius of the circle is 1.20 m and the period of rotation is 3.00 seconds. The timing began with the point at the '12:00' position and the rotation is anticlockwise. Displacement above the centre is taken as positive.

Complete the table by calculating the missing values.

Time (s)	Angle (rad)	Displacement on diameter, $y$ (m)	Velocity (m/s)
0.00			
0.25			
0.50			
0.75			
1.00			
1.25			
1.50			
1.75			
2.00			
2.25			
2.50			
2.75			
3.00			

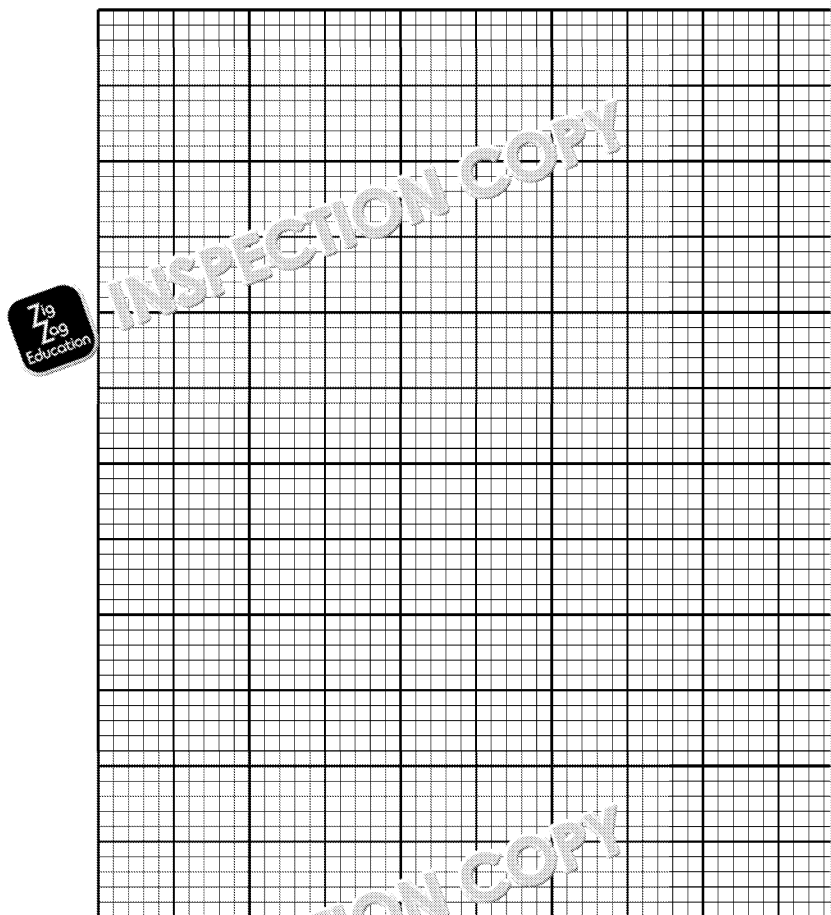
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5. a) Plot a graph using the data from question 4 to verify whether this along the vertical diameter is indeed simple harmonic.



- b) Explain how your graph supports or refutes the hypothesis that the motion is simple harmonic.

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6. a) State the expression for the total energy,  $E_T$ , of an object mass  $m$  kg in harmonic motion with a period  $T$  seconds and amplitude  $x_0$  metres.

.....

.....

- b) The period of the oscillation is 2 seconds and the amplitude is 1 m.

Calculate the displacement of the body after 3 seconds.



- c) Calculate the maximum kinetic energy of the object if the mass is 2 kg.

Total for section 6

Total

T



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## **Preview of Questions Ends Here**

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## C.2 Wave model

Question	Answer
<b>Multiple-choice questions</b>	
1	A – 400 ps
2	C – (i), (ii) and (iii) only
3	C – $0.885 \text{ Wm}^{-2}$
4	A – 19.9 m
5	C – $16 \cdot 42$
6	Sound waves diffract at the partially open doorway
7	(i), (ii), (iii) and (iv)
8	C – (ii), (iii) and (iv) only
<b>Structured-answer section</b>	
1 a)	A wave in which the oscillation causing the wave [1] and the direction of travel by the wave [1] are at right angles / orthogonal / perpendicular [1]
1 b)	The distance between two consecutive points [1] that are in phase [1]
1 c)	Conversion of 300 MHz to Hz = 300 000 000 [1] Substitution into equation: $300\,000\,000 = 300\,000\,000 \times \text{wavelength}$ and rearrangement to give wavelength = 1 [1] Units metres (m) [1]
1 d)	Any three from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sound is longitudinal, radio is transverse [1]</li> <li>• Sound is mechanical, radio is electrical or magnetic [1]</li> <li>• Sound requires a medium to propagate, radio does not [1]</li> <li>• Sound travels slower than radio (or converse) [1]</li> </ul>
1 e)	Wavelength of sound: $\frac{330}{4000} = 0.0825 \text{ m}$ [1] Ratio of radio wavelength : sound wavelength: 1 : 12 [1]
2 a)	Time taken for one complete oscillation [1]
2 b)	Frequency = 1/period [1]
2 c)	The student: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• did not perform the conversion of 100 kHz to Hz = 100 000 [1]</li> <li>• did not make the correct substitution into equation: <math>330 = 100\,000 \times \text{wavelength}</math> [1]</li> <li>• made an incorrect rearrangement of the equation [1] (should have calculated wavelength = <math>3.3 \times 10^{-3}</math>)</li> <li>• did not use the correct units, metres (m) [1]</li> </ul>
2 d)	100 kHz [1]
2 e)	Ratio of speed gives ratio of wavelengths, or calculate wavelength in water [1] wavelength in air [1] Factor: 4.54 [1] Bigger in water than air [1]

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## **Preview of Answers Ends Here**

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