

THE KENYA NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL
Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education

232/2

— PHYSICS —
(THEORY)

Paper 2



Apr. 2021 – 2 hours

Name Index Number

Candidate's Signature Date

Instructions to candidates

- 873
- (a) Write your name and index number in the spaces provided above.
 - (b) Sign and write the date of examination in the spaces provided above.
 - (c) This paper consists of two sections; A and B.
 - (d) Answer all the questions in sections A and B in the spaces provided.
 - (e) All working must be clearly shown in the spaces provided in this booklet.
 - (f) Non-programmable silent electronic calculators may be used.
 - (g) This paper consists of 14 printed pages.
 - (h) Candidates should check the question paper to ascertain that all the pages are printed as indicated and that no questions are missing.
 - (i) Candidates should answer the questions in English.

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For Examiner's Use Only

Section	Question	Maximum Score	Candidate's Score
A	1–13	25	
	14	9	
	15	11	
	16	11	
	17	13	
	18	11	
Total Score		80	



SECTION A (25 marks)

Answer all the questions in this section in the spaces provided.

1. State the observation made on the image in a pin hole camera when the distance between the object and the pin hole is reduced. (2 marks)

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2. **Figure 1** shows a gold leaf electroscope.

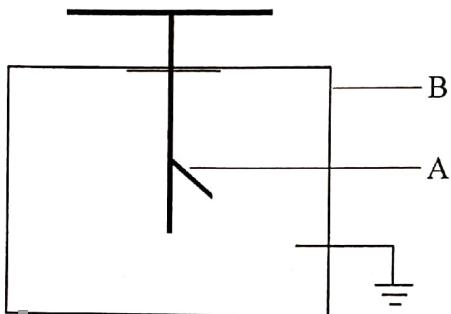


Figure 1

- (a) Name the part labelled A. (1 mark)

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- (b) State the function of the part labelled B. (1 mark)

3. State **two** measurements that should be taken for one to decide whether a lead acid accumulator is due for charging. (2 marks)

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4. Explain what happens to the speed of a water wave as it moves from the shallow to the deep end in a ripple tank. (2 marks)

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5. The critical angle for a ray travelling from glass to air is 42° . Determine the refractive index of the glass. (3 marks)

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6. Figures 2(a) and 2(b) show two circuit diagrams with identical lamps and identical cells.

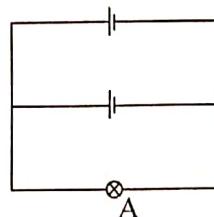


Figure 2(a)

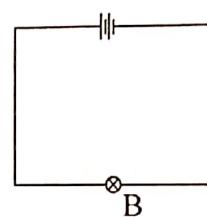


Figure 2(b)

State with a reason which of the bulbs will be brighter.

(2 marks)

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7. Figure 3 shows an annular ring.

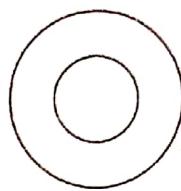


Figure 3

On the diagram, sketch the distribution of the charge on the ring, when the ring is negatively charged. (1 mark)

8. When iron filings are sprinkled onto a bar magnet, it is observed that there are more iron filings at the ends than in the middle. Explain this observation. (2 marks)

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9. Draw a diagram to show a *p-n junction* connected in the reverse bias mode. (2 marks)

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10. A broadcasting station produces radio waves of wavelength 800 m. Determine their frequency. (speed of air is $3 \times 10^8 \text{ ms}^{-1}$) (2 marks)

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11. Explain how x-rays are produced in the x-ray tube. (2 marks)

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12. State the purpose of a fuse in an electrical circuit. (1 mark)

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13. Figure 4 shows circular water waves incident on a plane reflector placed at an angle to the path of the waves.

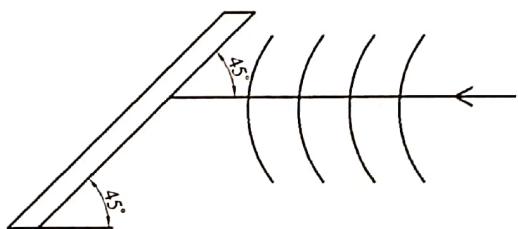


Figure 4

Complete the diagram to show the reflected waves.

(2 marks)

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SECTION B (55 marks)

Answer all the questions in this section in the spaces provided.

14. (a) State two ways of minimising power losses during the transmission of electric power. (1 mark)

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- (b) An electric cooker is rated 2.5 kW, 250 V. State the meaning of these values. (1 mark)

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- (c) A consumer has the following appliances in the house:

- An electric iron rated 1500 W
- A water heater rated 500 W
- An electric cooker rated 2500 W
- Three bulbs each rated 60 W.

The house is fitted with a 12 A fuse. Determine:

- (i) whether the consumer can connect all the appliances to the 240 V power supply at the same time; (4 marks)

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14. (ii) **the resistance of the heating element used in the electric cooker.** (3 marks)

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15. (a) **Describe how the focal length of a concave mirror can be determined using a screen and a metre rule.** (1 mark)

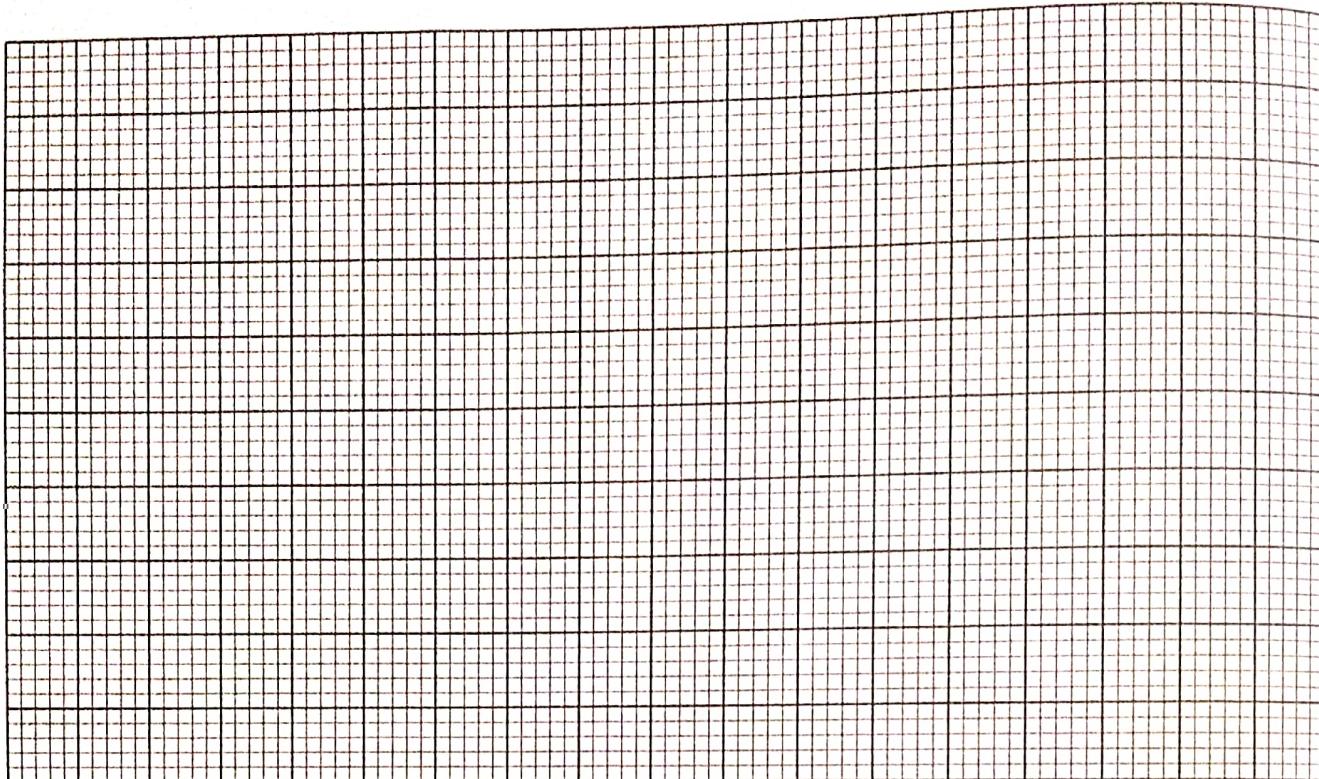
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- (b) **An object is placed 8 cm from a concave mirror whose radius of curvature is 20 cm. Determine the position of the image.** (3 marks)

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- (c) An object of height 10 cm is placed 30 cm from a converging lens of focal length 18 cm.
- (i) On the grid provided, draw a ray diagram to locate the position of the image formed. (3 marks)



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- (ii) From the diagram in part (i), determine the:

I. image height; (2 marks)

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II. image distance. (2 marks)

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16. (a) State **two** uses of radioactivity in medicine.

(1 mark)

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- (b) The following is a nuclear reaction equation: ${}^6_3\text{Li} + {}^1_0\text{n} \rightarrow {}^3_1\text{H} + {}^x_y\text{P}$

Determine the values of x and y . (2 marks)

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- (c) **Figure 5** shows a radioactive element placed in an evacuated glass chamber. The element produces alpha, beta and gamma emissions.

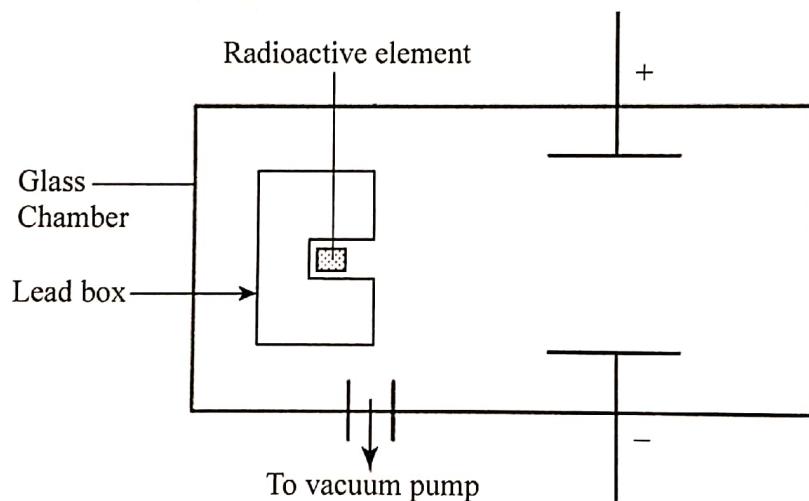


Figure 5

The three emissions pass through an electric field.

- (i) Complete the diagram to show the path of each of the emissions. (3 marks)

- (ii) State the reason why:

- I. the radioactive element is kept inside a lead box; (1 mark)

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(1 mark)

II. the chamber is evacuated.

- (d) (i) Arrange the following electromagnetic waves in the order of decreasing frequency:

Microwaves; Gamma rays; Radiowaves; X-rays.

(1 mark)

- (ii) The half life of a certain radioactive substance is 24 days. Given that the initial sample of the substance has a mass of 64 g, determine the mass which is left after 72 days.

(2 marks)

17. (a) (i) Name the three components of the electron gun in a cathode ray tube. (3 marks)

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- (ii) State one difference between the deflection systems of a cathode ray tube and the television tube. (1 mark)

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- (b) Figure 6 shows a graph of stopping potential against the frequency for a certain photo emissive surface, drawn by a student from the data collected when carrying out an experiment on photoelectric effect.

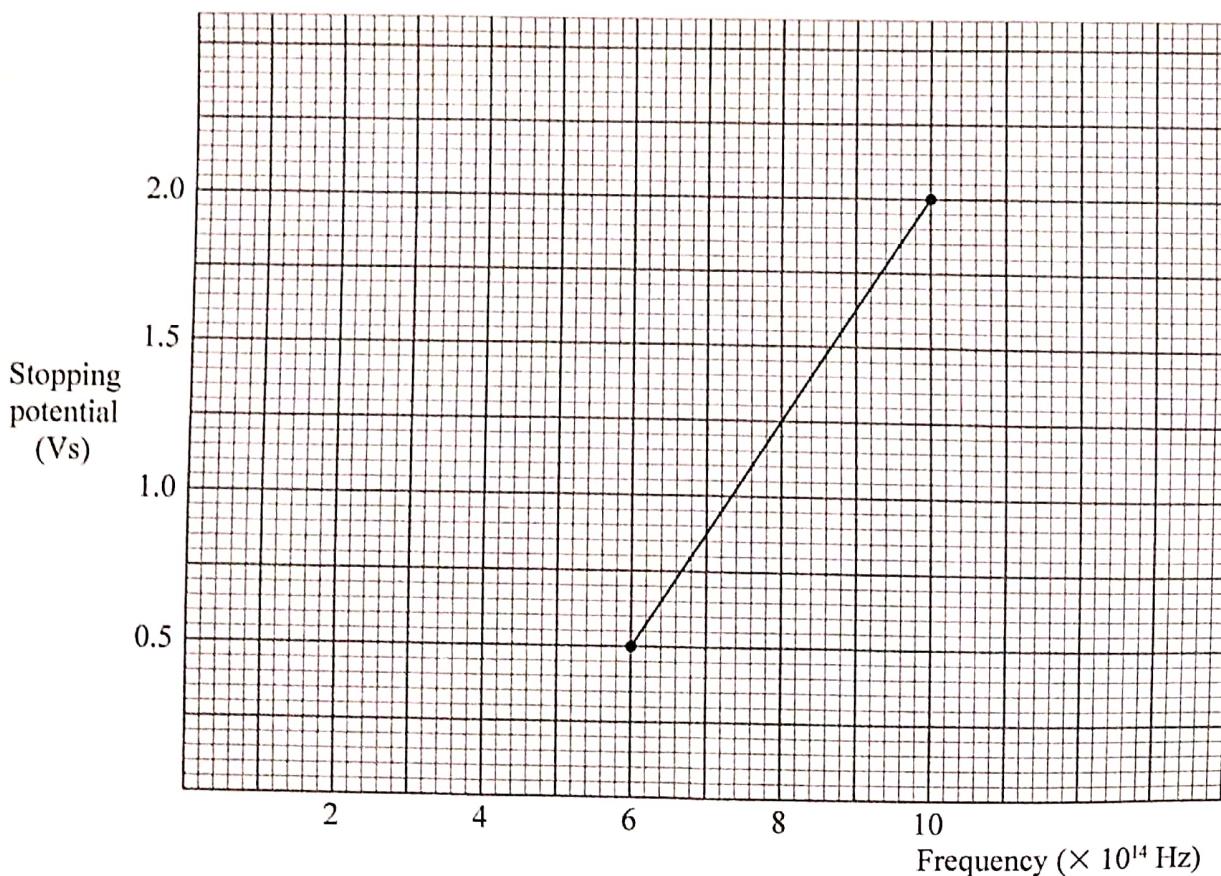


Figure 6

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From the graph, determine the:

- (i) threshold frequency of the surface;

(3 marks)

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- (ii) plank's constant h , given that the energy of the incident photon is $1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$;

(3 marks)

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- (iii) work function of the surface.

(3 marks)

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18. (a) **Figure 7** shows a soft iron ring placed between the poles of two bar magnets.

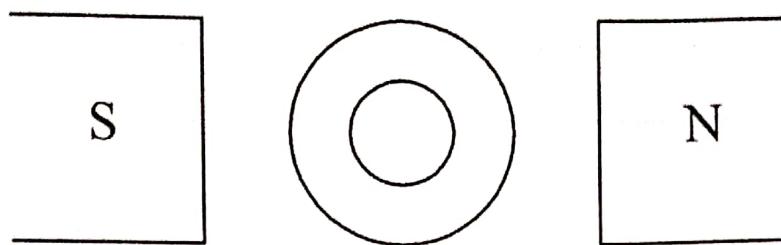


Figure 7

On the figure, draw the magnetic field lines between the poles.

(2 marks)

- (b) **Figure 8** shows two straight conductors P and Q connected to a battery and a variable resistor.

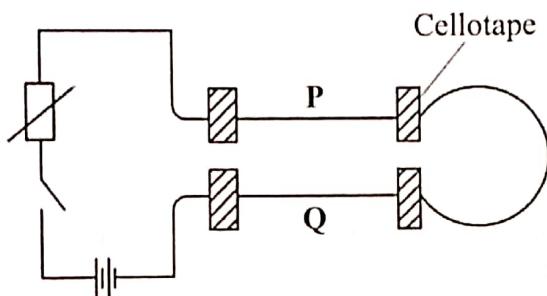


Figure 8

- (i) Using arrows, indicate on the diagram the direction of current that flows through P and Q when the switch is closed. (1 mark)
- (ii) State what is observed as the current flows through the conductors. (1 mark)

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(3 marks)

- (iii) Explain the observation in (ii).

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- (c) (i) State how eddy currents are minimised in a transformer. (1 mark)

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- (ii) A step down transformer has 600 turns in the primary coil. The input voltage is 120 V while the output voltage is 24 V. Determine the number of turns in the secondary coil. (3 marks)

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