

What is Acceleration?

Worksheet

Acceleration is the rate of change of velocity: $a = \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t}$, in m/s. Speeding up, slowing down and changing direction all count.

$$a = \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t}$$

Questions

1. 020 m/s in 5 s. Acceleration?

- A) 4 m/s
- B) 100 m/s
- C) 0.25 m/s
- D) 25 m/s

2. Unit of acceleration?

- A) m/s
- B) m/s
- C) m
- D) s

3. Negative acceleration means

- A) moving backward
- B) slowing down
- C) zero speed
- D) constant speed

4. Circular motion at constant speed

- A) zero acceleration
- B) is accelerating
- C) infinite acceleration
- D) no velocity

5. A car speeds up from 10 m/s to 30 m/s in 4 s. Find its acceleration.

6. A cyclist slows from 12 m/s to 0 in 6 s.

7. From rest at 3 m/s for 5 s, final velocity?

8. Define: What is acceleration?

9. Define: Is slowing down acceleration?

10. Define: Unit of acceleration?

Answer Key

1. A) $4 \text{ m/s} - a = 20/5 = 4 \text{ m/s}$.
2. B) $\text{m/s} - (\text{m/s})/\text{s} = \text{m/s}$.
3. B) slowing down - It opposes motion slowing down.
4. B) is accelerating - Direction changes acceleration.
5. $v = 30 - 10 = 20 \text{ m/s}$ $a = v/t = 20/4 = 5 \text{ m/s}$
6. $v = 0 - 12 = -12 \text{ m/s}$ $a = 12/6 = 2 \text{ m/s}$
7. $v = at = 35 = 15 \text{ m/s}$
8. The rate of change of velocity: $a = v/t$, in m/s .
9. Yes - negative acceleration. Any velocity change counts.
10. Metres per second squared (m/s^2).

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