



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

Leaving Certificate Examination
Sample Paper

Applied Mathematics

Ordinary Level

2 hours and 30 minutes

400 marks

Examination Number

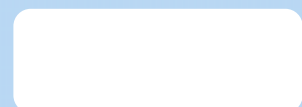
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Day and Month of Birth

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For example, 3rd February
is entered as 0302

Centre Stamp



Instructions

There are eight questions on this paper. **Answer all questions.**

Write your Examination Number in the box on the front cover.

Write your answers in blue or black pen. You may use pencil in graphs and diagrams only.

This examination booklet will be scanned and your work will be presented to an examiner on screen. All of your work should be presented in the answer areas, or on the given graphs, networks or other diagrams. Anything that you write outside of these areas may not be seen by the examiner.

Write all answers into this booklet. There is space for extra work at the back of the booklet. If you need to use it, label any extra work clearly with the question number and part.

The superintendent will give you a copy of the *Formulae and Tables* booklet. You must return it at the end of the examination. You are not allowed to bring your own copy into the examination.

You may lose marks if your solutions do not include relevant supporting work.

You may lose marks if the appropriate units of measurement are not included, where relevant.

You may lose marks if your answers are not given in their simplest form, where relevant.

Diagrams are generally not drawn to scale.

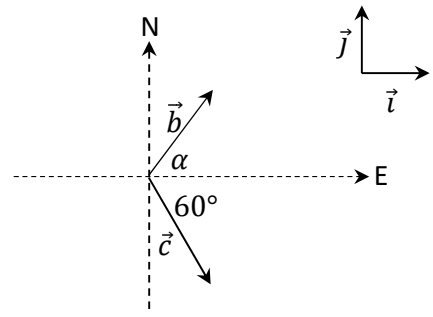
Unless otherwise indicated, take the value of g , the acceleration due to gravity, to be 9.8 m s^{-2} .

Unless otherwise indicated, \vec{i} and \vec{j} are unit perpendicular vectors in the horizontal and vertical directions, respectively, or eastwards and northwards, respectively, as appropriate to the question.

Write the make and model of your calculator(s) here:

Question 1

- (a) A displacement vector, \vec{b} , has a magnitude of 15 km and a direction α north of east, where $\tan \alpha = \frac{4}{3}$.
 A second displacement vector, \vec{c} , has a magnitude of $10\sqrt{3}$ km and a direction 60° south of east, as shown in the diagram.



- (i) Express \vec{b} and \vec{c} in terms of the unit vectors \vec{i} and \vec{j} .

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- (ii) Calculate $\vec{b} \cdot \vec{c}$, the dot product of \vec{b} and \vec{c} .

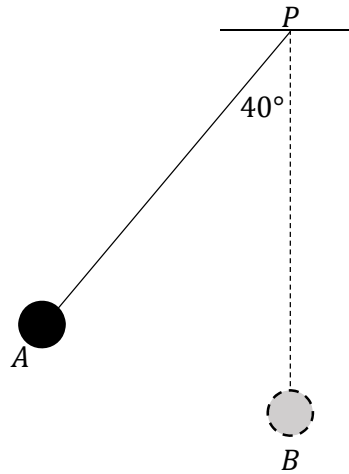
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A third displacement vector, \vec{d} , is perpendicular to \vec{b} .
 $\vec{d} = -4\vec{i} + k\vec{j}$.

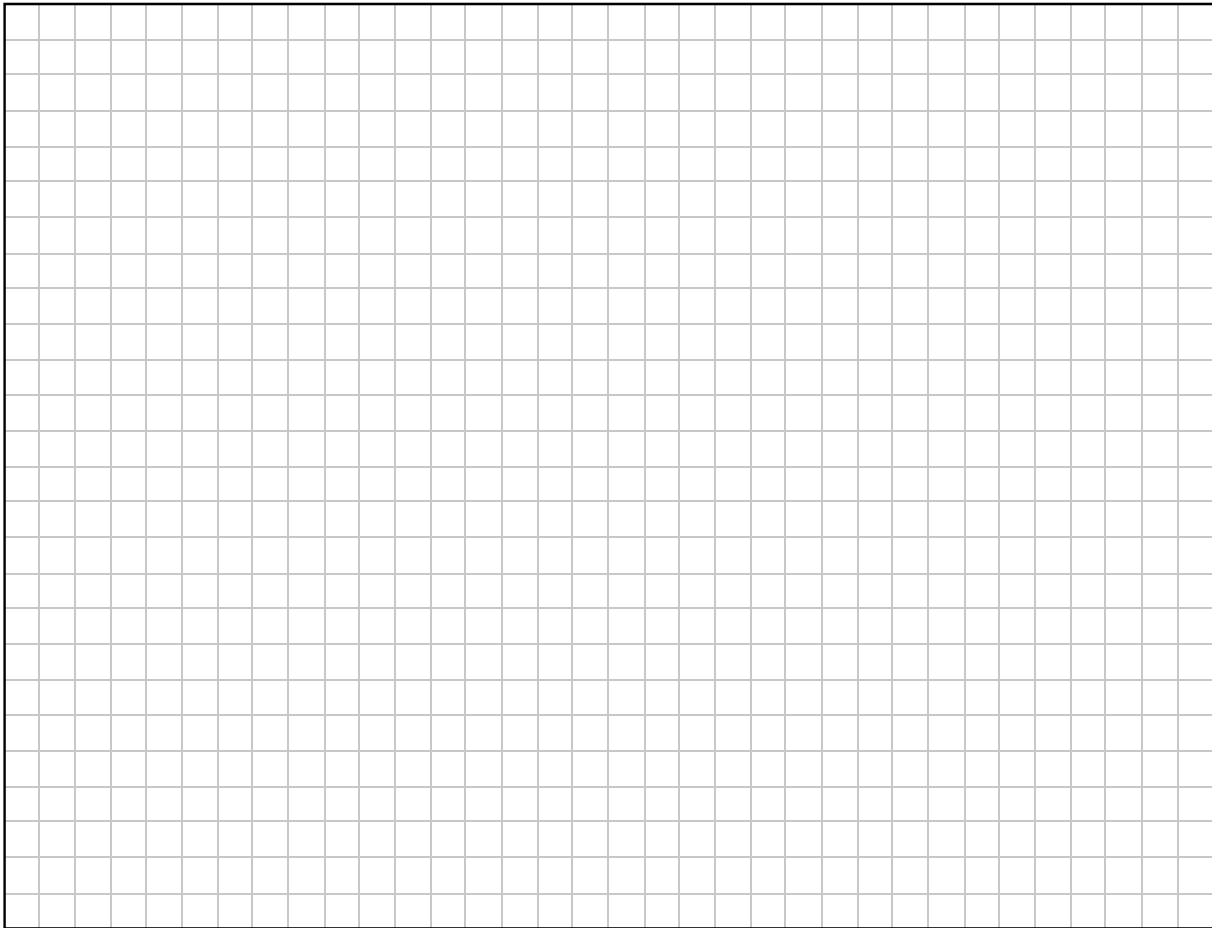
- (iii) Calculate k .

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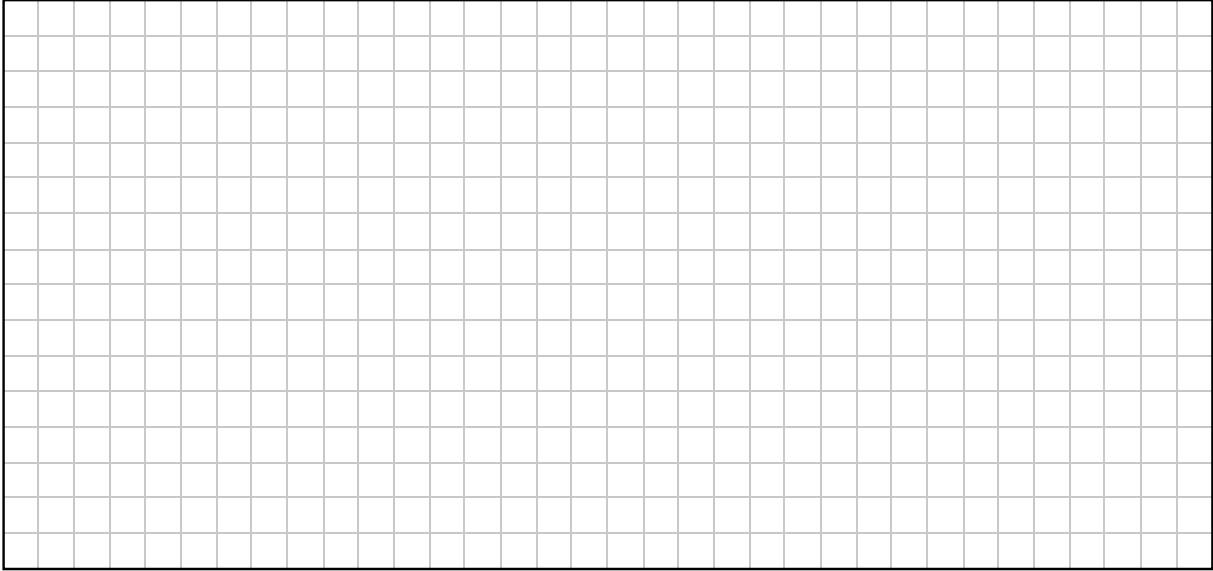
- (b) A small smooth sphere of mass 2 kg is connected by a light inextensible string of length 3 m to a fixed point P . The sphere is held at position A , where the taut string makes an angle of 40° to the vertical, as shown in the diagram. The sphere is then released from rest.



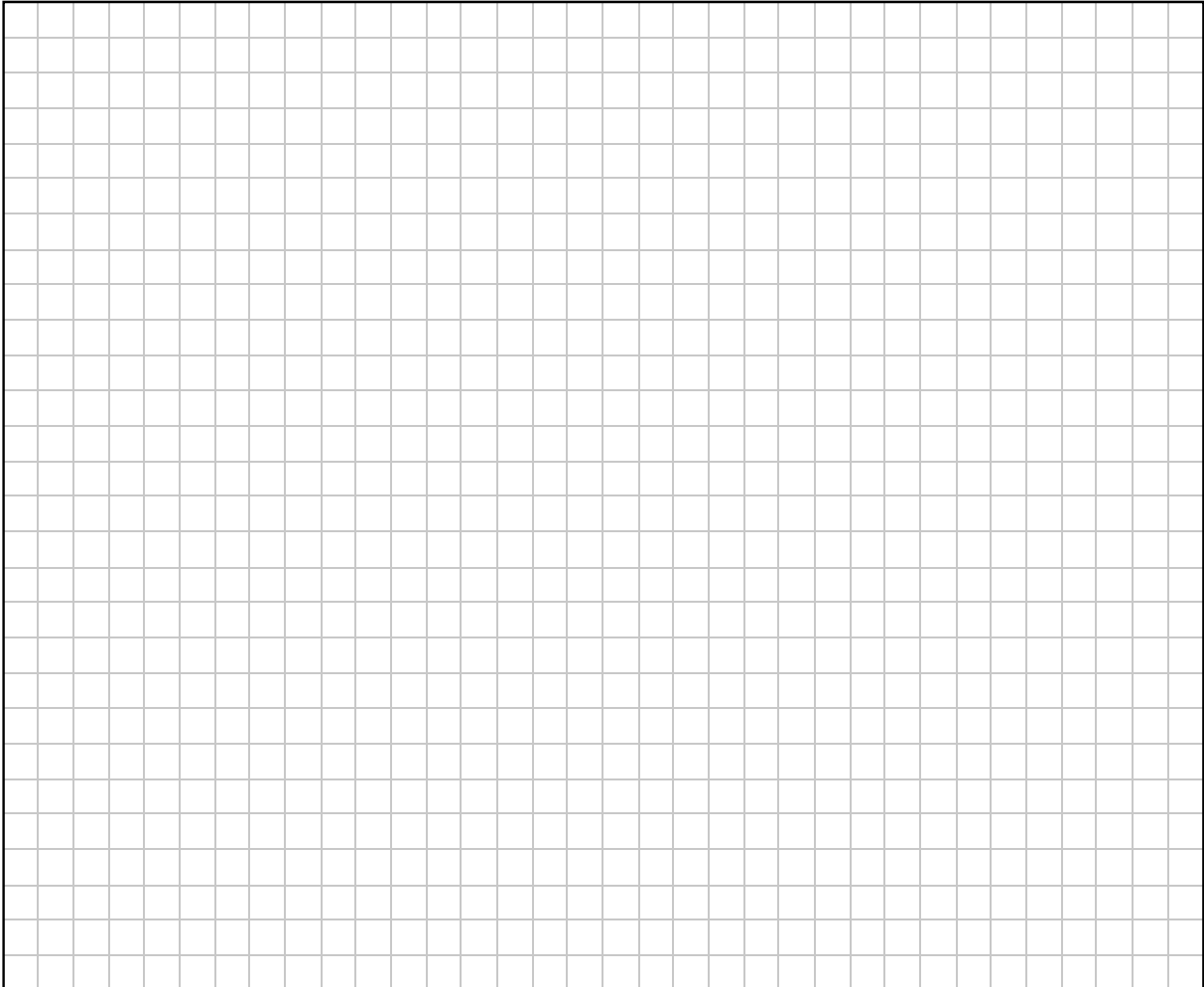
- (i) The motion of the sphere may be modelled using the principle of conservation of energy. Using this model, calculate the speed of the sphere as it passes through position B , when the string is vertical.



(ii) Calculate the centripetal force on the sphere as it passes through B .



(iii) Calculate the tension in the string when the sphere passes through B .



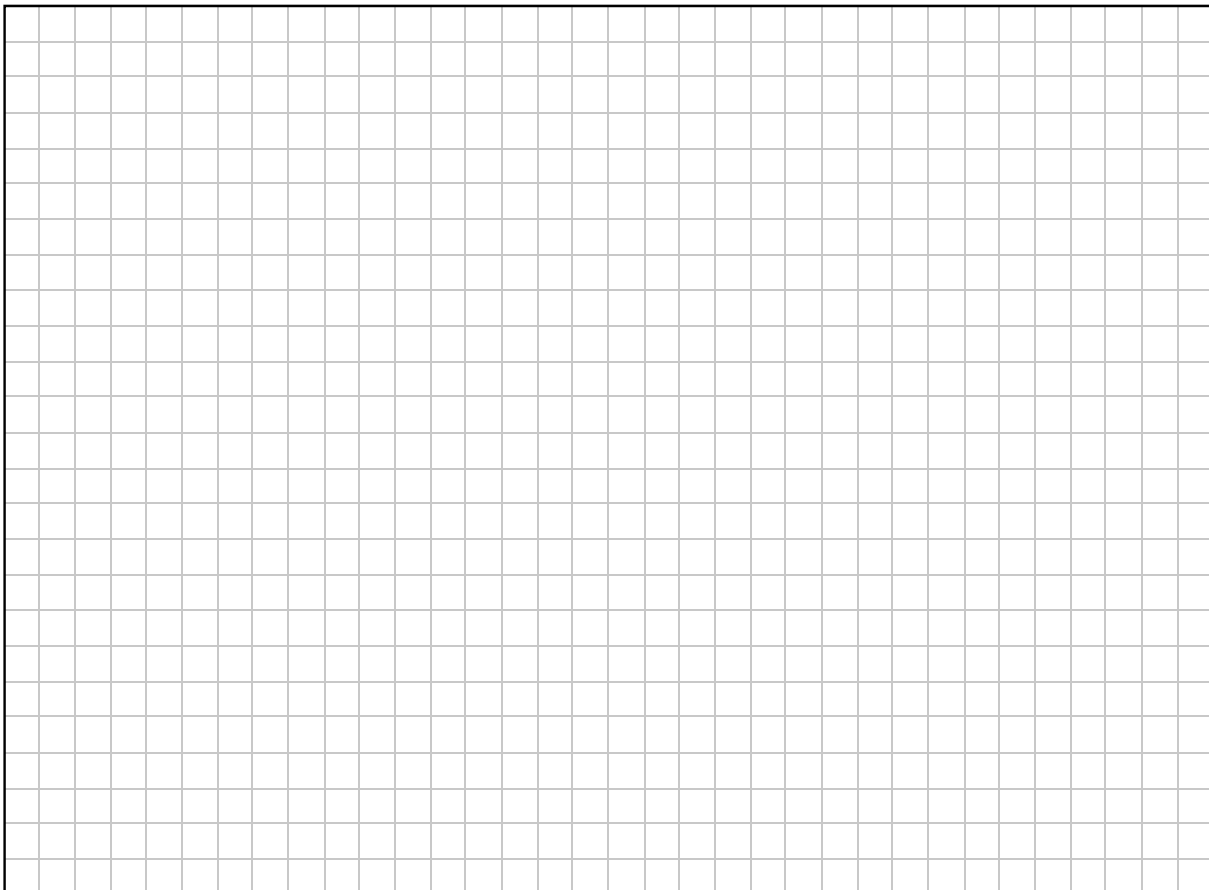
Question 2

- (a) During a treasure hunt competition, Seán must search at each of locations *A*, *B*, *C*, *D* and *E*. He may start at whichever of these location he chooses and he may visit the other locations in any order.

The estimated time, in seconds, needed to travel between any two of these locations is shown in the following table.

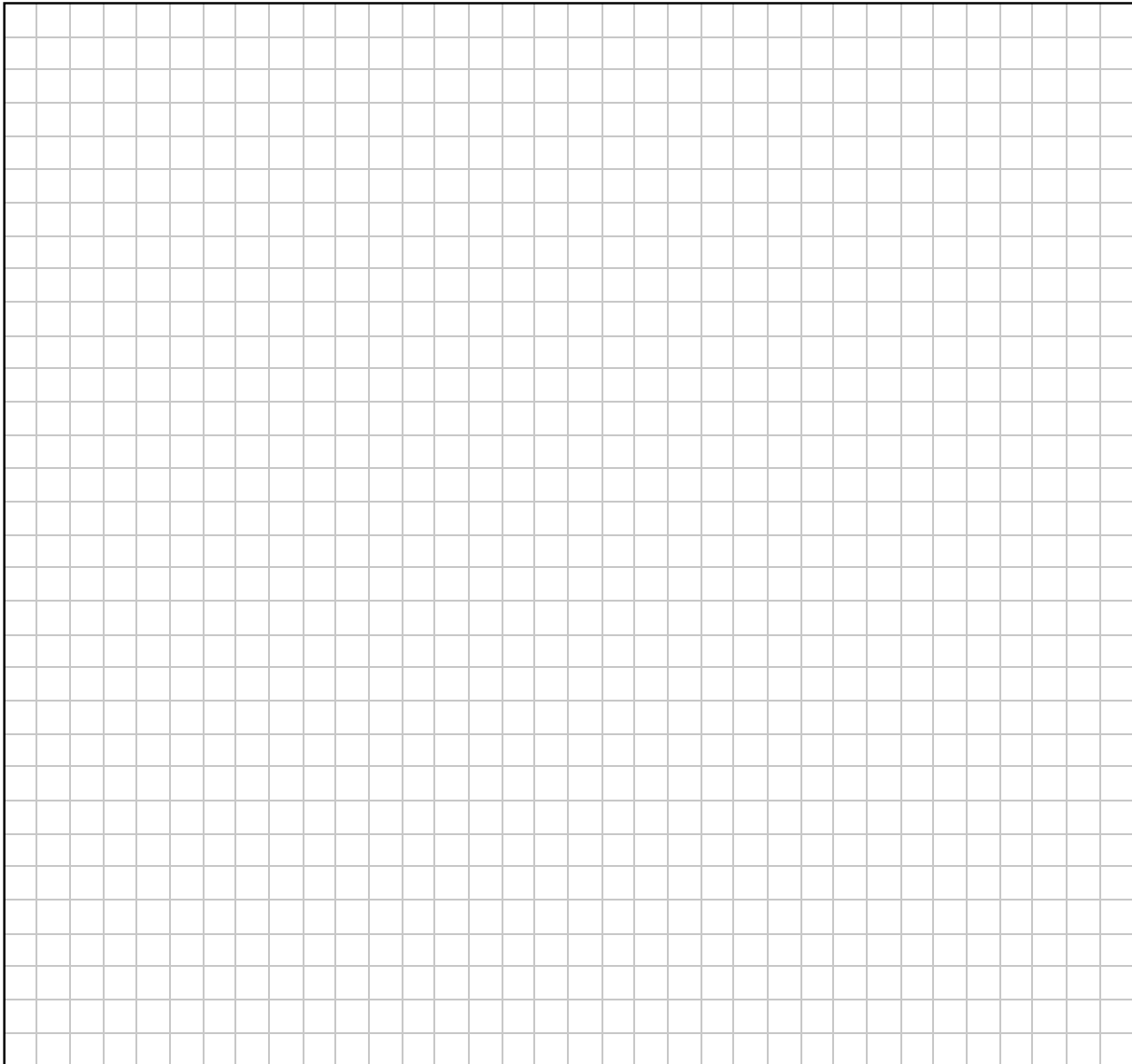
Time (s)	<i>A</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>E</i>
<i>A</i>	–	290	205	630	210
<i>B</i>	290	–	370	775	520
<i>C</i>	205	370	–	425	145
<i>D</i>	630	775	425	–	220
<i>E</i>	210	520	145	220	–

- (i) Draw a network to represent this information. On your network the weights of the edges should represent the times to travel between the locations, which should be represented by labelled nodes.

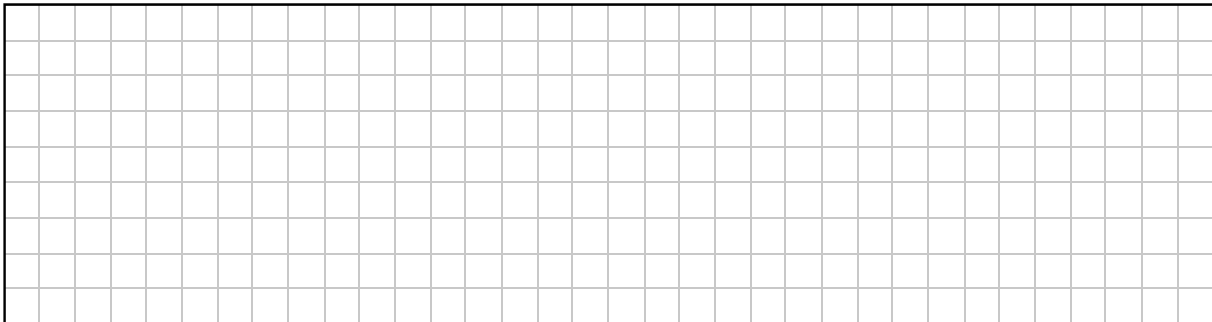


In order to win the competition, Seán wants to spend as little time as possible travelling between the locations.

- (ii) Using an appropriate algorithm, find the minimum spanning tree for this network. Name the algorithm you used. Relevant supporting work must be shown.



- (iii) At which location should Seán start? Justify your answer.



(ii) Write down the critical path for the network.

(iii) Write down the minimum time, in minutes, needed to assemble an air filtering system.

(iv) Select any one non-critical activity on the network and calculate its float, in minutes.

Question 3

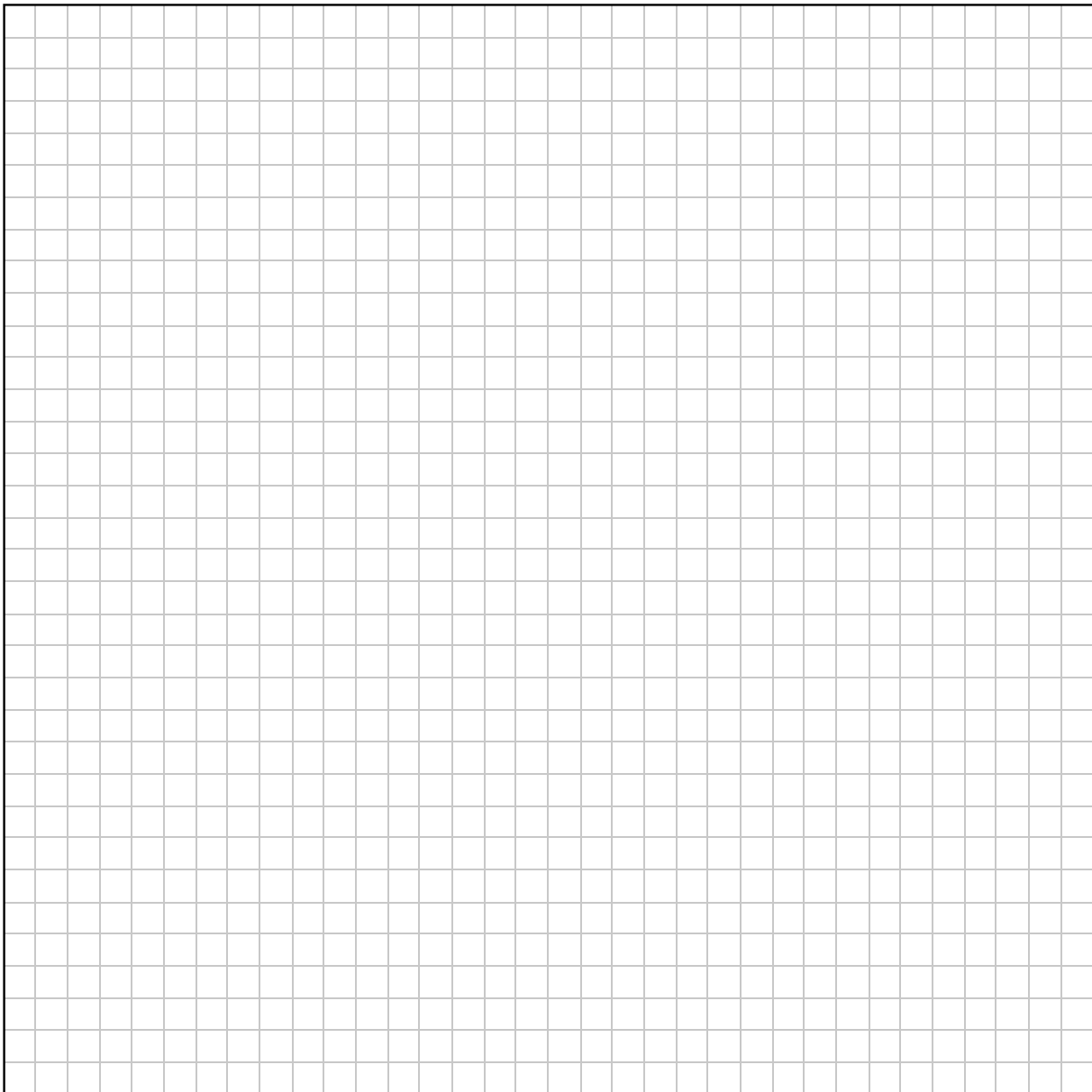
- (a) Kate wishes to invest €150 000 in a long-term investment scheme. Cormac is an investment broker. He offers Kate a guaranteed annual interest rate of 5.2% on her investment. However Cormac will charge an annual fee of €3000, which will be deducted from her investment.

The value, P , in €, of Kate's investment after n years may be modelled by the difference equation:

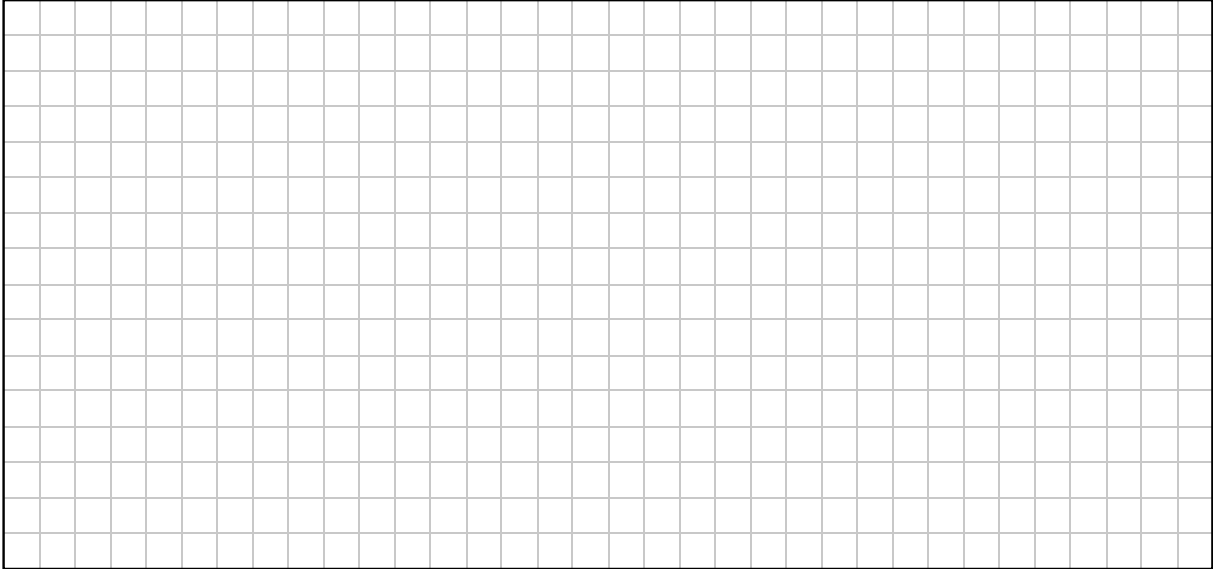
$$P_{n+1} = 1.052P_n - 3000$$

where $n \geq 0$, $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $P_0 = 150\,000$.

- (i) Solve this difference equation to find an expression for P_n , the value of Kate's investment after n years if she invests with Cormac.

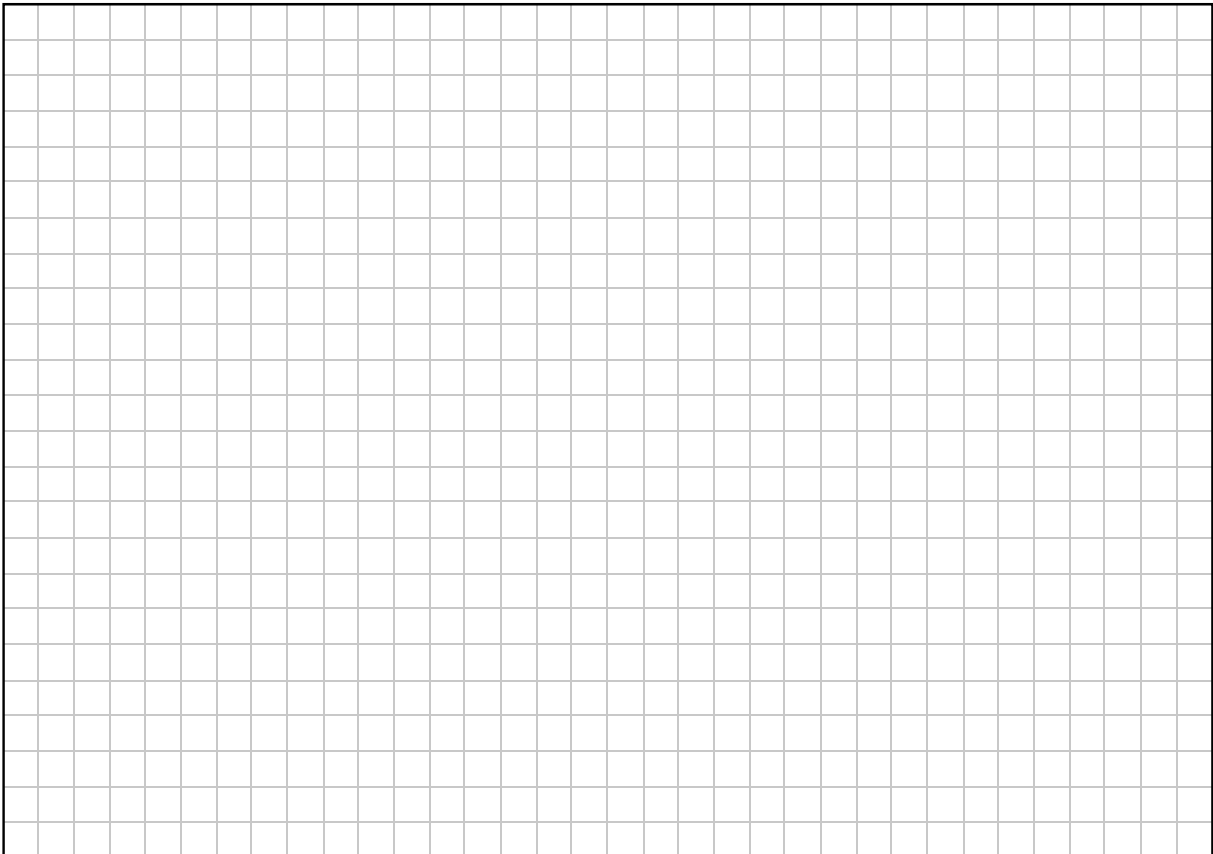


(ii) Calculate P_6 , the value of Kate's investment after 6 years if she invests with Cormac.



(iii) Ruth, another investment broker, offers Kate a guaranteed annual interest rate of 4.3%. Ruth will charge an annual fee of €2000.

Kate wishes to maximise the value of her investment after 6 years. With which broker, Cormac or Ruth, should Kate invest? Justify your answer.



- (b) A car dealership began to sell a new type of electric car in January 2020. The dealership sold eight of these cars in 2020. It sold twelve of them in 2021.

A sales person predicts that U , the number of such cars sold in any year, will be equal to twice the number of cars sold in the previous year plus three times the number of cars sold the year before that.

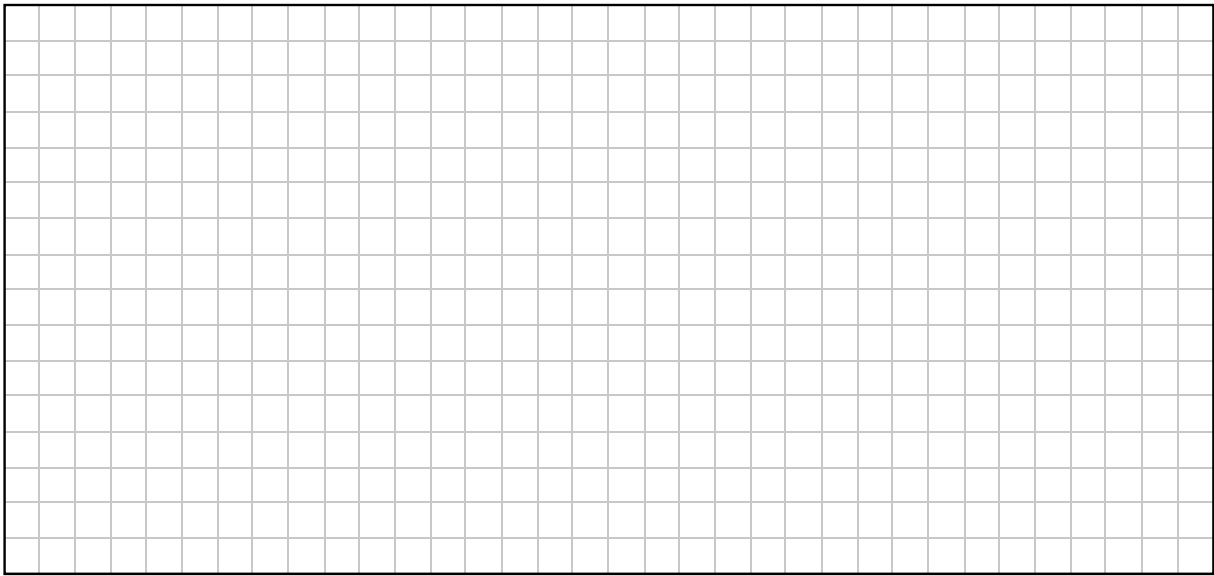
This prediction can be expressed as the second-order difference equation:

$$U_{n+2} - 2U_{n+1} - 3U_n = 0$$

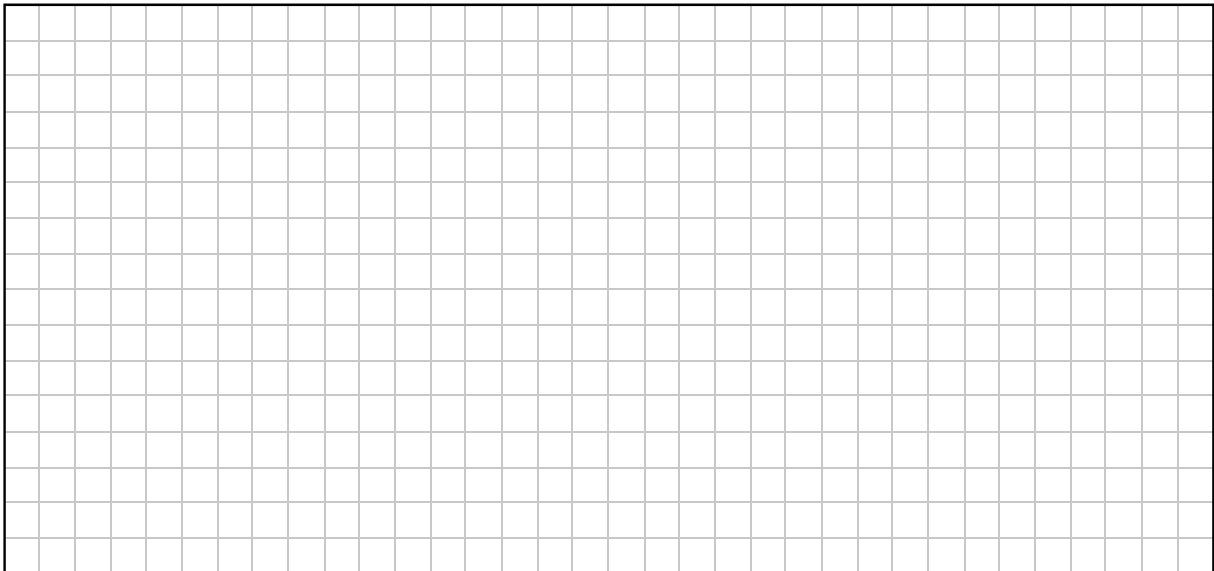
where $n \geq 0$, $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, $U_0 = 8$ and $U_1 = 12$.

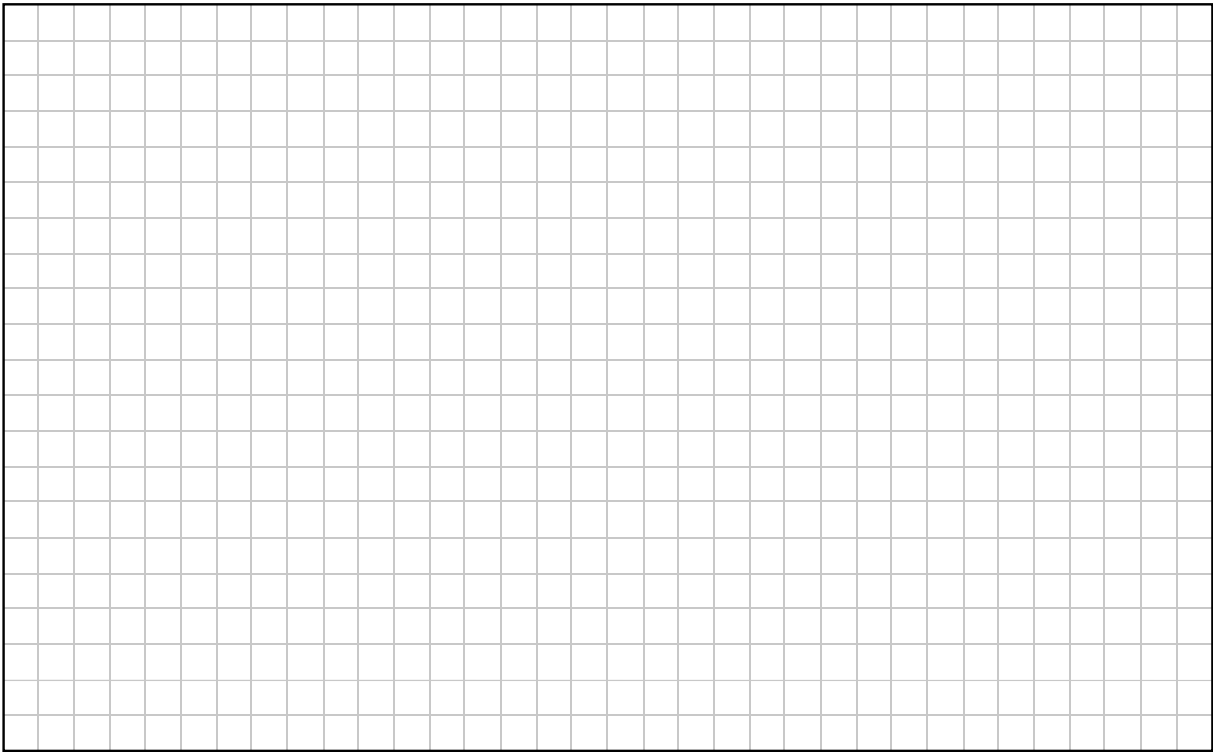
This difference equation has the characteristic quadratic equation $x^2 - 2x - 3 = 0$.

- (i) Solve this quadratic equation, i.e. calculate the two roots of the equation.

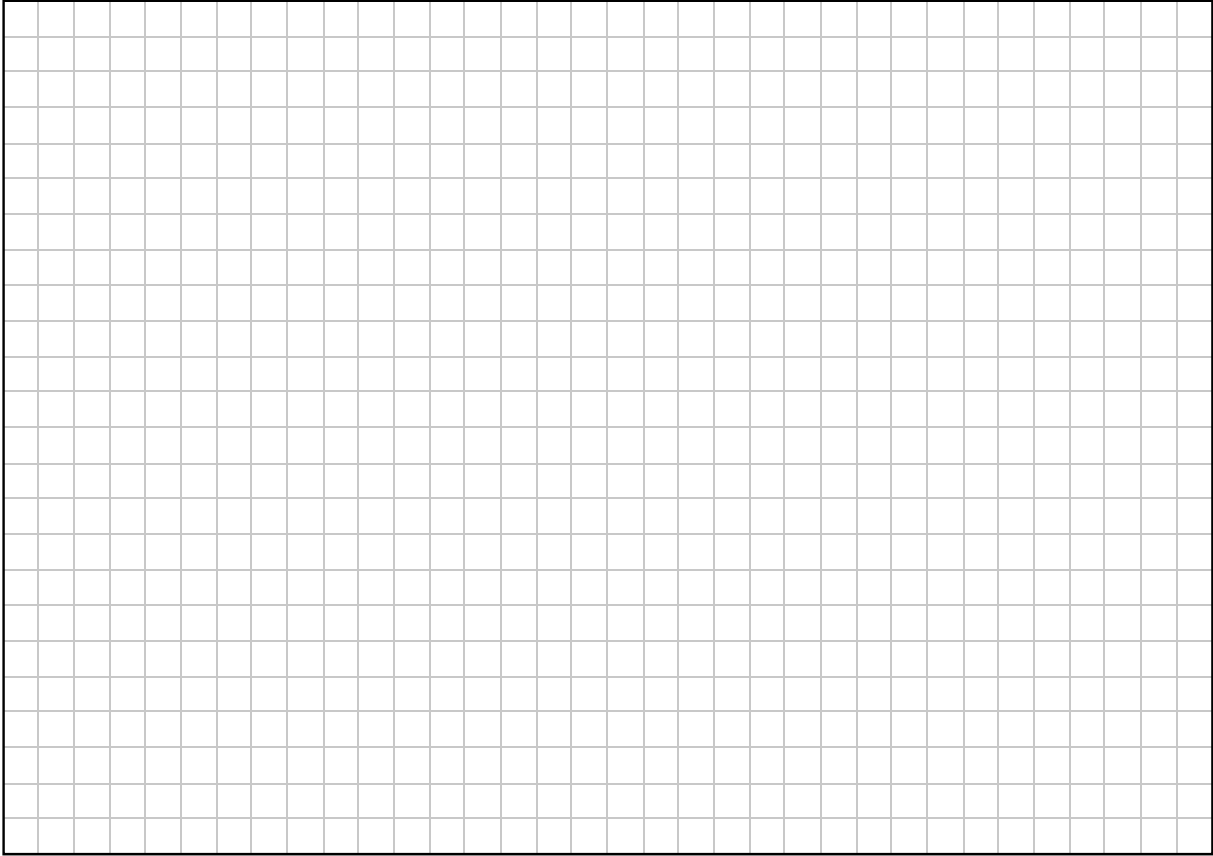


- (ii) Hence or otherwise, solve the difference equation to find an expression for U_n in terms of n .

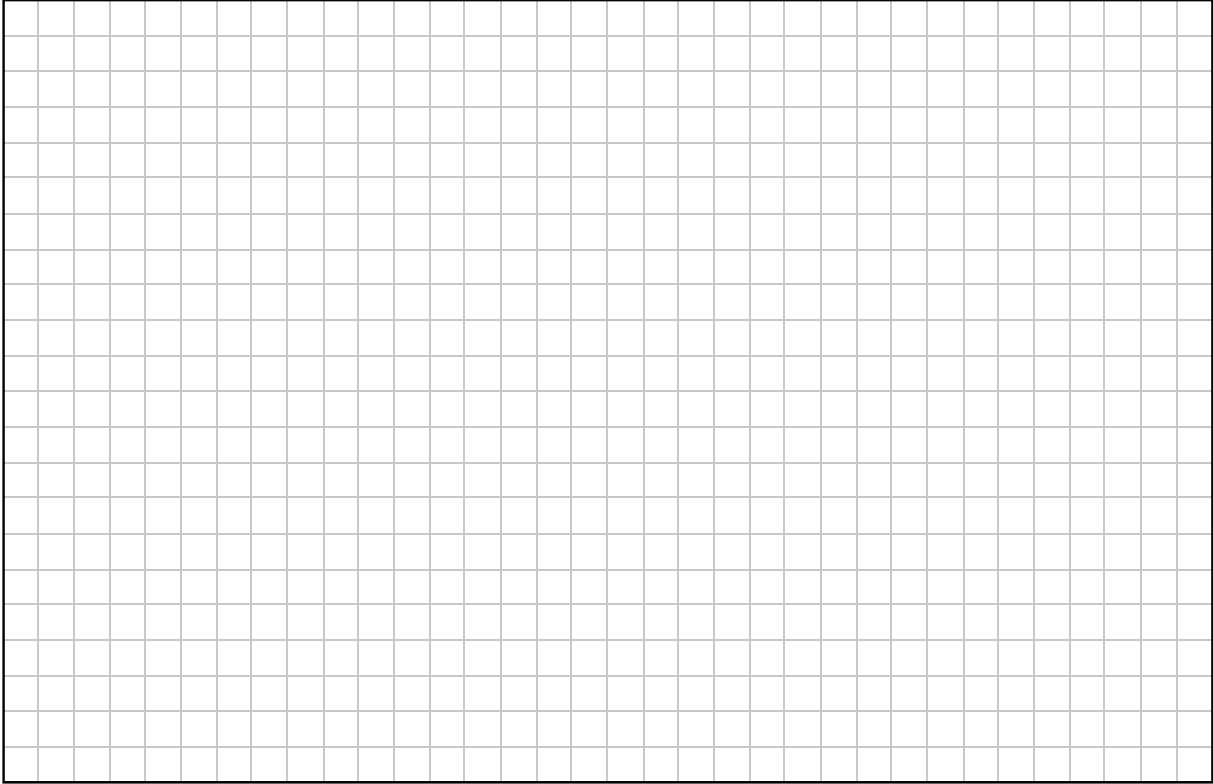




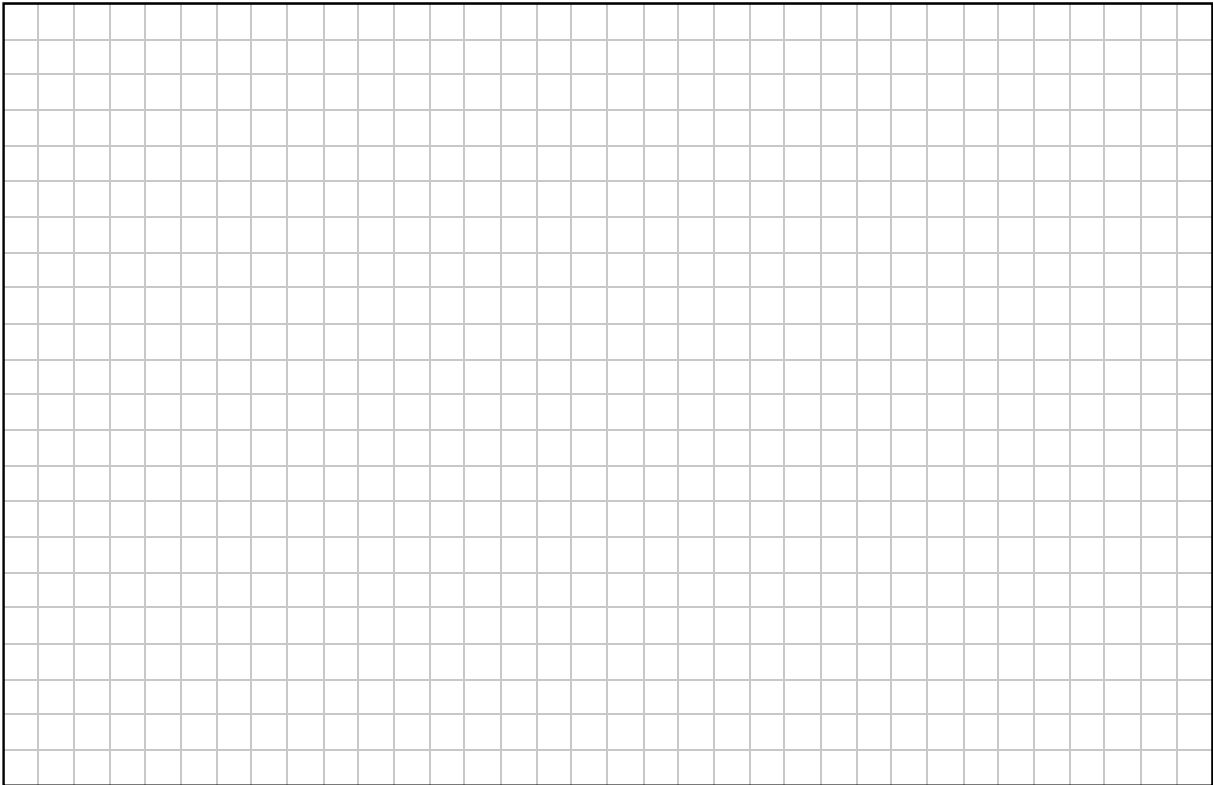
(iii) Calculate the number of such cars that the model predicts the dealership will sell between the start of 2020 and the end of 2025.



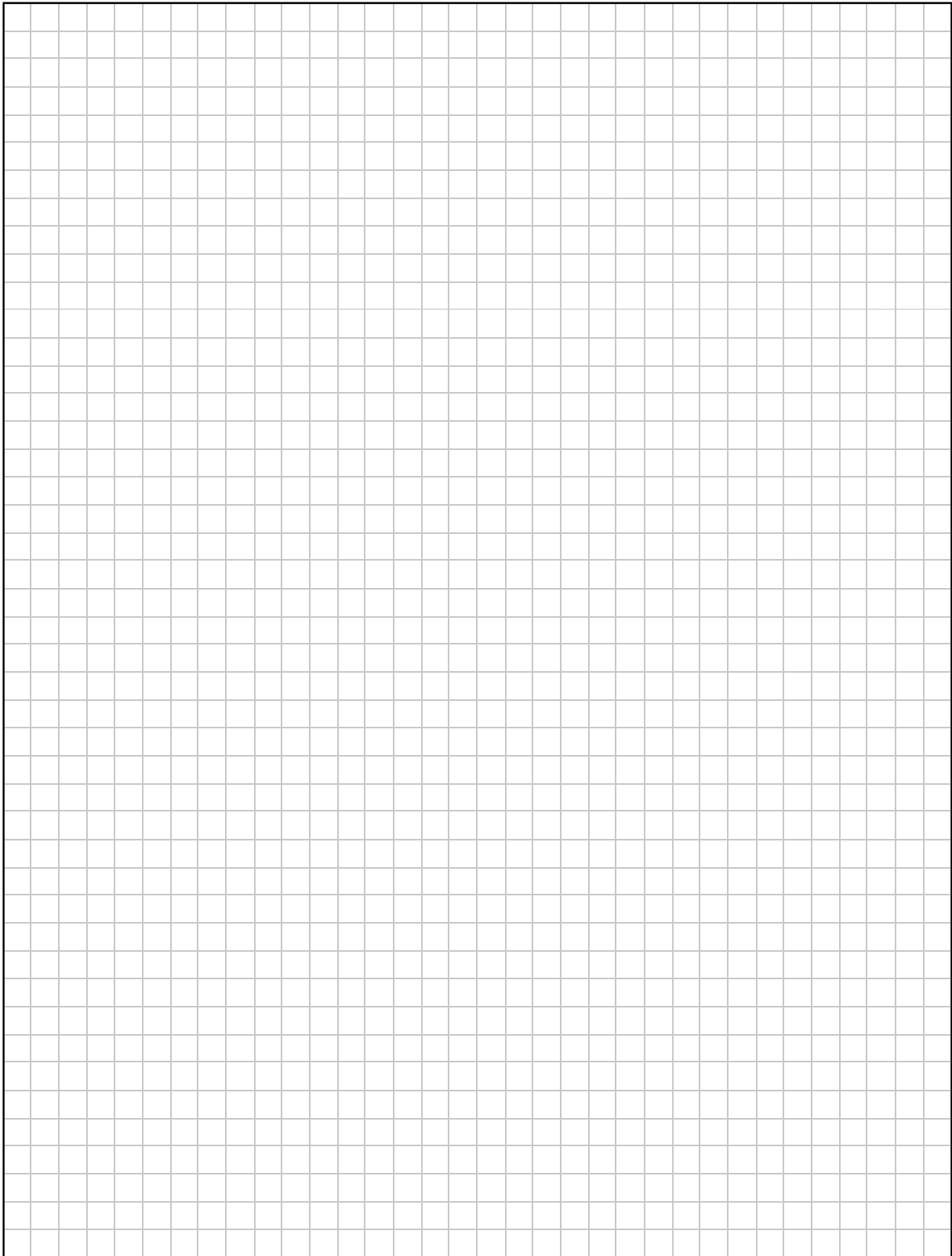
(iii) Calculate the time it takes for the sliotar to reach its maximum height.



(iv) Calculate the maximum height of the sliotar.

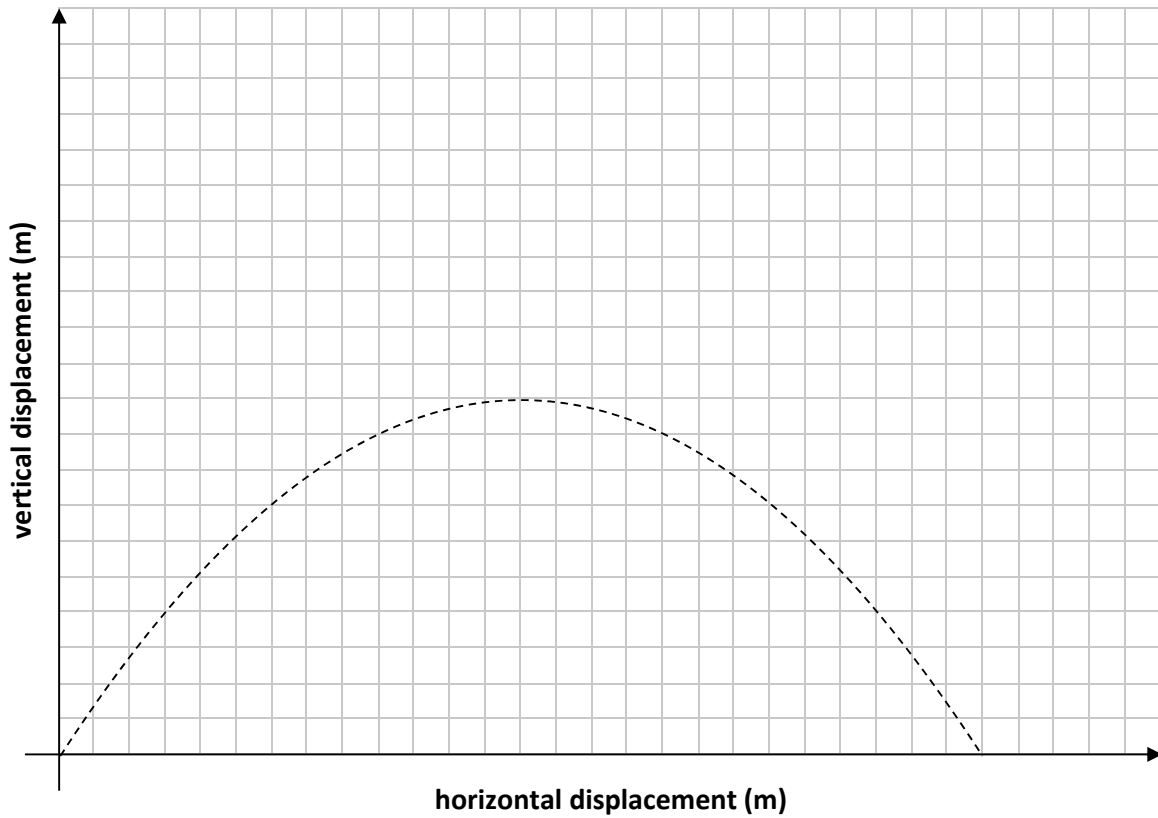


- (v) The crossbar in a camogie goal is 2.5 m above the ground. Calculate the time interval during which the sliotar is at least 2.5 m above the ground.



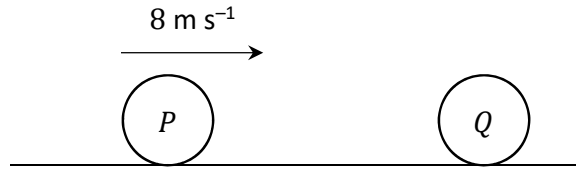
(vi) The graph below shows the predicted path of the sliotar when the effects of wind and the effects of air resistance are ignored. The graph is not drawn to scale.

Using the same axes, sketch the path you would expect the sliotar to take if the model took into account the effects of air resistance (but not the effects of wind).



Question 5

- (a) A small smooth sphere, P , of mass m , travels along a horizontal surface at a constant speed of 8 m s^{-1} . It collides with another small smooth sphere, Q , of mass $3m$, which is at rest.

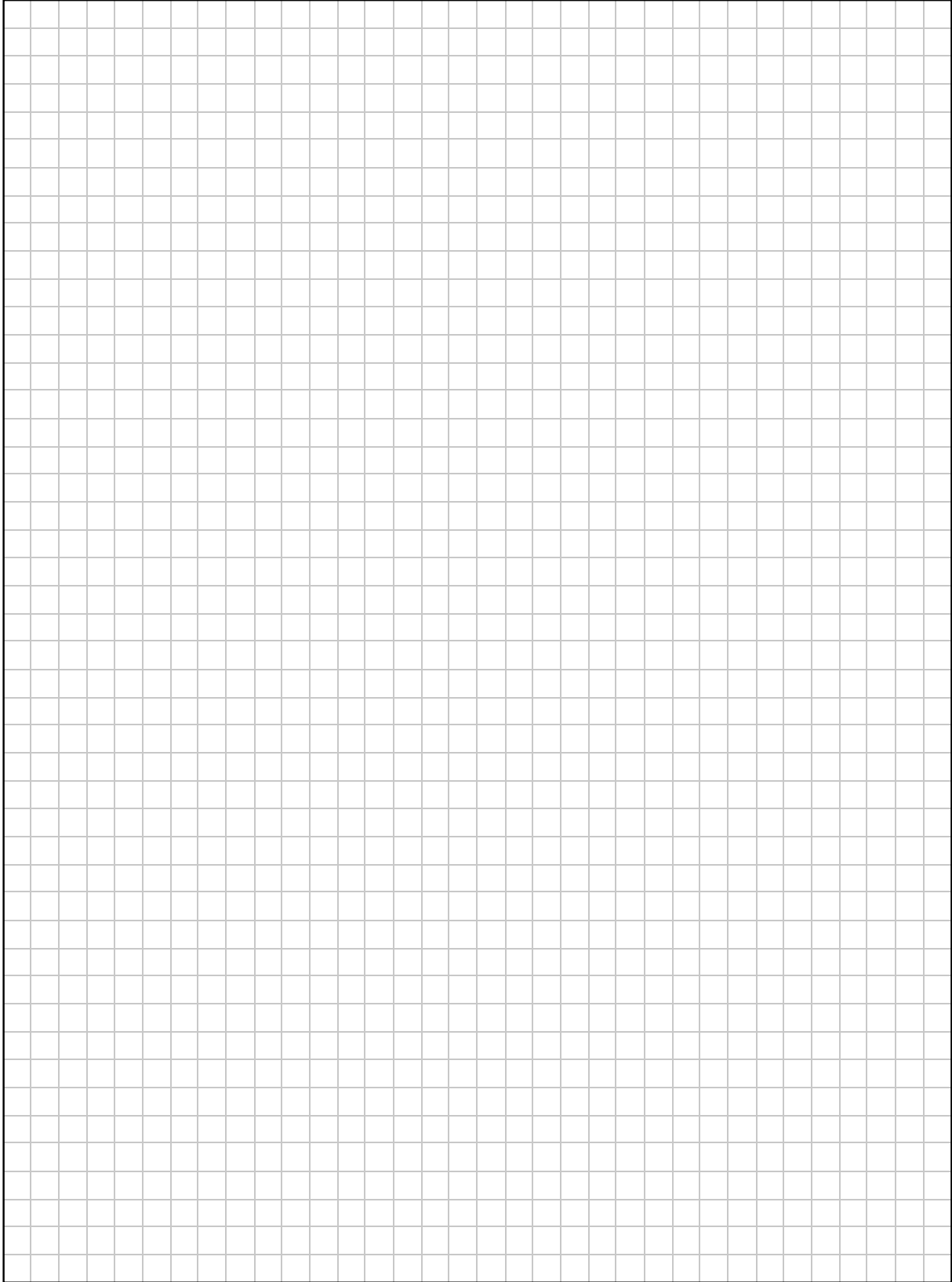


The coefficient of restitution between the spheres is $\frac{3}{8}$.

- (i) Calculate the velocity of P and the velocity of Q after impact.

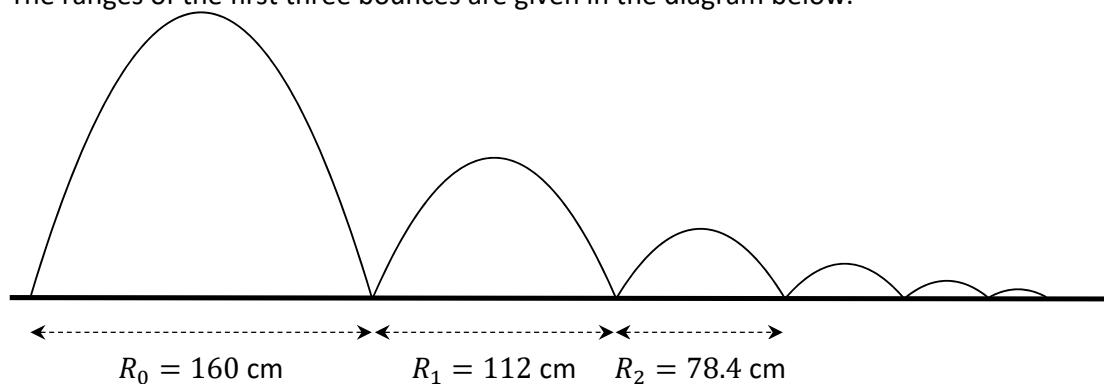
A large rectangular area filled with a grid of small squares, intended for the student to show their calculations and work for part (i) of the question.

(ii) Calculate, in terms of m , the loss in kinetic energy due to the impact.



- (b) A tennis ball bounces across a tennis court. It is found that some of the ball's kinetic energy is lost each time it hits the ground, such that the horizontal range, R , of each bounce is 70% of the range of the previous bounce.

The ranges of the first three bounces are given in the diagram below.



This geometric sequence may be represented by the difference equation:

$$R_{n+1} = 0.7R_n$$

where $n \geq 0$, $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $R_0 = 160$ cm.

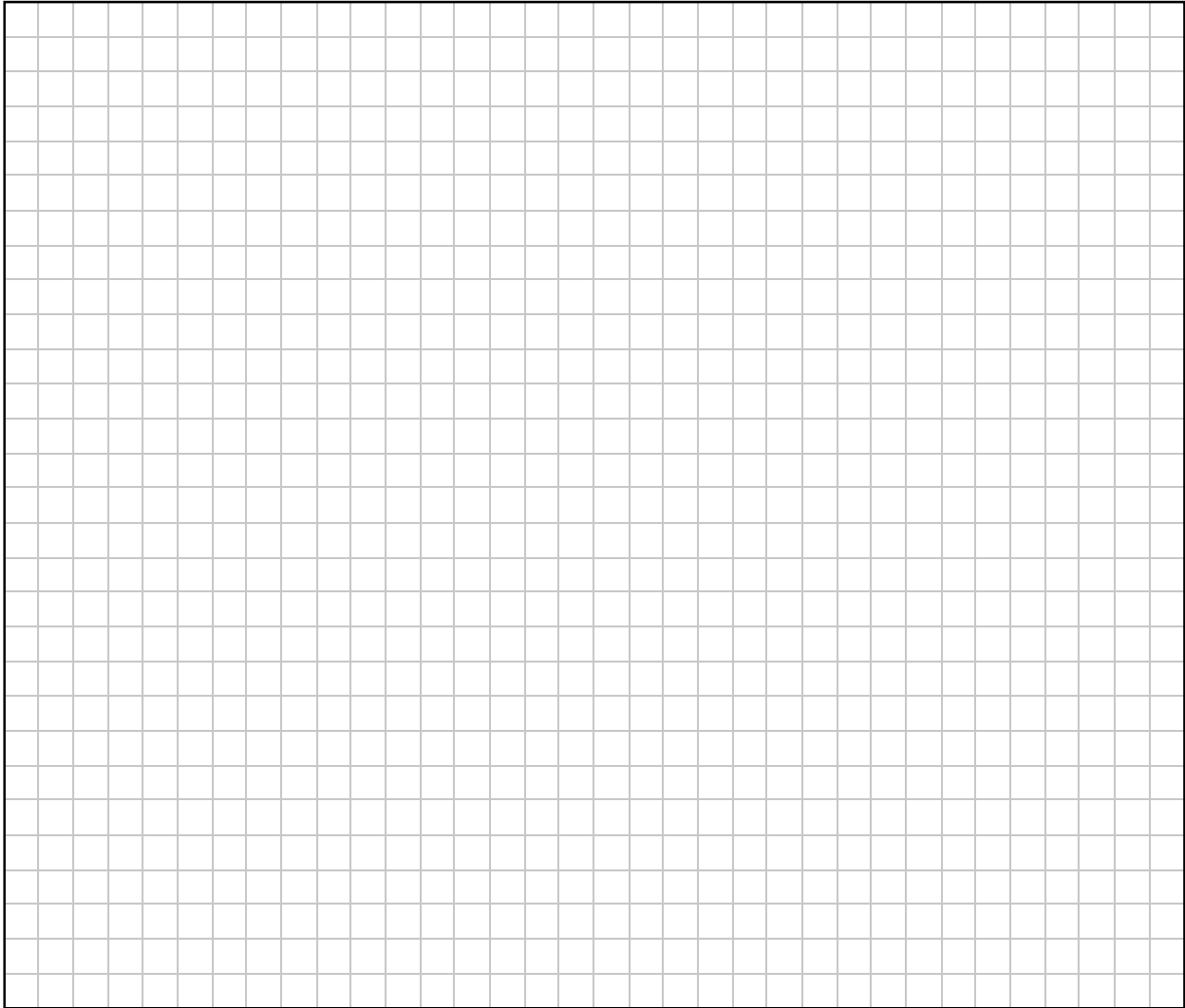
- (i) Solve this difference equation to find an expression for R_n in terms of n .

A large rectangular grid area provided for the student to show their work for part (i). The grid is approximately 20 units wide and 25 units high.

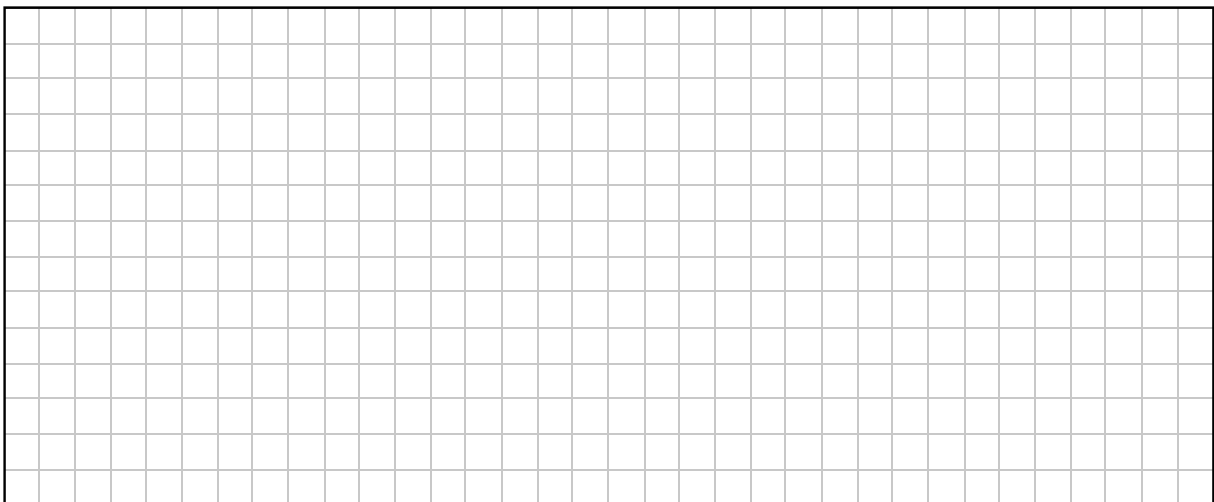
- (ii) Calculate R_6 in cm, to two decimal places.

A large rectangular grid area provided for the student to show their work for part (ii). The grid is approximately 20 units wide and 25 units high.

(iii) Calculate S_6 , the sum of the ranges of the first seven bounces, in cm, to two decimal places.

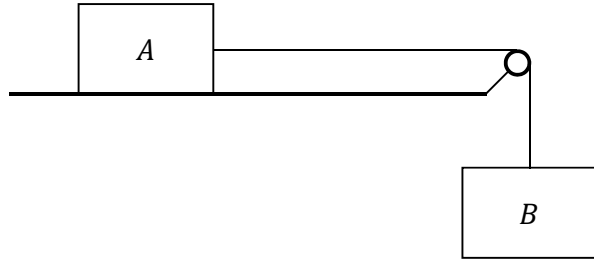


(iv) Write a difference equation for the horizontal ranges of the bounces if no kinetic energy is lost when the ball hits the ground.



Question 6

Block *A*, of mass 4 kg, rests on a rough horizontal table. It is connected to block *B*, of mass 6 kg, by a light inextensible string which passes over a fixed smooth pulley at the edge of the table.



When the system is released from rest, block *A* is 40 cm from the pulley.

The coefficient of friction between block *A* and the table is $\frac{1}{2}$.

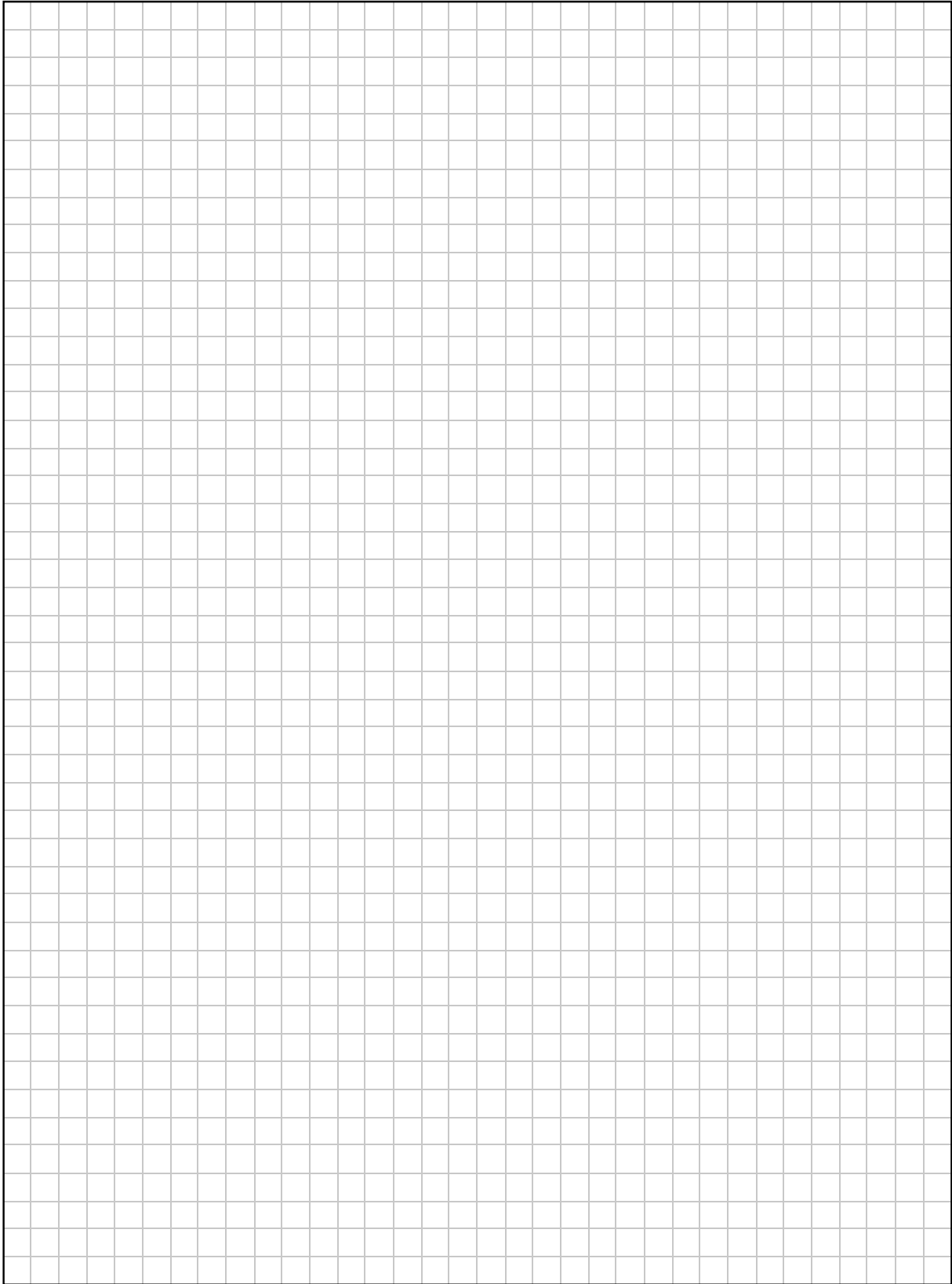
(i) Draw diagrams to show the forces acting on blocks *A* and *B* while they are moving.

A large rectangular area filled with a fine grid, intended for drawing free-body diagrams for blocks A and B.

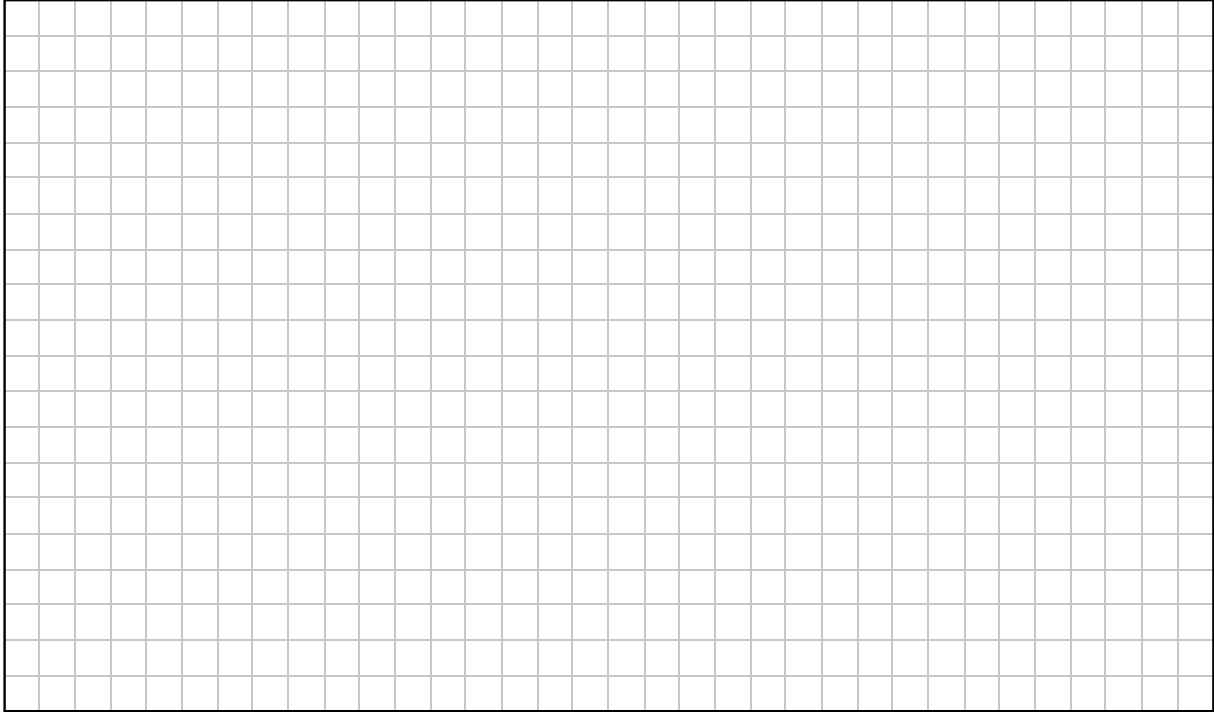
(ii) Calculate the frictional force acting on block *A* while it is moving.

A large rectangular area filled with a fine grid, intended for showing the calculation of the frictional force.

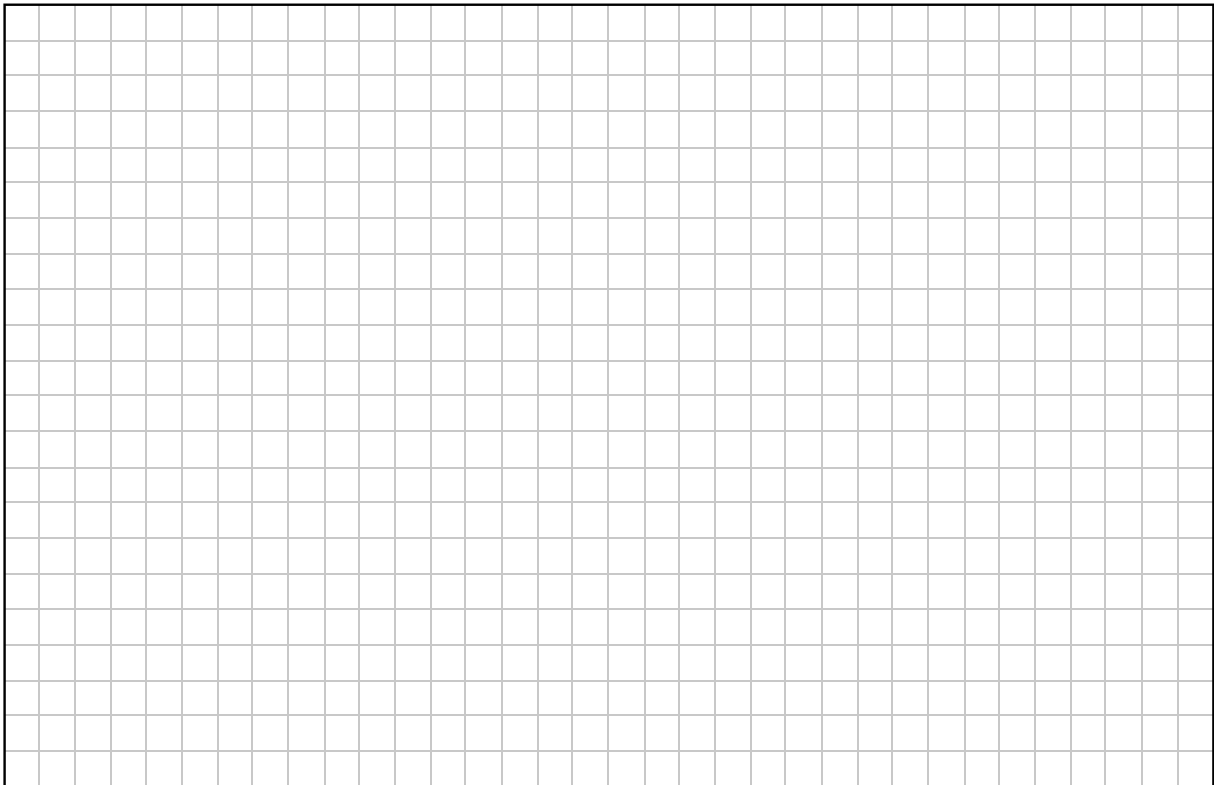
(iii) Calculate the tension in the string and the acceleration of the blocks while they are moving.



(iv) Calculate the speed of block *A* when it reaches the pulley.

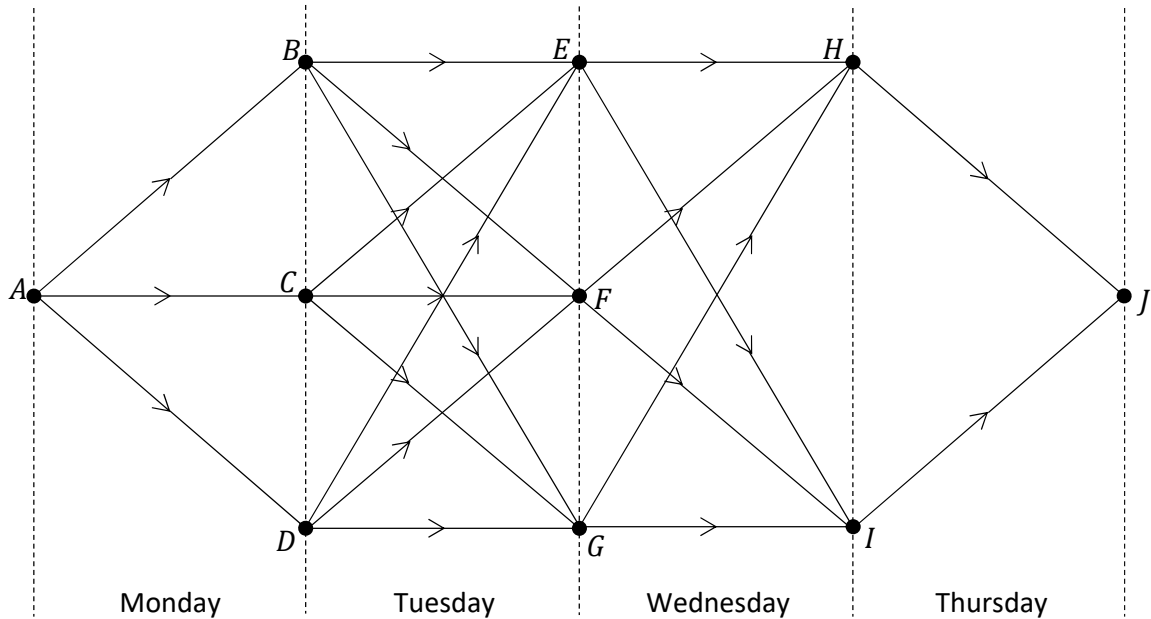


(v) Explain why it would not be appropriate to model this problem using the principle of conservation of energy.



- (c) A coach operator wishes to design a new four-day coach route from city A to city J . The coach will depart from city A on Monday morning and should arrive in city J on Thursday evening. On Monday night the coach will stop in city B , C or D . On Tuesday night the coach will stop in city E , F or G . On Wednesday night the coach will stop in city H or I . Passengers may begin or end their journey at any city.

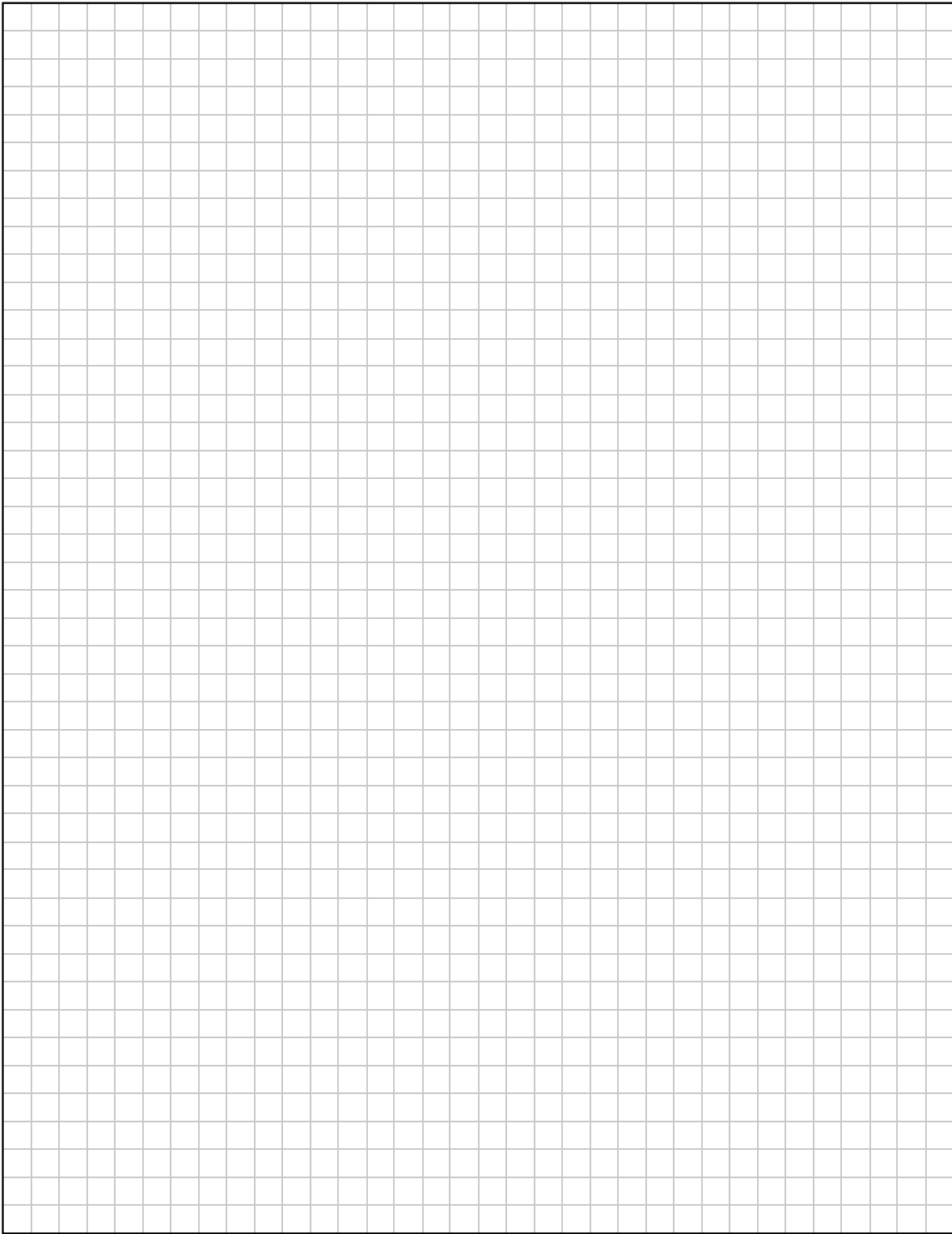
The operator draws the network shown below to help him design this route.



The table below gives the number of passengers who wish to travel between pairs of cities on each day.

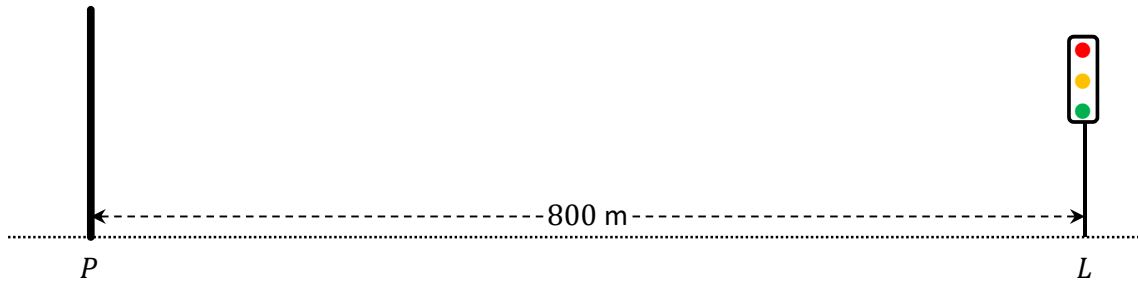
Journey	Number of passengers	Journey	Number of passengers
A to B	32	D to F	45
A to C	27	D to G	23
A to D	19	E to H	43
B to E	36	E to I	34
B to F	41	F to H	17
B to G	45	F to I	26
C to E	22	G to H	32
C to F	38	G to I	46
C to G	29	H to J	36
D to E	30	I to J	25

Use Bellman's Principle of Optimality to calculate the path from city A to city J which maximises the number of passengers who use the coach. Relevant supporting work must be shown.



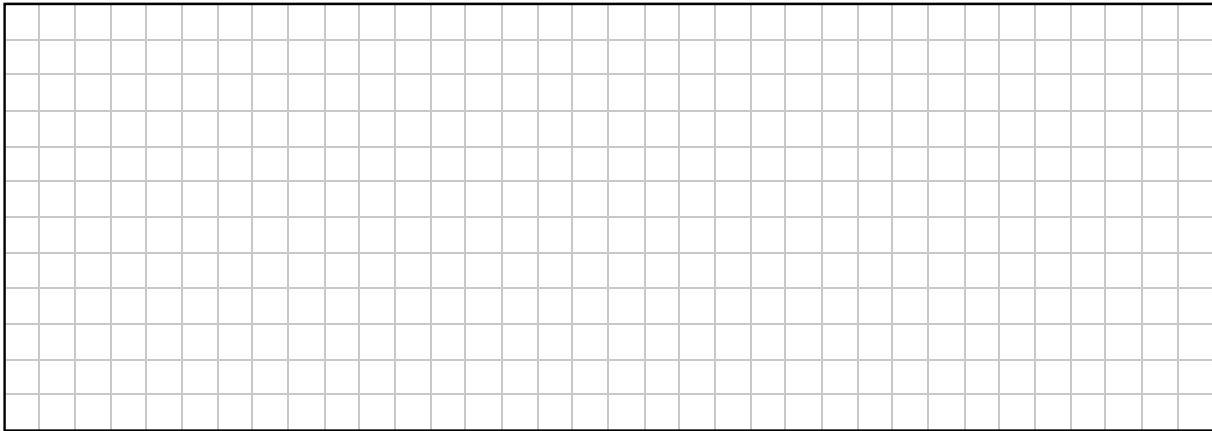
Question 8

Pole P and traffic lights L lie 800 m apart on a straight level road, as in the diagram below.

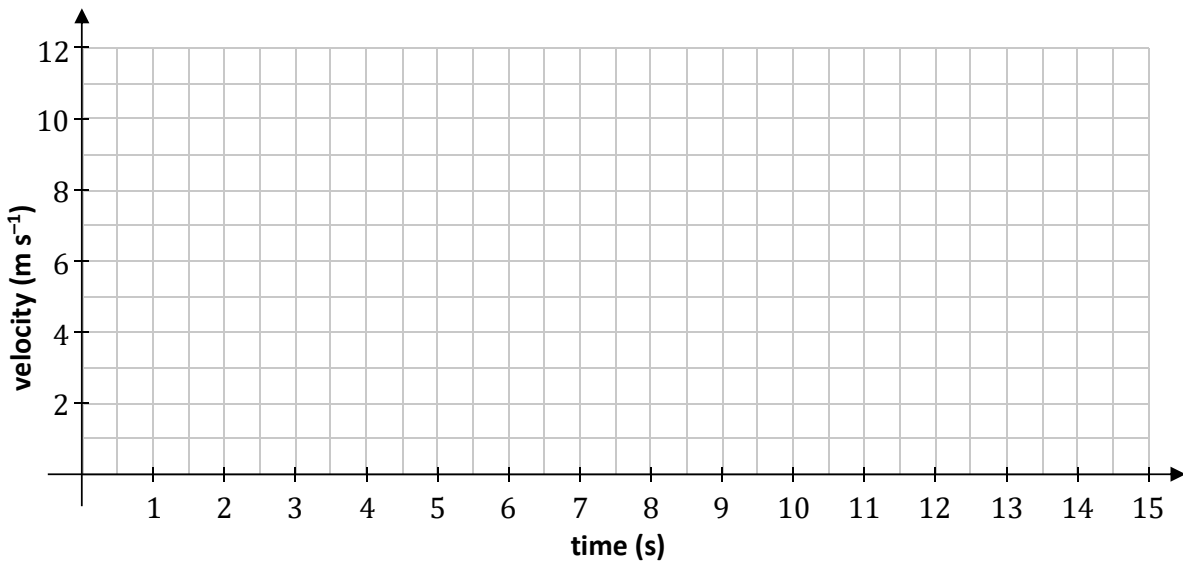


A car passes P travelling towards L with a speed of 5 m s^{-1} and an acceleration of 0.4 m s^{-2} . At the same moment, a motorcycle passes L travelling towards P with a speed of 4 m s^{-1} and an acceleration of 0.6 m s^{-2} .

- (i) Calculate the speed of the car 15 s after it passes P .



- (ii) Draw a velocity-time graph for the motion of the car for the first 15 s after it passes P .



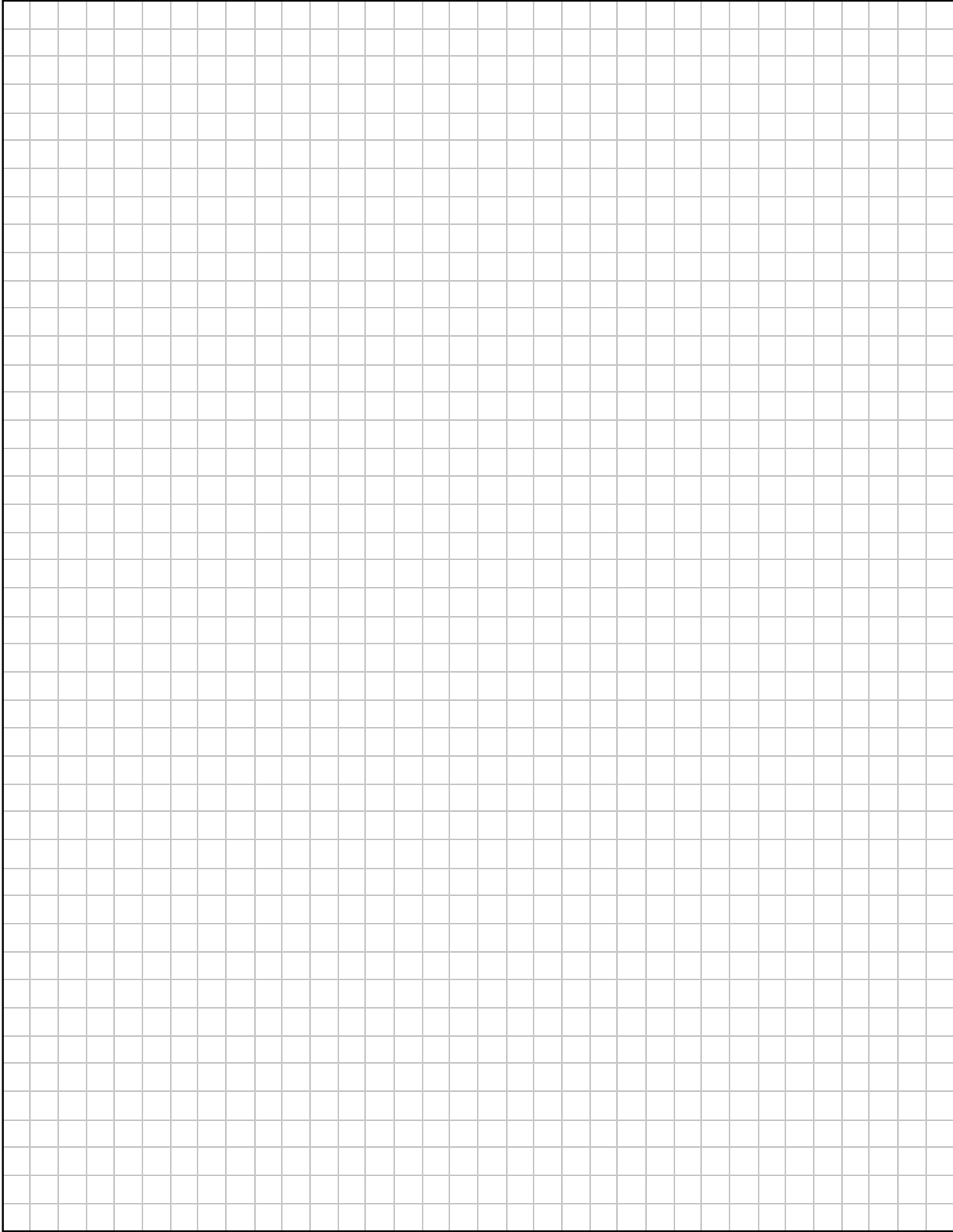
(iii) Write an expression for $s_c(t)$, the displacement of the car from P at any time t .

(iv) Write an expression for $s_m(t)$, the displacement of the motorcycle from L at any time t .

(v) The car and the motorcycle pass each other after T seconds. Calculate T .

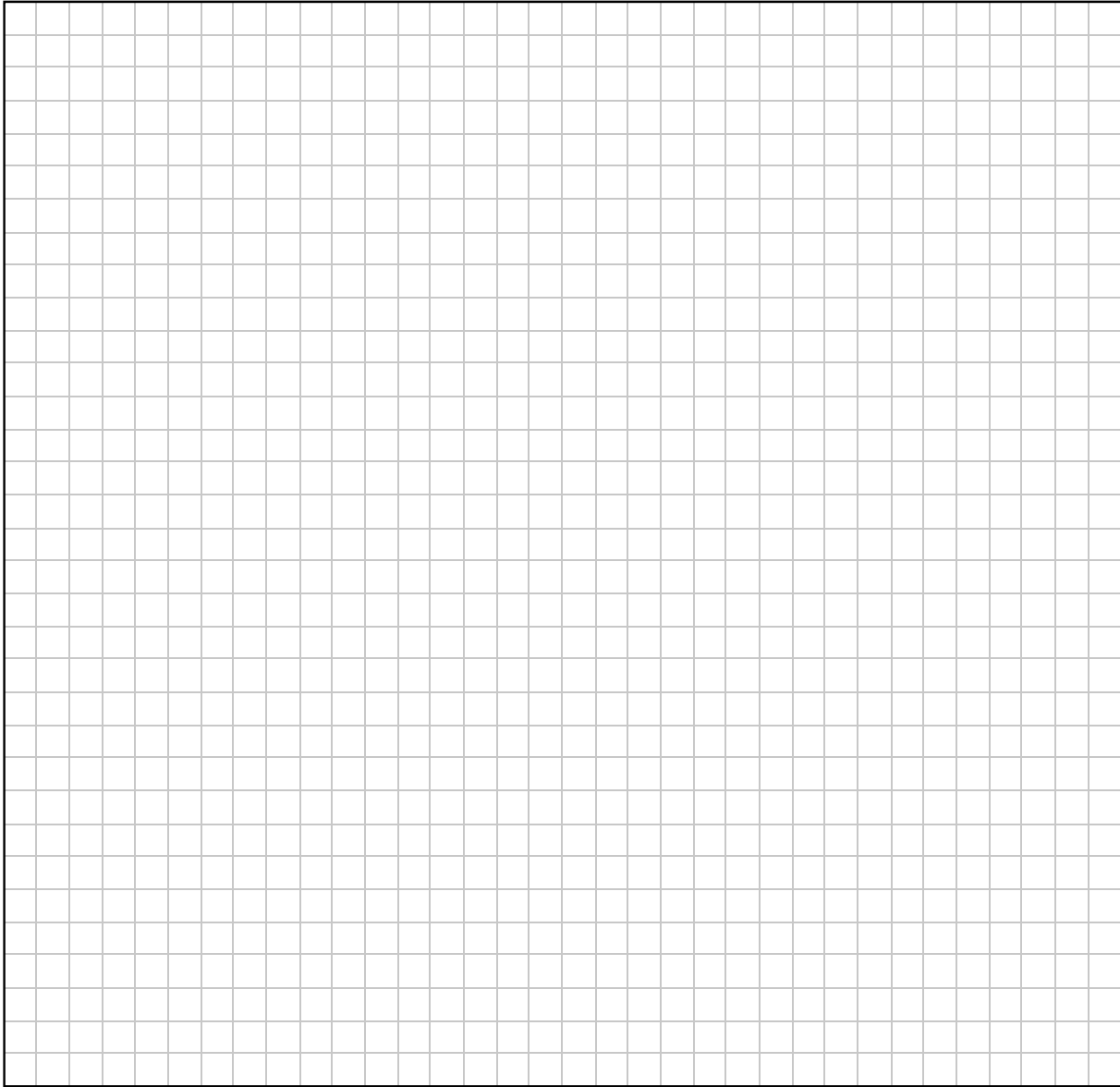
At the instant that the car and motorcycle pass each other, the car stops accelerating and continues travelling at the velocity it has at that instant.

(vi) Calculate the total time it takes the car to travel from P to L .



Page for extra work.

Label any extra work clearly with the question number and part.



Acknowledgements

Images

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Leaving Certificate – Ordinary Level

Applied Mathematics

Sample Paper

2 hours and 30 minutes