Potential and Kinetic Energy
VELOCITY

Velocity is a measure of how fast an object is traveling in a certain direction.

• Example: A bus traveling North at 150 m/s
• Example: A car is traveling 45 mph South.
• Example: A truck is traveling 60 mph East.
VELOCITY

Velocity = distance ÷ time plus a direction
Car on a circular track = may have constant speed, but cannot maintain a constant velocity as it’s direction is always changing.
SPEED

– Speed is a measure of how fast something is moving, but there is **not** a directional element to it.

– Speed is the distance an object moves over a period of time.

– Speed = Distance ÷ Time \( (S = D / T) \)
Gravity

• The force that pulls objects towards each other.

• The force of gravity on Earth is 9.8 meters per second (m/s²)

• The force of gravity between two objects depends on the mass of each object and distance between the two objects.
Motion

• Objects "tend to keep on doing what they're doing"

• In fact, it is the natural tendency of objects to resist changes in their state of motion.

• Without some outside influence, an object in motion will remain in motion and an object at rest will remain at rest.

• All objects need energy to change their position.
Energy

• Energy: is the ability to do work

• Work is being done whenever a force moves an object in the same direction as the force being applied.
Energy means that
• birds can fly,
• tigers can roar,
• wind can blow,
• sun can shine,
• cars can go fast,
• factories can make things,
• light bulbs can glow and
• your computer can work.
Without energy, there would be nothing: no life, no movement, no light, ... nothing
Energy

• There are 2 types of energy
  – Potential energy
  – Kinetic energy

• Energy changes from potential to kinetic, but is never destroyed or created.
Kinetic Energy

• The amount of Kinetic energy is dependent on the **mass** and **speed** of an object.

• *Kinetic energy is the energy of motion.*
Calculating kinetic energy

If we know the mass of an object and its velocity we can determine the amount of kinetic energy.

**kinetic energy** = \( \frac{1}{2} \text{(mass of object)} \text{(velocity of object)}^2 \)

or \( KE = \frac{1}{2} \text{mv}^2 \)

or \( KE = 0.5\text{mv}^2 \)

The SI unit for kinetic energy is the Joule (J).

A Joule is a kilogram x meters/seconds.
Calculating Kinetic Energy

A 1200 kg automobile is traveling at a velocity of 100 m/s northwest.

What is the kinetic energy of the automobile?

\[
KE = 0.5 \text{mv}^2 = 0.5(1200\text{kg})(100 \text{ m/s})^2
\]

\[
= 0.5(1200 \text{ kg})(10000 \text{ m/s})
\]

\[
= (600\text{kg})(10000 \text{ m/s})
\]

\[
= 6000000 \text{ kg x m/s}
\]

\[
= 6000000 \text{ Joules (J)}
\]
You Try

A bicycle with a mass of 14 kg traveling at a velocity of 3.0 m/s east has how much kinetic energy? KE = 0.5mv^2
A bicycle with a mass of 14 kg traveling at a velocity of 3.0 m/s east has how much kinetic energy?

\[ KE = 0.5mv^2 \]
\[ = 0.5(14\text{kg})(3\text{m/s})^2 \]
\[ = (7\text{kg})(9\text{m/s}) \]
\[ = 63 \text{ kg x m/s} \]
\[ = 63\text{J} \]
Potential Energy

- Stored energy
- The energy of position
- The amount of energy contained in an object at rest

The massive ball of a demolition machine and the stretched bow possesses stored energy of position - potential energy.
Determining Potential Energy

Determined by its position and its mass

\[ \text{(mass} \times \text{gravity} \times \text{height}) \]

\[ \text{PE} = (\text{mass})(\text{gravity})(\text{height}) = mgh \]

- where \( m \) is mass in kg
- \( g \) is the force of gravity = 9.8 m/s\(^2\)
- \( h \) is the height

- The SI unit that represents potential energy is the Joule (J) = (kg x m/s).
Example of Potential Energy Problem

A flower pot with a mass of 15 kg is sitting on a window sill 15 meters above the ground. How much potential energy does the flower pot contain?

- \[ PE = (\text{mass})(\text{gravity})(\text{height}) \]
- \[ = (15 \text{ kg})(9.8 \text{ m/s})(15 \text{ m}) \]
- \[ = (147 \text{ kg})(15 \text{ m/s}) \]
- \[ = 2205 \text{ kg m/s} \]
- \[ = 2205 \text{ Joules} \]
You Try

• If the flower pot is lowered to a window sill that is 10 meters from the ground. What is the potential energy now?

\[ \text{PE} = (\text{mass})(\text{gravity})(\text{height}) \]

*gravity = 9.8 m/s\(^2\)
Examine an example of potential energy

- If the flower pot is lowered to a window sill that is 10 meters from the ground. What is the potential energy now?

\[
PE = (\text{mass})(\text{gravity})(\text{height})
\]

\[
= (15 \text{ kg})(9.8 \text{ m/s})(10 \text{ m})
\]

\[
= (147 \text{ kg x m/s})(10\text{m})
\]

\[
= 1470 \text{ kg x m/s}
\]

\[
= 1470 \text{ Joules}
\]
Potential or Kinetic Energy?

• Moving car
• Tree branch
• Bent car fender
• Balloon filled with air
• Balloon floating around a room
• Person inside a moving car
Potential energy

Kinetic energy of movement

More energy supplied by tugging string

Kinetic energy of rotation
• What type of energy does the space shuttle mostly have after liftoff?
• What type of energy did the space shuttle mostly have before liftoff?
Law of Conservation of Energy

• Energy is NEVER created or destroyed; it just CHANGES forms.
• Energy can change from one form to another.
• Energy is all around us and is constantly changing from one form to another.
Examples of Law of Conservation of Energy

• Parked car begins moving = energy of the car changes from potential to kinetic.

• A ball rolling across a field hits a rock and stops moving = energy of the car changes from kinetic to potential.

• A rock at the top of a hill begins to roll down the hill = energy changes from potential to kinetic.
Conversion of Potential to Kinetic Energy

- As one type of energy increases another type of energy decreases.
- In this picture the people are slowing down as they reach the top of the hill, so as potential energy increases, kinetic energy decreases.
• Objects slowing down are constantly increasing in potential energy and decreasing in kinetic energy.

• Object speeding up are constantly in kinetic energy and decreasing in potential energy.
Explain how the roller coaster is an example of the law of conservation of energy?
Total amount of energy stays the same, energy only changes forms as the roller coaster speeds up and slows down.
• What position do you think the pendulum has the most kinetic energy? Least kinetic energy?

• What position do you think the pendulum has the most potential energy? Least potential energy?
Suppose the pendulum started moving at position 1 and continued to position 5.

1. Position with greatest kinetic energy? ____
2. Position with least kinetic energy? ____
3. Position with greatest potential energy? ____
4. Position with least potential energy? ____