Forces and motion

Pearson Edexcel · International GCSE · Physics · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
acceleration /əkˌseləˈreɪʃn/	The car speeds up quickly, so its **acceleration** is large.
vector /ˈvektə/	Velocity is a **vector** because it has a direction.
resultant force /rɪˈzʌltənt fɔːs/	If the **resultant force** is zero, the speed does not change.
friction /ˈfrɪkʃn/	**Friction** slows down a box sliding across the floor.
terminal velocity /ˈtɜːmɪnl vəˈlɒsɪti/	A skydiver reaches **terminal velocity** after a few seconds.
elastic behaviour /ɪˈlæstɪk bɪˈheɪvjə/	The spring shows **elastic behaviour** up to its limit.
Hooke law /hʊk lɔː/	**Hooke law** says the extension is proportional to the force.
momentum /məʊˈmentəm/	A heavy truck has a lot of **momentum**.
moment /ˈməʊmənt/	A long spanner gives a larger **moment**.
centre of gravity /ˈsentə ɒv ˈgrævɪti/	A bus tips over if its **centre of gravity** is too high.

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