

E1.12 Rates

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 32 marks

KEY WORDS average speed 平均速度 • density 密度 • mass 质量 • volume 体积 • pressure 压强

Objective

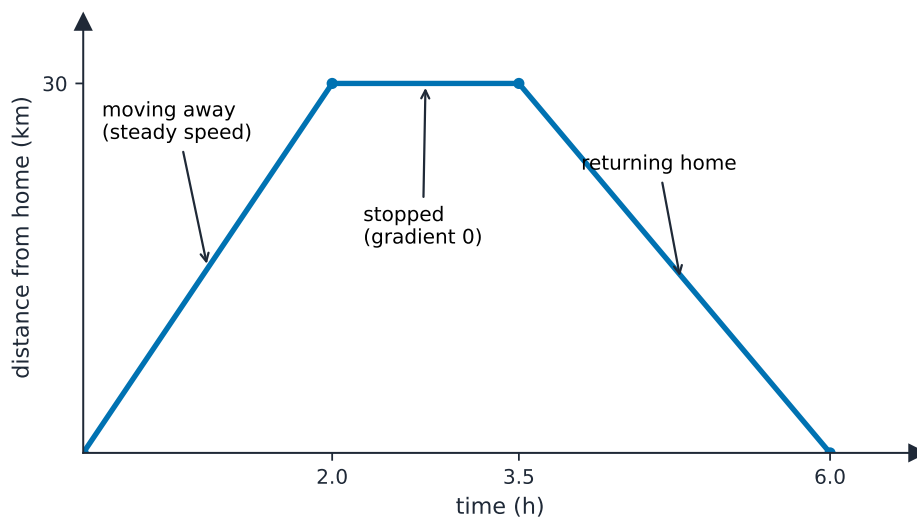
Build the skills to answer Extended exam questions on **rates** 比率 — **average speed** 平均速度, **density** 密度, and other rates that combine two quantities.

You must be able to:

- use average speed = $\frac{\text{distance}}{\text{time}}$
- use density = $\frac{\text{mass}}{\text{volume}}$
- convert times correctly and rearrange a rate formula

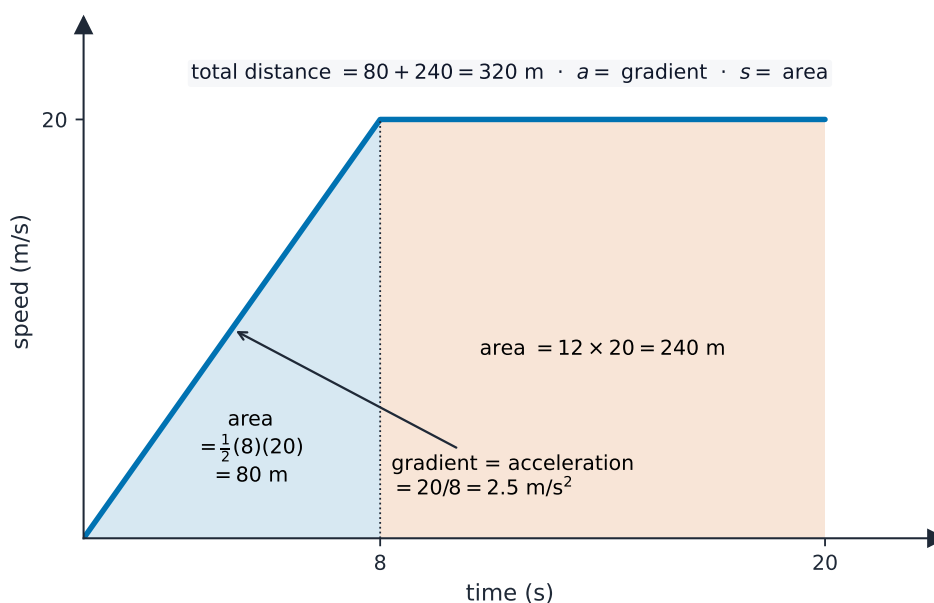
1 Worked examples

■ Speed, distance, time



speed = gradient of distance-time graph · flat $\Rightarrow$ speed = 0

A rate compares two quantities in different units



A rate also reads off a speed-time graph

$$\text{average speed} = \frac{\text{total distance}}{\text{total time}} \quad \text{density} = \frac{\text{mass}}{\text{volume}}$$

- **Worked:** 45 km in 3 h 45 min = 3.75 h $\rightarrow$ speed = $\frac{45}{3.75} = 12 \text{ km/h}$.
- Change minutes to a decimal of an hour (45 min = 0.75 h) — **not** 3.45.

Answer shapes: **M1** a correct method, **A1** the correct answer.

■ Three formulas with the same shape

$$\text{speed} = \frac{\text{distance}}{\text{time}} \quad \text{density} = \frac{\text{mass}}{\text{volume}} \quad \text{pressure} = \frac{\text{force}}{\text{area}}$$

Each rearranges the same way, and each is checked the same way — by the **units**. If a speed comes out in km/h but the question wanted m/s, the conversion is part of the answer.

The unit conversions worth memorising:

- $1 \text{ km/h} = \frac{1000}{3600} \text{ m/s}$, so **divide by 3.6** to go from km/h to m/s and multiply by 3.6 to come back.
- $1 \text{ m}^3 = 1\,000\,000 \text{ cm}^3$, and $1 \text{ g/cm}^3 = 1000 \text{ kg/m}^3$.
- Time given as 2 h 30 min must become 2.5 h — **not** 2.30.

△ **Average speed is total distance $\div$ total time**, never the average of the speeds. A journey of 60 km at 60 km/h then 60 km at 30 km/h takes $1 + 2 = 3$ hours for 120 km, so the average speed is 40 km/h — not the 45 you get by averaging the two speeds. That difference is a favourite exam question, and averaging the speeds is the trap it is set to catch.

Worked example. A car travels 150 km in 1 h 15 min. Find its average speed in km/h and in m/s.

1. 1 h 15 min = 1.25 h.
2. Speed = $\frac{150}{1.25} = 120$ km/h.
3. In m/s: $120 \div 3.6 = 33.3$ m/s (3 s.f.).

2 Practice

2.1 A car travels 120 km in 2 hours. Calculate its average speed. [1]

2.2 A metal block has mass 240 g and volume 30 cm^3 . Calculate its density. [2]

2.3 A runner's average speed is 5 m/s. How far does she run in 40 seconds? [2]

2.4 Convert 72 km/h to m/s. [2]

2.5 A block has mass 480 g and volume 60 cm^3 . Find its density. [2]

2.6 A force of 250 N acts on an area of 0.5 m^2 . Find the pressure. [2]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 A train travels 150 km in 1 hour 30 minutes. Calculate its average speed in km/h. [2]

3.2 Gold has a density of 19.3 g/cm^3 . Calculate the mass of a gold bar of volume 50 cm^3 . [2]

3.3 A cyclist travels 36 km at an average speed of 24 km/h. Calculate the time taken, in minutes. [3]

3.4 A lorry travels from town A to town B, a distance of 135 km, in 1 h 48 min.

- (a) Calculate the average speed of the lorry in km/h. [3]

- (b) Convert this speed to m/s, giving your answer to 3 significant figures. [2]

- (c) The lorry returns from B to A at an average speed of 90 km/h. Calculate the average speed for the whole journey there and back. [4]

- (d) Explain why the answer to (c) is not the mean of the two speeds. [2]

- (e) The lorry carries a steel block of volume 0.4 m^3 . Steel has a density of 7.8 g/cm^3 . Calculate the mass of the block in tonnes. [3]