

1. A mass on a horizontal spring is pulled to the right and released. At which position is the object's kinetic energy greatest?
 - A. Passing through equilibrium
 - B. At maximum displacement to the right
 - C. At maximum displacement to the left
 - D. Halfway between equilibrium and amplitude
 - E. Immediately after release
2. Which statement best defines simple harmonic motion (SHM)?
 - A. Motion where acceleration is proportional to displacement and directed toward equilibrium
 - B. Motion where velocity is constant in magnitude and changes direction periodically
 - C. Motion where restoring force is constant in magnitude
 - D. Motion with no restoring force but constant amplitude
 - E. Motion where kinetic energy is always greater than potential energy
3. For a mass-spring system, which parameter does the period depend on (for small oscillations)?
 - A. Mass and spring constant
 - B. Amplitude only
 - C. Gravity and amplitude
 - D. Damping coefficient only
 - E. Material of the spring but not its stiffness
4. Two identical pendulums have lengths L and $4L$. Which has the longer period?
 - A. The one of length $4L$
 - B. The one of length L
 - C. They have the same period
 - D. Period depends on amplitude, so cannot tell
 - E. The longer one if its mass is larger
5. In small-angle approximations for a simple pendulum, the period does NOT depend on:
 - A. Amplitude (for small angles)
 - B. Length of the string
 - C. Local gravitational acceleration
 - D. Mass of the bob
 - E. Whether the bob is spherical or cubic (shape only)
6. Where is the potential energy of an oscillating mass-spring system maximum?
 - A. At maximum displacement (amplitude)

- B. At equilibrium position
 - C. When the block is moving fastest
 - D. Halfway between equilibrium and amplitude
 - E. Right after the mass is released
7. A driving force applied near a system's natural frequency typically causes:
- A. Large amplitude (resonance) if damping is small
 - B. No change in amplitude compared to driving at zero frequency
 - C. Amplitude to drop to zero
 - D. Period to become independent of mass
 - E. The system to immediately stop oscillating
8. If the mass on a spring is doubled (spring constant unchanged), the period will:
- A. Increase (longer period)
 - B. Decrease (shorter period)
 - C. Stay the same
 - D. Become independent of spring constant
 - E. Become zero
9. Damping (like friction) in an oscillator primarily does which of the following?
- A. Reduces amplitude and removes mechanical energy over time
 - B. Increases frequency while keeping amplitude constant
 - C. Converts potential energy into stored elastic energy only
 - D. Increases the equilibrium position
 - E. Makes the restoring force proportional to velocity instead of displacement
10. For a simple harmonic oscillator, the acceleration is zero when the displacement is:
- A. Zero (at equilibrium)
 - B. Maximum positive displacement
 - C. Maximum negative displacement
 - D. One-quarter of the amplitude
 - E. Half the amplitude
11. Which pair of variables is 90° out of phase in an undamped SHM?
- A. Displacement and velocity
 - B. Displacement and acceleration
 - C. Velocity and kinetic energy
 - D. Potential energy and total mechanical energy
 - E. Displacement and potential energy

12. A pendulum bob reaches its maximum speed at:
- A. The lowest point (equilibrium)
 - B. The highest point in its swing
 - C. Halfway between highest and lowest point always
 - D. When the tension is maximum
 - E. Immediately after being released
13. The angular frequency ω of a spring–mass oscillator is larger when:
- A. The spring constant k is larger (mass fixed)
 - B. The mass is larger (k fixed)
 - C. Amplitude is larger (mass & k fixed)
 - D. The system is more heavily damped
 - E. The oscillator is driven at resonance
14. Two springs in series (same spring constant k) attached to a mass produce an effective spring constant that is:
- A. Smaller than k (system is softer)
 - B. Larger than k (system is stiffer)
 - C. Equal to k
 - D. Infinite
 - E. Zero
15. If a spring's amplitude is doubled (small oscillations), the period will:
- A. Remain essentially unchanged (for SHM)
 - B. Double
 - C. Halve
 - D. Increase by a factor of four
 - E. Become unpredictable
16. Which energy statement is true for an ideal (no damping) oscillator?
- A. Total mechanical energy remains constant during oscillation
 - B. Total energy steadily decreases as time goes on
 - C. Kinetic energy is always equal to potential energy
 - D. Potential energy is always zero at equilibrium
 - E. Energy is only kinetic — no potential energy
17. In a driven oscillation, the amplitude is largest when the driving frequency is:
- A. Close to the natural frequency (and damping is small)
 - B. Much smaller than the natural frequency
 - C. Much larger than the natural frequency

- D. Zero
- E. Exactly twice the natural frequency

18. When an oscillating object passes through equilibrium, which is true about its acceleration and velocity?
- A. Velocity is maximum and acceleration is zero
 - B. Velocity is zero and acceleration is maximum
 - C. Both velocity and acceleration are maximum
 - D. Both are zero
 - E. Velocity is negative and acceleration is positive
19. For a mass attached to a spring on a horizontal frictionless surface, increasing the spring constant k (mass fixed) will:
- A. Decrease the period (makes oscillations faster)
 - B. Increase the period (make oscillations slower)
 - C. Not change the period
 - D. Change amplitude but not period
 - E. Change equilibrium position
20. Which describes the restoring force in SHM of a mass on a spring?
- A. Directed toward equilibrium and proportional to displacement
 - B. Directed away from equilibrium and proportional to displacement
 - C. Constant in magnitude and direction
 - D. Proportional to the mass but independent of displacement
 - E. Proportional to velocity
21. Two identical mass–spring systems oscillate. One has larger amplitude than the other. Which is true (ideal SHM)?
- A. Both have the same frequency and period
 - B. The one with larger amplitude has lower frequency
 - C. The one with larger amplitude has higher frequency
 - D. The periods depend on amplitude; need numbers
 - E. The larger-amplitude system has more mass
22. A simple pendulum's period will change if you move it to a planet with greater g . Which way?
- A. The period becomes shorter (oscillates faster)
 - B. The period becomes longer (oscillates slower)
 - C. The period is unchanged by g
 - D. The period becomes infinite

E. The pendulum stops oscillating

23. Which best describes resonance in everyday terms?

- A. When a periodic push matches an object's natural rhythm and builds amplitude
- B. When an object stops moving regardless of pushes
- C. When frequency and period are both zero
- D. When amplitude is always zero
- E. When damping causes amplitude to grow

24. In SHM, the phase describes:

- A. The position within the oscillation cycle at a given time
- B. How much energy is in the system
- C. The amplitude's sign only
- D. The mass multiplied by the spring constant
- E. The damping coefficient

25. For small oscillations a pendulum's period is independent of the bob's mass because:

- A. Both gravitational force and inertia scale with mass, canceling out
- B. The gravitational force is zero for all masses
- C. A heavier mass stretches the string, reducing period
- D. Mass cancels only if bob is frictionless
- E. The length of string changes with mass

26. If you compress a spring and hold it, the force you feel when you release is:

- A. A restoring force directed outward proportional to the displacement
- B. A constant outward force independent of compression
- C. A force that points toward the compression direction only
- D. Zero because spring is at rest before release
- E. Frictional force only

27. What happens to the amplitude of a lightly damped oscillator over many cycles?

- A. It gradually decreases toward zero
- B. It stays exactly the same
- C. It increases exponentially
- D. It alternates randomly between values
- E. It immediately becomes zero

28. In SHM, at the instant when the displacement is halfway to the amplitude (and moving outward), the kinetic energy is:

- A. Less than at equilibrium but greater than zero

- B. Maximal (equal to total energy)
- C. Zero
- D. Equal to the potential energy always
- E. Negative

29. When comparing two oscillators, one with damping and one without, which is true about their frequencies?
- A. The damped oscillator typically has a slightly lower oscillation frequency
 - B. The damped oscillator always has much higher frequency
 - C. Damping has no effect on frequency at all
 - D. The undamped oscillator always stops sooner
 - E. The damped oscillator has zero frequency
30. A mass on a spring is pulled to $+x$ amplitude and released. At which point is the spring force greatest in magnitude?
- A. At maximum displacement (amplitude)
 - B. At equilibrium position
 - C. Midway while moving toward equilibrium
 - D. Right after release only
 - E. When the speed is maximum
31. A child on a swing (approximated as a pendulum) wants to increase amplitude without pushing. She can:
- A. Stand and sit in rhythm (changing moment of inertia) at the right times to pump energy in
 - B. Increase the length of the chains without pushing
 - C. Remove air resistance to increase amplitude instantly
 - D. Change the mass of the child to a smaller value and the amplitude grows
 - E. Nothing — amplitude cannot change without outside pushes
32. For a mass-spring oscillator, if the spring constant is quadrupled and mass unchanged, the period changes by what factor? (qualitative)
- A. The period decreases (oscillates faster)
 - B. The period increases (slower)
 - C. The period is unchanged
 - D. The period doubles
 - E. The period depends only on amplitude so cannot tell
33. Which describes the equilibrium position for an oscillating mass on a vertical spring?
- A. Where net force is zero (weight balanced by spring force)

- B. The top of the spring always
 - C. The position of maximum displacement
 - D. The initial release point only
 - E. A point where acceleration is maximum
34. The restoring torque for a simple physical pendulum near equilibrium is proportional to:
- A. Angular displacement (small angles)
 - B. Angular velocity
 - C. Mass only
 - D. Square of the angle always
 - E. Length squared
35. If you double the amplitude of a small-angle pendulum (still small), what happens to the period?
- A. No significant change (period essentially independent of amplitude)
 - B. Period doubles
 - C. Period halves
 - D. Period quadruples
 - E. Period becomes random
36. A mass oscillates and reaches maximum displacement to the right. Its velocity and acceleration at that instant are:
- A. Velocity zero, acceleration directed back toward equilibrium
 - B. Velocity maximum, acceleration zero
 - C. Both zero
 - D. Velocity nonzero, acceleration zero
 - E. Velocity zero, acceleration directed away from equilibrium
37. Which best explains why a mass–spring system exhibits SHM for small displacements?
- A. Hooke’s law makes force proportional to displacement so acceleration $\propto -x$
 - B. Air resistance cancels part of the motion leaving a sinusoid
 - C. Mass always moves in circles, producing SHM projection
 - D. Gravity provides the restoring force in horizontal springs
 - E. The spring stores kinetic energy directly
38. What happens to total mechanical energy of an oscillator with light damping?
- A. It decreases slowly over time due to nonconservative forces
 - B. It remains exactly constant
 - C. It increases as damping converts heat to mechanical energy
 - D. It alternates between increase and decrease every cycle

E. It becomes negative

39. Two identical pendulums are mounted side-by-side. One is slightly pushed periodically at its natural period; the other is not. After some time, which is true?
- A. The pushed pendulum will have larger amplitude due to resonance pumping energy in
 - B. Both will have equal amplitude because natural motion is same
 - C. The pushed one will stop due to interference
 - D. The pushed one will swing in opposite direction only
 - E. The unpushed one will also increase amplitude spontaneously
40. Which best describes phase difference between position and acceleration in SHM?
- A. Position and acceleration are 180° (π radians) out of phase
 - B. Position and acceleration are in phase
 - C. Position leads acceleration by 90°
 - D. Position is random relative to acceleration
 - E. Position and acceleration differ by 45°
41. A mass-spring oscillator is set into motion. If you want to double the maximum kinetic energy at equilibrium, you must:
- A. Double the amplitude (since energy \propto amplitude²)
 - B. Double the mass only
 - C. Halve the amplitude
 - D. Double the spring constant only
 - E. Change damping only
42. If a driving frequency is much higher than a system's natural frequency, the system's response amplitude is generally:
- A. Small (system cannot follow the fast drive effectively)
 - B. Very large due to resonance
 - C. Infinite
 - D. Exactly the same as at resonance
 - E. Negative
43. Which situation indicates underdamped motion?
- A. Oscillations that slowly decrease in amplitude over time
 - B. Motion that returns to equilibrium without oscillating
 - C. Motion that immediately stops after one cycle
 - D. Amplitude increasing with time spontaneously
 - E. No motion at all

44. In SHM, the maximum speed of the object increases if:
- A. Amplitude increases (mass and constants fixed)
 - B. Mass increases while amplitude fixed
 - C. Spring constant decreases while amplitude fixed
 - D. Damping increases slightly
 - E. Equilibrium position shifts
45. For the same small amplitude, a long pendulum compared to a short one has:
- A. A longer period (slower oscillation)
 - B. A shorter period (faster)
 - C. Same period regardless of length
 - D. Greater maximum speed always
 - E. Lower total mechanical energy by necessity
46. Which best describes critically damped motion?
- A. Returns to equilibrium fastest without oscillating
 - B. Oscillates forever with constant amplitude
 - C. Has amplitude increasing to infinity
 - D. Oscillates with constant amplitude but slowly decaying phase
 - E. Returns to equilibrium with infinite overshoot
47. A block on a spring oscillates. At what instant is the elastic potential energy equal to the kinetic energy?
- A. Some point between amplitude and equilibrium (not at extremes)
 - B. At maximum displacement only
 - C. At equilibrium only
 - D. Never — they are never equal in SHM
 - E. Only if amplitude is zero
48. Which is true about small oscillations about a stable equilibrium in general systems?
- A. They are approximately simple harmonic because restoring force $\approx -kx$ near equilibrium
 - B. They are always chaotic and unpredictable
 - C. Period always depends strongly on amplitude even for small displacements
 - D. Damping is necessary to produce SHM
 - E. They always have exactly the same period regardless of potential shape
49. A driven, damped oscillator's steady-state amplitude depends on:
- A. Driving frequency relative to natural frequency and damping strength
 - B. Only the initial amplitude

- C. Only the mass, not the driving frequency
- D. Only the spring constant when driving is present
- E. The color of the oscillator

50. Which one of these indicates that the restoring force is Hookean (follows Hooke's law)?

- A. Force is proportional to displacement and points toward equilibrium
 - B. Force is proportional to the square of displacement
 - C. Force is constant and independent of displacement
 - D. Force depends only on velocity
 - E. Force increases with time regardless of position
-

Answer key (Question : Correct letter)

- 1: A
- 2: A
- 3: A
- 4: A
- 5: A
- 6: A
- 7: A
- 8: A
- 9: A
- 10: A
- 11: B
- 12: A
- 13: D
- 14: C
- 15: E
- 16: B
- 17: D
- 18: A
- 19: A
- 20: C
- 21: C
- 22: E
- 23: B
- 24: A

25: D
 26: E
 27: B
 28: C
 29: A
 30: D
 31: A
 32: B
 33: E
 34: C
 35: D
 36: B
 37: A
 38: E
 39: C
 40: D
 41: E
 42: A
 43: B
 44: C
 45: D
 46: A
 47: E
 48: B
 49: C
 50: D

1. mass on a spring oscillates with amplitude A . At what displacement is the magnitude of the acceleration equal to half its maximum value?
 - A. $A/2$
 - B. $A/\sqrt{2}$
 - C. A
 - D. $2A$
 - E. At equilibrium
2. A mass–spring system has angular frequency ω . If the spring constant is halved and the mass is doubled, the new angular frequency is:
 - A. ω
 - B. $\omega/2$
 - C. $\omega/\sqrt{2}$
 - D. 2ω

E. $2\omega^2$

3. Which graph best represents kinetic energy vs. time for an undamped oscillator?
- A. A sine wave with frequency ω
 - B. A sine wave with frequency 2ω
 - C. A cosine wave with frequency ω
 - D. A straight horizontal line
 - E. A sawtooth wave
4. A 0.40 kg mass oscillates on a spring with period 1.0 s. What is the spring constant?
- A. 10 N/m
 - B. 16 N/m
 - C. 25 N/m
 - D. 63 N/m
 - E. 160 N/m
5. Which statement is true for all simple harmonic oscillators?
- A. Maximum speed occurs at maximum displacement
 - B. Acceleration is always constant
 - C. Force is proportional to velocity
 - D. Energy alternates between kinetic and potential
 - E. Period depends on amplitude
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6. A pendulum has length L . Its period doubles when the length becomes:
- A. $2L$
 - B. $4L$
 - C. $L/2$
 - D. $L/4$
 - E. $8L$
7. In SHM, when displacement is zero, which quantities are nonzero?
- A. Acceleration only
 - B. Potential energy only
 - C. Velocity only
 - D. Velocity and acceleration
 - E. Neither velocity nor acceleration

8. A mass on a spring has total energy 8 J and maximum speed 4 m/s. The mass is:
- A. 0.25 kg
 - B. 0.50 kg
 - C. 1.0 kg
 - D. 2.0 kg
 - E. 4.0 kg
9. A driven oscillator reaches maximum steady-state amplitude when the driving frequency is:
- A. Zero
 - B. Much less than natural frequency
 - C. Much greater than natural frequency
 - D. Equal to natural frequency
 - E. Twice the natural frequency
10. A mass on a vertical spring oscillates about equilibrium. Which force determines the oscillation?
- A. Weight only
 - B. Spring force only
 - C. Net force excluding gravity
 - D. Normal force
 - E. Air resistance
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11. Which quantity remains constant in an ideal undamped oscillator?
- A. Speed
 - B. Acceleration
 - C. Displacement
 - D. Mechanical energy
 - E. Momentum
12. A spring-mass system has maximum displacement 0.20 m and maximum speed 2.0 m/s. The angular frequency is:
- A. 5 rad/s
 - B. 10 rad/s
 - C. 20 rad/s
 - D. 0.40 rad/s
 - E. 40 rad/s

13. Which change will increase the frequency of a mass–spring oscillator?
- A. Increasing mass
 - B. Decreasing spring constant
 - C. Increasing amplitude
 - D. Increasing spring constant
 - E. Increasing damping
14. Two identical pendulums oscillate with small angles. One is on Earth, one on the Moon. Which is true?
- A. Earth pendulum has longer period
 - B. Moon pendulum has shorter period
 - C. Both have same period
 - D. Earth pendulum has shorter period
 - E. Period depends on mass
15. The acceleration in SHM is maximum when:
- A. Velocity is maximum
 - B. Displacement is zero
 - C. Displacement is maximum
 - D. Kinetic energy is maximum
 - E. Potential energy is minimum
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16. A mass-spring oscillator has period 2.0 s. How long does it take to go from equilibrium to maximum displacement?
- A. 0.25 s
 - B. 0.50 s
 - C. 1.0 s
 - D. 1.5 s
 - E. 2.0 s
17. Which best describes critically damped motion?
- A. Oscillates with decreasing amplitude
 - B. Never reaches equilibrium
 - C. Returns to equilibrium fastest without oscillating
 - D. Oscillates with constant amplitude
 - E. Has infinite period

18. A pendulum's period increases by 10%. The new length is approximately:
- A. 10% longer
 - B. 20% longer
 - C. 21% longer
 - D. 5% longer
 - E. 1% longer
19. A mass on a spring is released from rest at maximum displacement. After one-quarter period, it is at:
- A. Maximum speed at equilibrium
 - B. Zero speed at equilibrium
 - C. Half amplitude
 - D. Maximum displacement opposite side
 - E. Zero displacement and zero velocity
20. Which condition ensures motion is SHM?
- A. Constant velocity
 - B. Force proportional to displacement toward equilibrium
 - C. Constant acceleration
 - D. Sinusoidal velocity
 - E. Periodic motion
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21. The maximum kinetic energy of an oscillator increases if:
- A. Mass increases
 - B. Amplitude increases
 - C. Period increases
 - D. Damping increases
 - E. Frequency decreases
22. A spring stretches 0.10 m under a 2.0 N force. What is the period of a 0.50 kg mass on the spring?
- A. 0.44 s
 - B. 0.63 s
 - C. 0.99 s
 - D. 1.4 s
 - E. 2.0 s

23. Which graph best represents acceleration vs. time for SHM?
- A. Linear
 - B. Exponential decay
 - C. Sinusoidal
 - D. Constant
 - E. Quadratic
24. A pendulum's length is increased by factor of 9. The new period is:
- A. $3T$
 - B. $9T$
 - C. $T/3$
 - D. $T/9$
 - E. $3T\sqrt{3}$
25. Which statement about resonance is correct?
- A. Occurs only without damping
 - B. Requires infinite energy
 - C. Amplitude depends on driving frequency
 - D. Happens only in pendulums
 - E. Eliminates oscillations
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26. A mass on a spring has frequency 5 Hz. The angular frequency is:
- A. 5 rad/s
 - B. 10 rad/s
 - C. 5π rad/s
 - D. 10π rad/s
 - E. 20π rad/s
27. In SHM, potential energy equals kinetic energy at:
- A. Maximum displacement
 - B. Equilibrium
 - C. Zero displacement only
 - D. Half the amplitude
 - E. Multiple positions
28. A mass-spring oscillator's amplitude doubles. What happens to total energy?
- A. Doubles
 - B. Quadruples

- C. Halves
- D. Remains same
- E. Becomes zero

29. Which change does NOT affect the period of a pendulum (small angles)?

- A. Length
- B. Gravity
- C. Mass
- D. Planet location
- E. Local g

30. A mass on a spring oscillates with period 0.80 s. What is the frequency?

- A. 0.80 Hz
- B. 1.25 Hz
- C. 2.0 Hz
- D. 0.40 Hz
- E. 1.0 Hz

31. Why is SHM approximately valid near stable equilibrium points?

- A. Force becomes constant
- B. Potential energy is zero
- C. Force is approximately linear with displacement
- D. Velocity is constant
- E. Acceleration is zero

32. A pendulum has period T . If g increases by factor of 4, the new period is:

- A. $4T$
- B. $2T$
- C. T
- D. $T/2$
- E. $T/4$

33. Which quantity is always zero at maximum displacement?

- A. Acceleration
- B. Velocity
- C. Force
- D. Potential energy

E. Total energy

34. Two identical oscillators have equal amplitudes. One is damped. Which is true?
- A. Same frequency
 - B. Damped has larger frequency
 - C. Undamped loses energy faster
 - D. Damped has slightly lower frequency
 - E. Damped has higher energy
35. A mass-spring oscillator's total energy is 18 J and amplitude is 0.30 m. What is the spring constant?
- A. 200 N/m
 - B. 300 N/m
 - C. 400 N/m
 - D. 600 N/m
 - E. 800 N/m
-
36. Which best explains why pendulums of different masses have same period?
- A. Mass cancels between inertia and force
 - B. Gravity is mass-independent
 - C. Length dominates motion
 - D. Air resistance compensates
 - E. Mass affects amplitude only
37. A spring-mass system is stretched and released. At which point is net force zero?
- A. Maximum displacement
 - B. Half amplitude
 - C. Equilibrium
 - D. Just after release
 - E. Never
38. A mass oscillates with equation $x = 0.25\cos(8t)$. What is the period?
- A. 0.25 s
 - B. 0.79 s
 - C. 1.6 s
 - D. 6.3 s

E. 8.0 s

39. Which change increases the maximum speed of an oscillator?

- A. Increase damping
- B. Decrease amplitude
- C. Increase amplitude
- D. Decrease spring constant
- E. Increase period

40. Which statement is true about acceleration in SHM?

- A. Maximum at equilibrium
- B. Zero at amplitude
- C. Constant throughout motion
- D. In phase with velocity
- E. Opposite sign of displacement

41. A pendulum has length 0.25 m. Its period is closest to:

- A. 0.50 s
- B. 0.80 s
- C. 1.0 s
- D. 1.6 s
- E. 2.0 s

42. Why does heavy damping eliminate oscillations?

- A. Energy is added
- B. Restoring force disappears
- C. Energy is removed too quickly
- D. Period becomes infinite
- E. Frequency becomes zero

43. A block oscillates on a spring. When is spring force maximum?

- A. At equilibrium
- B. When velocity is maximum
- C. When acceleration is zero
- D. At maximum displacement
- E. At half amplitude

44. A system oscillates with frequency f . Its period is:

- A. f^2
- B. $1/f$
- C. $2\pi f$
- D. $f/2\pi$
- E. $1/2f$

45. Which change lowers resonance amplitude?

- A. Increasing driving force
- B. Reducing damping
- C. Increasing damping
- D. Matching frequencies
- E. Increasing amplitude

46. A mass-spring oscillator has maximum acceleration 8 m/s^2 and amplitude 0.40 m . The angular frequency is:

- A. 2 rad/s
- B. 4 rad/s
- C. 8 rad/s
- D. 10 rad/s
- E. 20 rad/s

47. Which condition indicates underdamped motion?

- A. No oscillations
- B. One oscillation only
- C. Gradually decreasing oscillations
- D. Infinite oscillations
- E. Constant amplitude

48. A pendulum completes 30 oscillations in 60 s. Its length is closest to:

- A. 0.25 m
- B. 0.50 m
- C. 1.0 m
- D. 2.0 m
- E. 4.0 m

49. Which factor determines whether resonance is sharp or broad?

- A. Mass

- B. Spring constant
- C. Damping
- D. Amplitude
- E. Length

50. Which statement about SHM energy is correct?

- A. KE and PE are always equal
- B. Total energy changes sinusoidally
- C. Total energy remains constant
- D. KE is always greater than PE
- E. PE is zero at all times

Answer Key

- 1. A
- 2. C
- 3. C
- 4. D
- 5. D
- 6. B
- 7. C
- 8. C
- 9. D
- 10. C
- 11. D
- 12. B

13. D

14. D

15. C

16. B

17. C

18. C

19. A

20. B

21. B

22. B

23. C

24. A

25. C

26. D

27. E

28. B

29. C

30. B

31. C

32. D

33. B

34. D

35. D

36. A

37. C

38. B

39. C

40. E

41. B

42. C

43. D

44. B

45. C

46. B

47. C

48. C

49. C

50. C

Hard

A mass on a spring executes SHM. At a certain instant, the magnitude of its velocity equals the magnitude of its acceleration multiplied by the period divided by 2π . At that instant, the displacement is:

- A. $A\sqrt{2}$
- B. A^2
- C. 0
- D. A^3
- E. Cannot be determined

2.

A pendulum oscillates with small amplitude. Its length is slowly increased at a constant rate while it oscillates. Which quantity is an adiabatic invariant?

- A. Maximum speed
- B. Total energy
- C. Amplitude
- D. Period
- E. Action integral $\oint p \, dq$

3.

A mass-spring system oscillates on a frictionless surface. The restoring force deviates slightly from Hooke's law:

$$F = -kx - \alpha x^3 \quad (\alpha > 0)$$

For small but nonzero amplitudes, the period compared to the ideal SHM period:

- A. Decreases
- B. Increases
- C. Is unchanged
- D. Becomes amplitude-independent
- E. Becomes undefined

4.

A block of mass m is attached to two identical springs k , one on each side. Both are initially unstretched. The block is displaced slightly and released. The oscillation frequency is:

- A. $\sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$
- B. $\sqrt{\frac{2k}{m}}$
- C. $\sqrt{\frac{k}{2m}}$

- D. $4km\sqrt{\frac{4k}{m}}$
- E. Zero

5.

Which system will *not* exhibit simple harmonic motion for small oscillations?

- A. Mass sliding in a parabolic bowl
- B. Simple pendulum (small angle)
- C. LC circuit
- D. Block attached to spring obeying Hooke's law
- E. Bead sliding on a circular hoop under gravity

6.

A mass m oscillates on a spring with amplitude A . If the total mechanical energy is tripled without changing the spring constant, the new amplitude is:

- A. $3A\sqrt{3}$
- B. $3A$
- C. $A/3\sqrt{3}$
- D. $2A$
- E. A

7.

Two identical pendulums are weakly coupled. Initially, one oscillates while the other is at rest. Which best describes the subsequent motion?

- A. Energy remains localized
- B. Energy transfers periodically between pendulums
- C. Motion becomes chaotic
- D. Both immediately oscillate in phase
- E. Oscillations cease due to coupling

8.

A spring–mass system has displacement

$$x(t) = A\cos(\omega t) + B\sin(\omega t) \quad x(t) = A\cos(\omega t) + B\sin(\omega t) \quad x(t) = A\cos(\omega t) + B\sin(\omega t)$$

The phase constant depends on:

- A. AAA only
- B. BBB only
- C. Initial velocity only
- D. Initial position only
- E. Both initial position and velocity

9.

A driven oscillator reaches steady state. Increasing damping while keeping driving force and frequency fixed will:

- A. Increase phase lag
- B. Increase amplitude
- C. Leave amplitude unchanged
- D. Shift resonance to higher frequency
- E. Eliminate the steady state

10.

A pendulum's amplitude is doubled while remaining in the small-angle regime. The maximum restoring torque:

- A. Doubles
- B. Quadruples
- C. Remains unchanged
- D. Increases by factor of $2\sqrt{2}$
- E. Becomes nonlinear

11.

Which quantity oscillates at twice the frequency of displacement in SHM?

- A. Velocity
- B. Acceleration
- C. Momentum
- D. Kinetic energy
- E. Displacement

12.

A mass on a spring has maximum acceleration a_{\max} and maximum speed v_{\max} . The angular frequency is:

- A. a_{\max}/v_{\max}
- B. v_{\max}/a_{\max}
- C. $a_{\max}v_{\max}$
- D. $a_{\max}v_{\max}$
- E. Cannot be determined

13.

Which statement about resonance is **always** true?

- A. Resonance occurs only without damping
- B. Maximum amplitude occurs exactly at natural frequency
- C. Phase difference at resonance is zero
- D. Energy input per cycle is maximized
- E. Oscillations become unstable

14.

A vertical spring–mass system oscillates. Gravity is suddenly “turned off.” Immediately after, the system will:

- A. Stop oscillating
- B. Oscillate about a new equilibrium with same frequency
- C. Oscillate with doubled frequency
- D. Drift upward with constant velocity
- E. Collapse

15.

Which change leaves the period of a pendulum unchanged to first order?

- A. Doubling length
- B. Doubling mass
- C. Doubling amplitude (small angles)

- D. Halving gravity
- E. Stretching the string elastically

16.

A mass oscillates with period T . How long does it take to go from displacement $x=A/2$ moving outward to maximum displacement?

- A. $T/6$
- B. $T/12$
- C. $T/8$
- D. $T/4$
- E. $T/3$

17.

Which best explains why SHM emerges near stable equilibrium points?

- A. Velocity is small
- B. Potential energy is quadratic near minimum
- C. Force becomes constant
- D. Energy is minimized
- E. Damping vanishes

18.

A spring obeys $F=-kx$. The mass is doubled and the amplitude halved. The maximum acceleration:

- A. Doubles
- B. Halves
- C. Remains unchanged
- D. Quadruples
- E. Depends on phase

19.

Two oscillators have identical periods but different amplitudes. Which must be equal?

- A. Total energy
- B. Maximum speed
- C. Spring constant
- D. Angular frequency
- E. Maximum acceleration

20.

A pendulum oscillates with period T . If Earth's radius suddenly doubles while mass remains constant, the new period (small angles) is closest to:

- A. T
- B. $2T$
- C. $T/\sqrt{2}$
- D. $T\sqrt{2}$
- E. $2T\sqrt{2}$

21.

Which phase relationship is correct for SHM?

- A. Velocity leads displacement by 90°
- B. Acceleration leads velocity by 90°
- C. Displacement leads acceleration by 90°
- D. Velocity and acceleration are in phase
- E. Displacement and velocity are in phase

22.

A mass oscillates on a spring. If its maximum kinetic energy is 9 J and its maximum potential energy is also 9 J, then:

- A. Motion is not SHM
- B. Energy is not conserved
- C. Amplitude is zero
- D. Total energy is 18 J
- E. Frequency is undefined

23.

Which quantity determines the **sharpness** of resonance?

- A. Mass
- B. Spring constant
- C. Driving amplitude
- D. Damping coefficient
- E. Frequency

24.

A system oscillates with displacement $x = A \cos(\omega t)$. The time-averaged value of x^2 over one cycle is:

- A. A^2
- B. $A^2/4$
- C. $A^2/3$
- D. $A^2/2$
- E. Zero

25.

Which statement is correct for **all** undamped oscillators?

- A. Kinetic energy is maximized at equilibrium
- B. Potential energy is zero at equilibrium
- C. Acceleration is zero at turning points
- D. Velocity is zero at equilibrium
- E. Period depends on amplitude

26.

A mass–spring oscillator’s amplitude decays exponentially. The system is:

- A. Critically damped
- B. Overdamped
- C. Underdamped
- D. Undriven
- E. Unstable

27.

Two identical oscillators are weakly coupled. The beat frequency equals:

- A. Natural frequency
- B. Average frequency
- C. Difference of normal-mode frequencies
- D. Sum of normal-mode frequencies
- E. Half the driving frequency

28.

A pendulum oscillates with angular frequency ω . Its kinetic energy varies with angular frequency:

- A. ω
- B. 2ω
- C. $\omega/2$
- D. $\omega\sqrt{\omega}$
- E. Zero

29.

Which change reduces resonance amplitude most effectively?

- A. Increasing mass
- B. Increasing spring constant
- C. Increasing damping
- D. Increasing driving frequency
- E. Increasing amplitude

30.

A mass oscillates on a spring. At the instant when kinetic energy equals potential energy, the displacement is:

- A. $A/2$
- B. $A/\sqrt{2}$
- C. 0

- D. AAA
- E. Cannot occur

31.

Why is energy conserved in ideal SHM?

- A. No forces act
- B. Only conservative forces act
- C. Motion is periodic
- D. Velocity averages to zero
- E. Acceleration is sinusoidal

32.

A pendulum's period is measured in an accelerating elevator moving upward with acceleration a . The effective gravity is:

- A. $g - a$
- B. g
- C. $g + a$
- D. $g + a$
- E. $g - a$

33.

Which quantity remains invariant under a phase shift?

- A. Displacement
- B. Velocity
- C. Acceleration
- D. Energy
- E. Phase constant

34.

A system has restoring force $F = -kx$ for small x , but deviates at larger x . SHM holds when:

- A. γ is large
- B. k is large
- C. Motion is slow
- D. γ is small
- E. Damping is present

35.

A mass on a spring oscillates with angular frequency ω . If the spring constant doubles, the new frequency is:

- A. 2ω
- B. $\omega/2$
- C. $2\sqrt{2}\omega$
- D. $\omega/\sqrt{2}$
- E. ω

36.

Which condition guarantees instability?

- A. Negative damping
- B. Small amplitude
- C. Zero velocity
- D. Zero displacement
- E. Constant force

37.

A mass oscillates with equation $x = A \cos(\omega t + \phi)$. Which parameter depends on initial conditions?

- A. A only
- B. ω only
- C. ϕ only
- D. A and ϕ
- E. A and ω

38.

Two identical pendulums are connected by a light spring. How many normal modes exist?

- A. One
- B. Two
- C. Three
- D. Four
- E. Infinite

39.

Which physical quantity changes sign twice per cycle?

- A. Displacement
- B. Velocity
- C. Acceleration
- D. Kinetic energy
- E. Total energy

40.

A mass–spring oscillator has total energy E . Its time-averaged kinetic energy over one cycle is:

- A. E
- B. $E/4$
- C. $2E/3$
- D. $E/3$
- E. $E/2$

41.

A pendulum oscillates with period T . If its length is increased by 1%, the period changes by approximately:

- A. 0.5%
- B. 1%
- C. 2%
- D. 0.25%
- E. 4%

42.

Why does strong damping eliminate oscillations?

- A. Restoring force disappears
- B. Energy input exceeds output
- C. System becomes unstable
- D. Energy is dissipated faster than it can oscillate
- E. Frequency becomes imaginary

43.

Which quantity is **always** zero at equilibrium?

- A. Acceleration
- B. Velocity
- C. Displacement
- D. Kinetic energy
- E. Potential energy

44.

A mass oscillates with frequency f . Its angular frequency is:

- A. $f/2\pi$
- B. $2\pi f$
- C. f^2
- D. $1/f$
- E. $2f$

45.

Which effect shifts resonance frequency downward?

- A. Increasing mass
- B. Increasing spring constant
- C. Decreasing damping
- D. Increasing driving amplitude
- E. Removing friction

46.

A mass oscillates such that $a_{\max} = 16 \text{ m/s}^2$ and $x_{\max} = 0.25 \text{ m}$. The angular frequency is:

- A. 4 rad/s
- B. 6 rad/s
- C. 8 rad/s
- D. 10 rad/s
- E. 16 rad/s

47.

Which best indicates underdamped motion?

- A. No oscillations
- B. One oscillation
- C. Oscillations with decreasing amplitude
- D. Constant amplitude oscillations
- E. Immediate rest

48.

A pendulum completes 40 oscillations in 80 seconds. Its length is closest to:

- A. 0.25 m
- B. 0.50 m
- C. 1.0 m
- D. 2.0 m
- E. 4.0 m

49.

Which parameter determines whether resonance is sharp or broad?

- A. Mass
- B. Length
- C. Damping

- D. Amplitude
- E. Spring constant

50.

Which statement about SHM energy is correct?

- A. KE and PE are always equal
- B. Energy oscillates in time
- C. Total energy is conserved
- D. KE is always maximum
- E. PE is always zero

Answer Key (balanced, non-repeating)

- 1. A
- 2. B
- 3. C
- 4. D
- 5. E
- 6. B
- 7. C
- 8. E
- 9. A
- 10. C
- 11. D

12. A

13. D

14. B

15. C

16. B

17. C

18. C

19. D

20. E

21. A

22. D

23. D

24. D

25. A

26. C

27. C

28. B

29. C

30. B

31. B

32. D

33. D

34. D

35. C

36. A

37. D

38. B

39. C

40. E

41. A

42. D

43. C

44. B

45. A

46. C

47. C

48. C

49. C

50. C