



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit  
State Examinations Commission

Leaving Certificate Examination 2023  
**Applied Mathematics**  
Ordinary Level

Tuesday 27 June Afternoon 2:00 - 4:30

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**

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## Instructions

There are ten questions on this paper. Each question carries 50 marks.

Answer any **eight** 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  $9.8 \text{ m s}^{-2}$ .

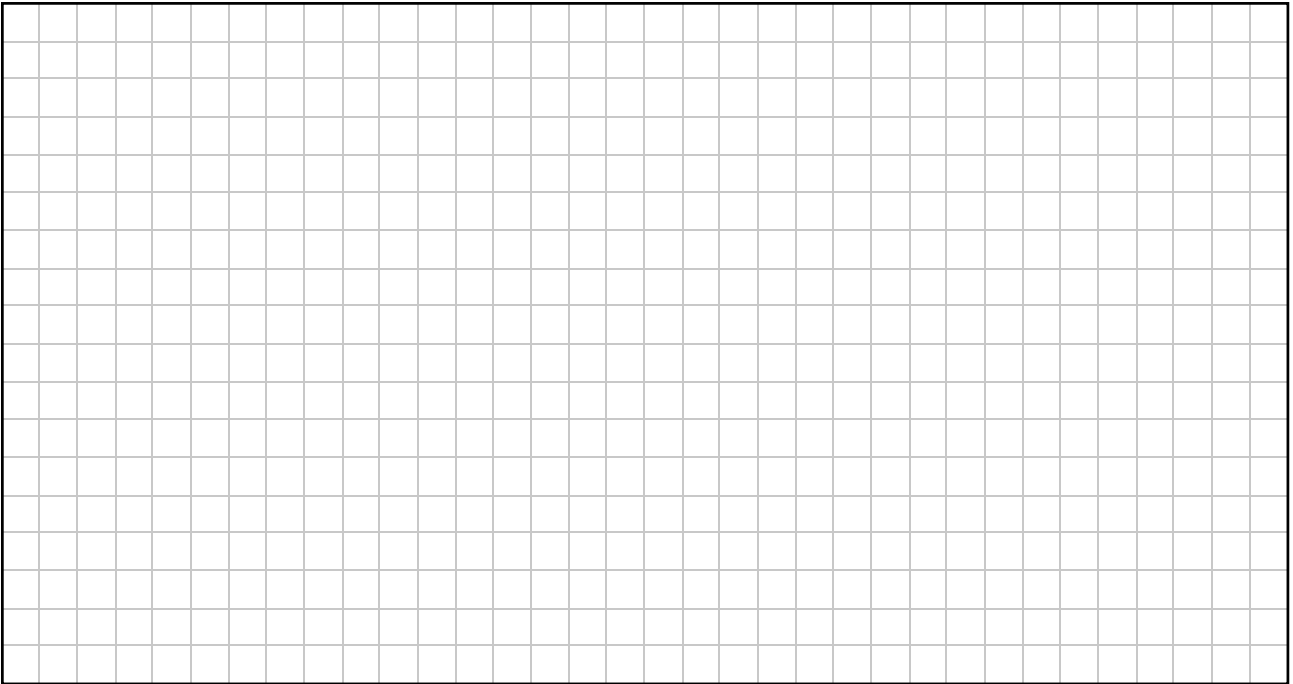
Unless otherwise indicated,  $\vec{i}$  and  $\vec{j}$  are unit perpendicular vectors in the horizontal and vertical directions, respectively, or eastwards and northwards, respectively, as appropriate to the question.

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

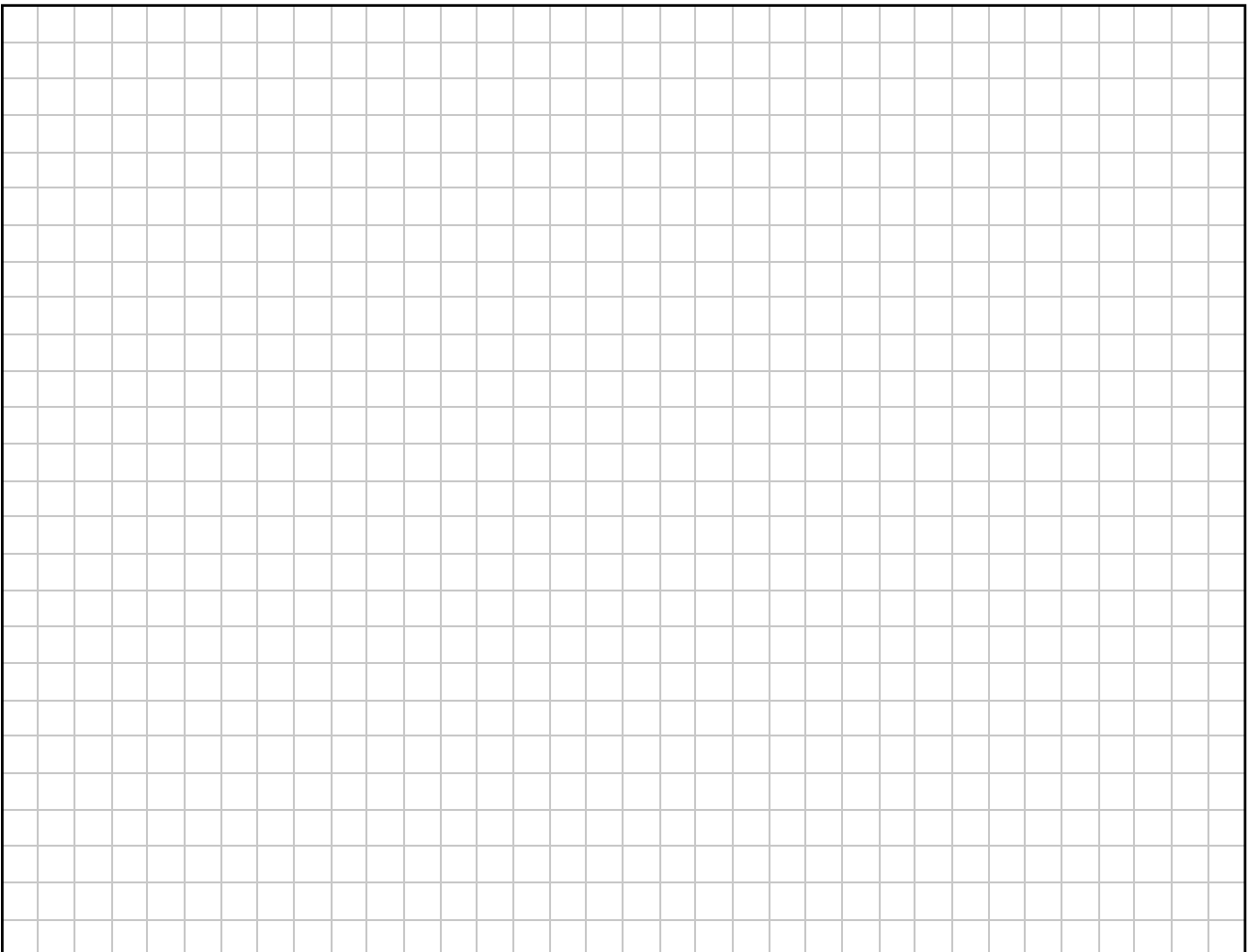




**(iii)** Calculate the total mass of ice lost through melting when  $n = 6$  hours.



**(iv)** Calculate the smallest value of  $n$  such that the block of ice has a mass of less than 1 kg.

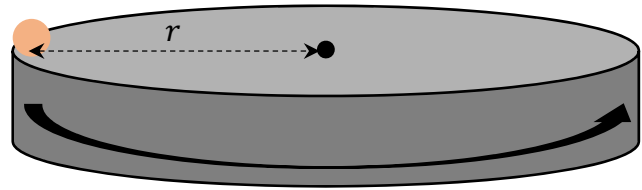


**Question 2**

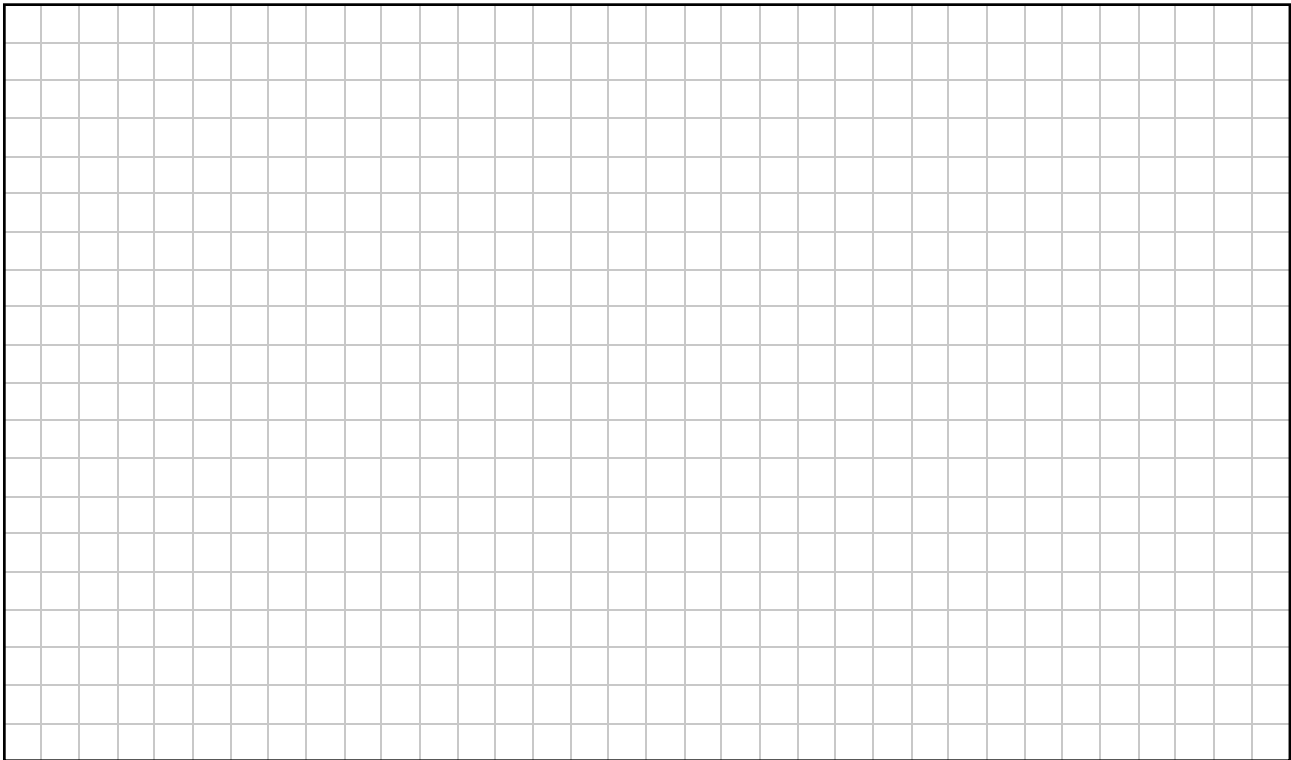
- (a) A piece of clay of mass  $0.335 \text{ kg}$  rests on a horizontal potter's wheel, which is rotating with period  $T = 1.2 \text{ s}$ .

The clay moves with uniform circular motion of radius  $r$ .

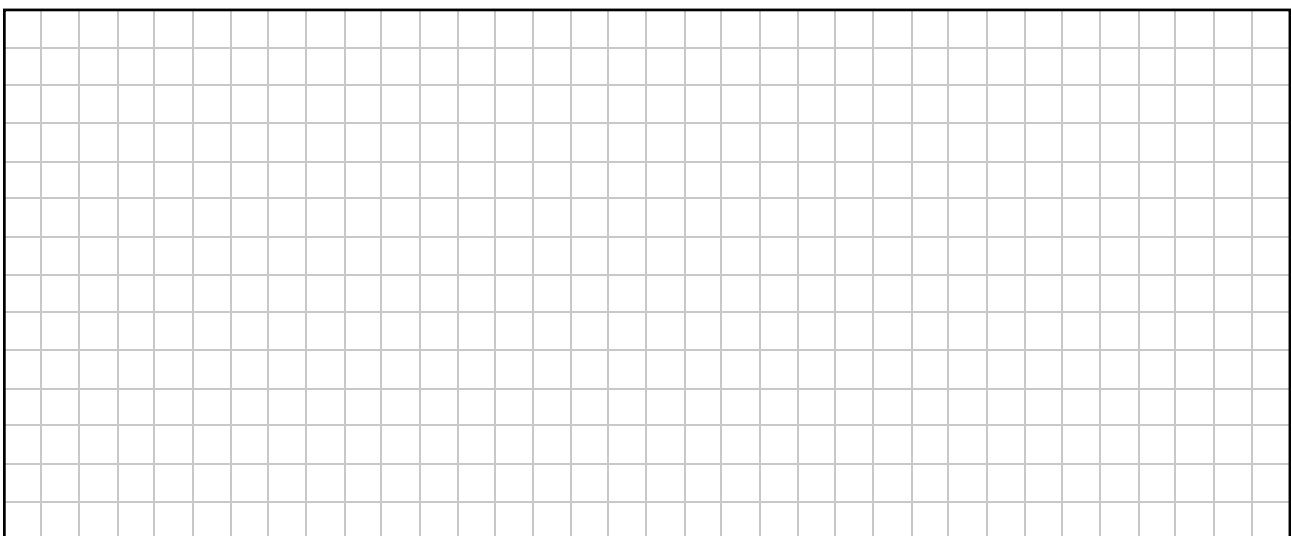
The coefficient of friction between the wheel and the clay is  $\frac{1}{2}$ .



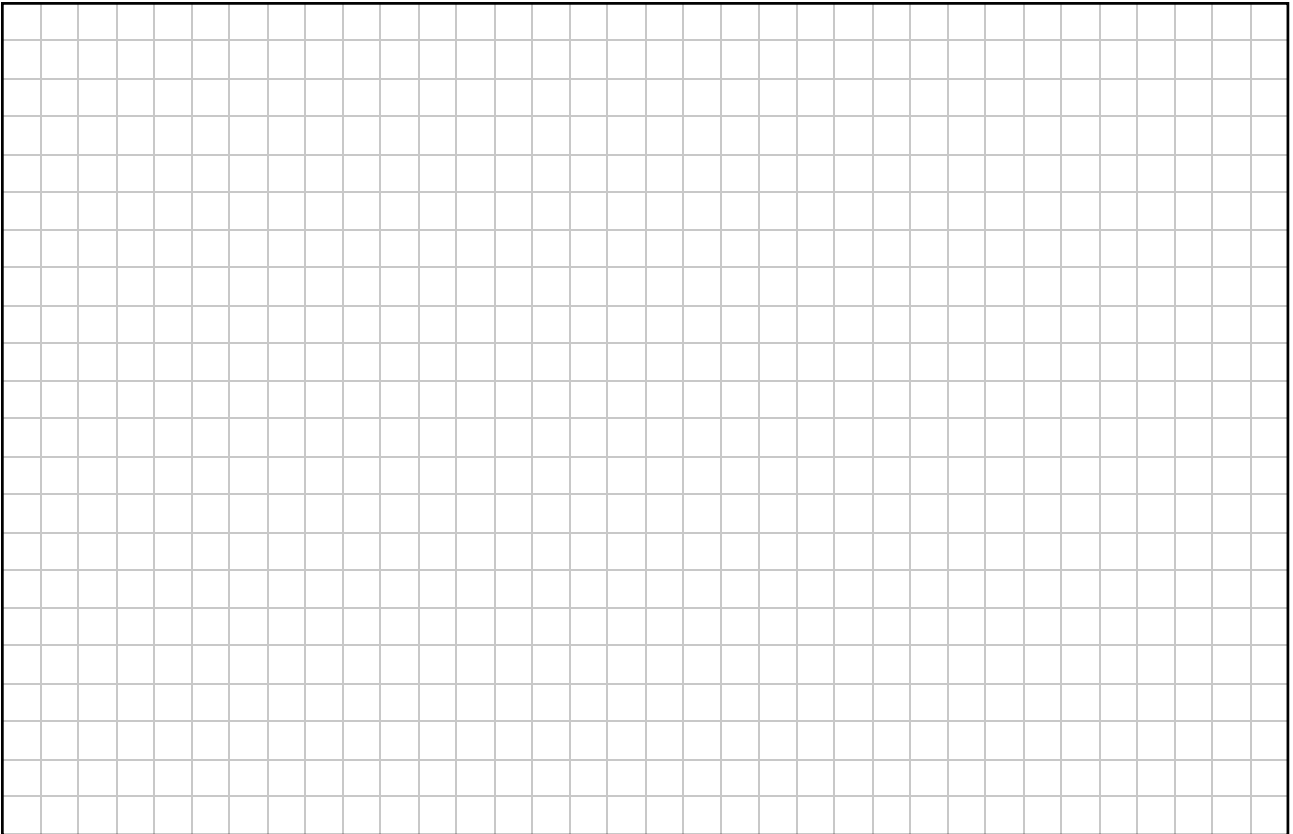
- (i) Draw a labelled diagram to show the forces acting on the clay.



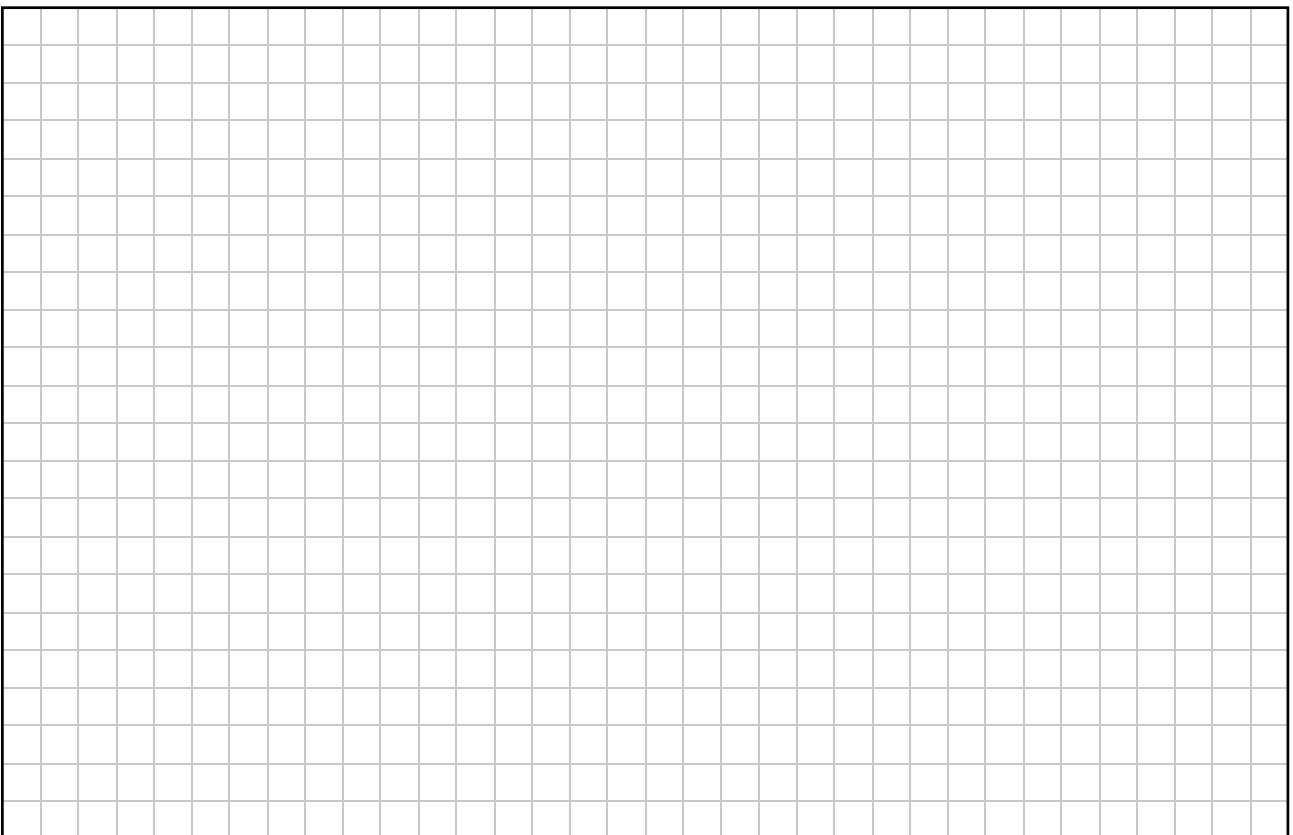
- (ii) Calculate the force of friction that acts on the clay.



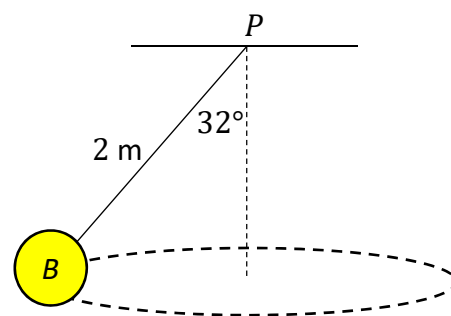
**(iii)** Calculate  $\omega$ , the angular velocity of the clay.



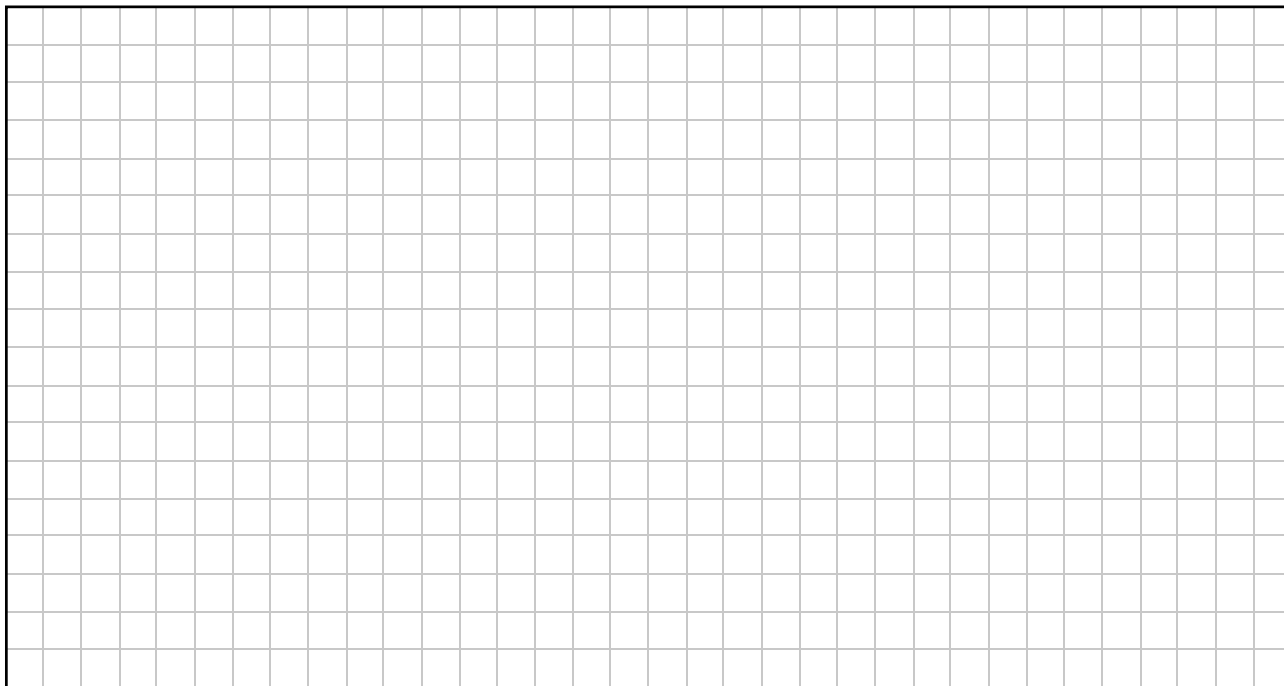
**(iv)** Calculate the value of  $r$ .



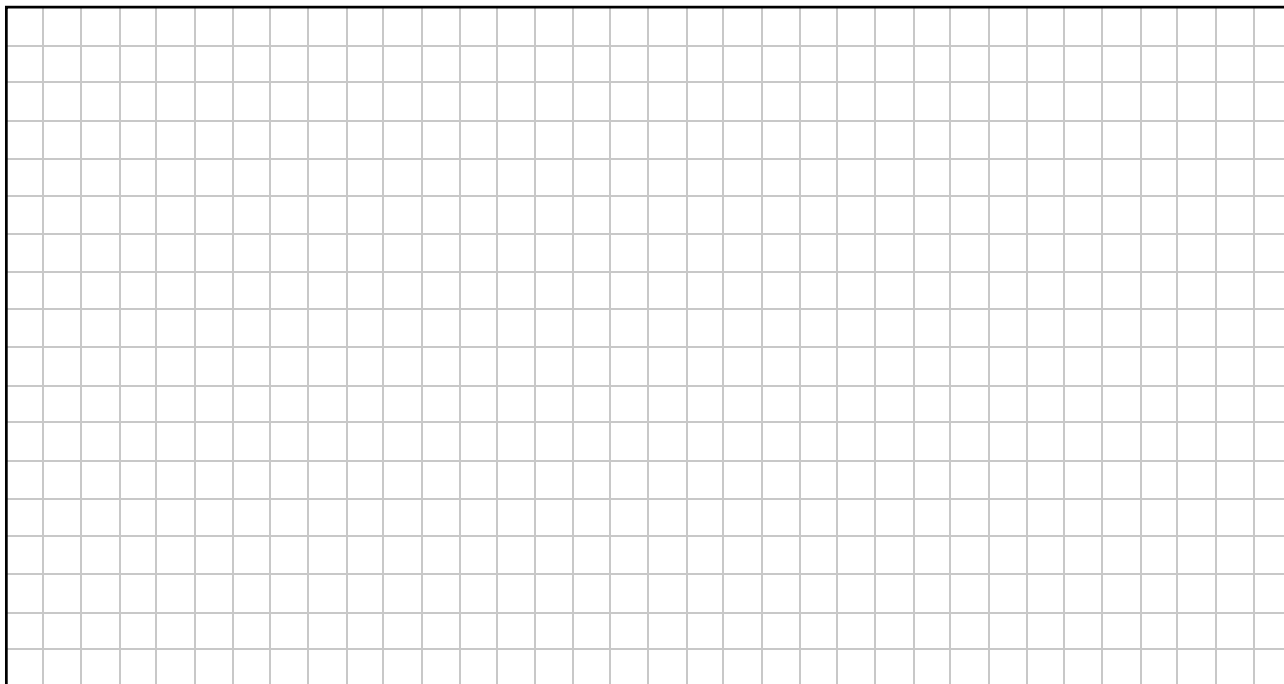
- (b) Ball  $B$ , of mass  $5.5 \text{ kg}$ , is connected to a fixed point  $P$  by a light inextensible string of length  $2 \text{ m}$ . The ball moves in a horizontal circle, where the centre of the circle is vertically below  $P$ . The string makes an angle of  $32^\circ$  with the vertical, as shown in the diagram.



- (i) Draw a labelled diagram to show the forces acting on  $B$ .

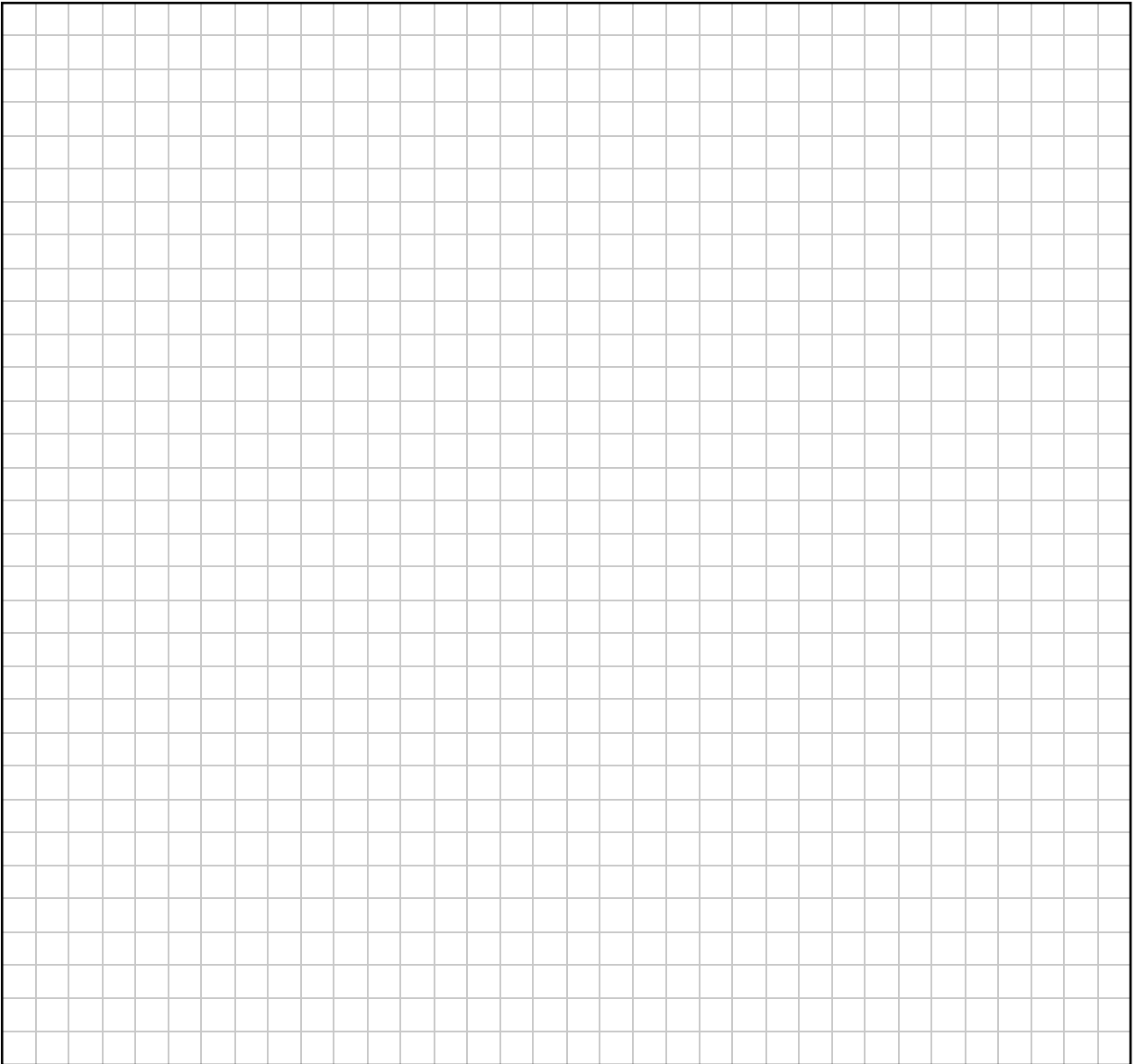


- (ii) Calculate the tension in the string.





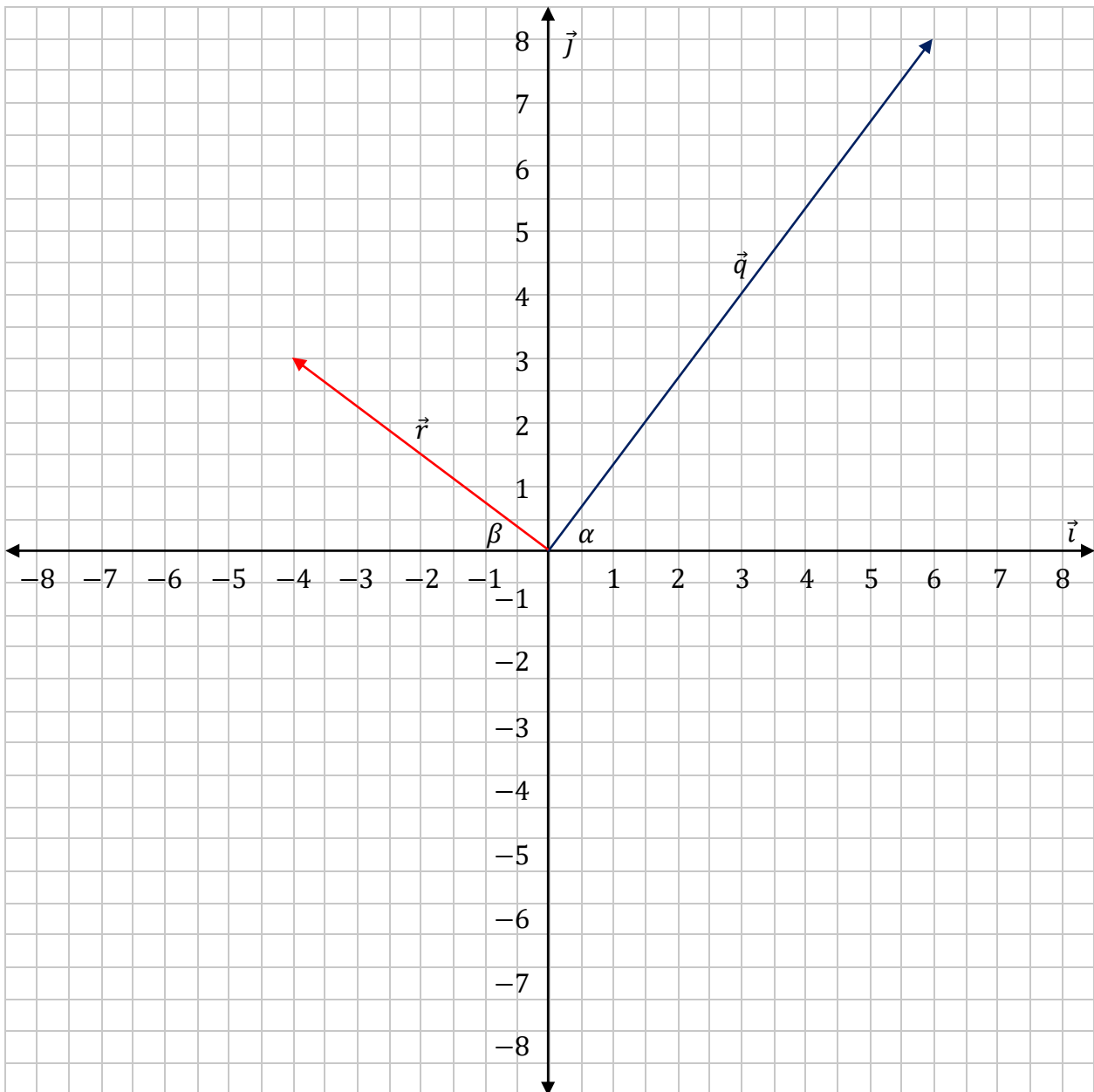
**(iii)** Calculate  $\omega$ , the angular velocity of the ball.



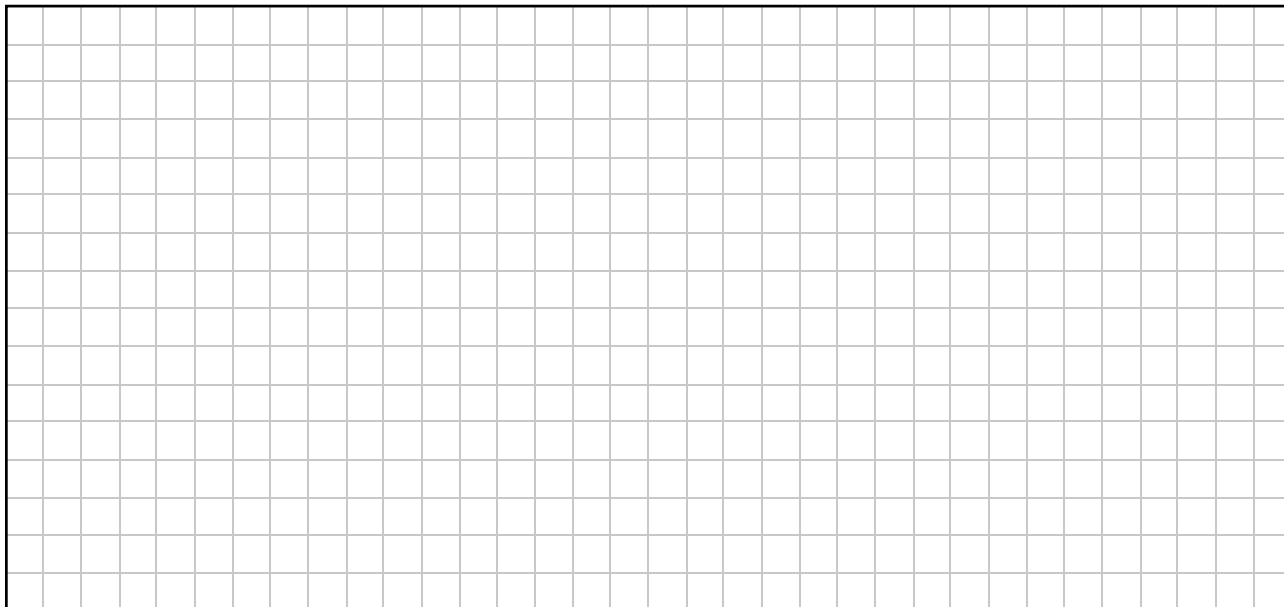
### Question 3

Two vectors  $\vec{q} = 6\vec{i} + 8\vec{j}$  and  $\vec{r} = -4\vec{i} + 3\vec{j}$  are shown on the diagram below.

$\vec{q}$  makes an angle  $\alpha$  with the positive direction of the  $\vec{i}$  axis and  $\vec{r}$  makes an angle  $\beta$  with the negative direction of the  $\vec{i}$  axis.

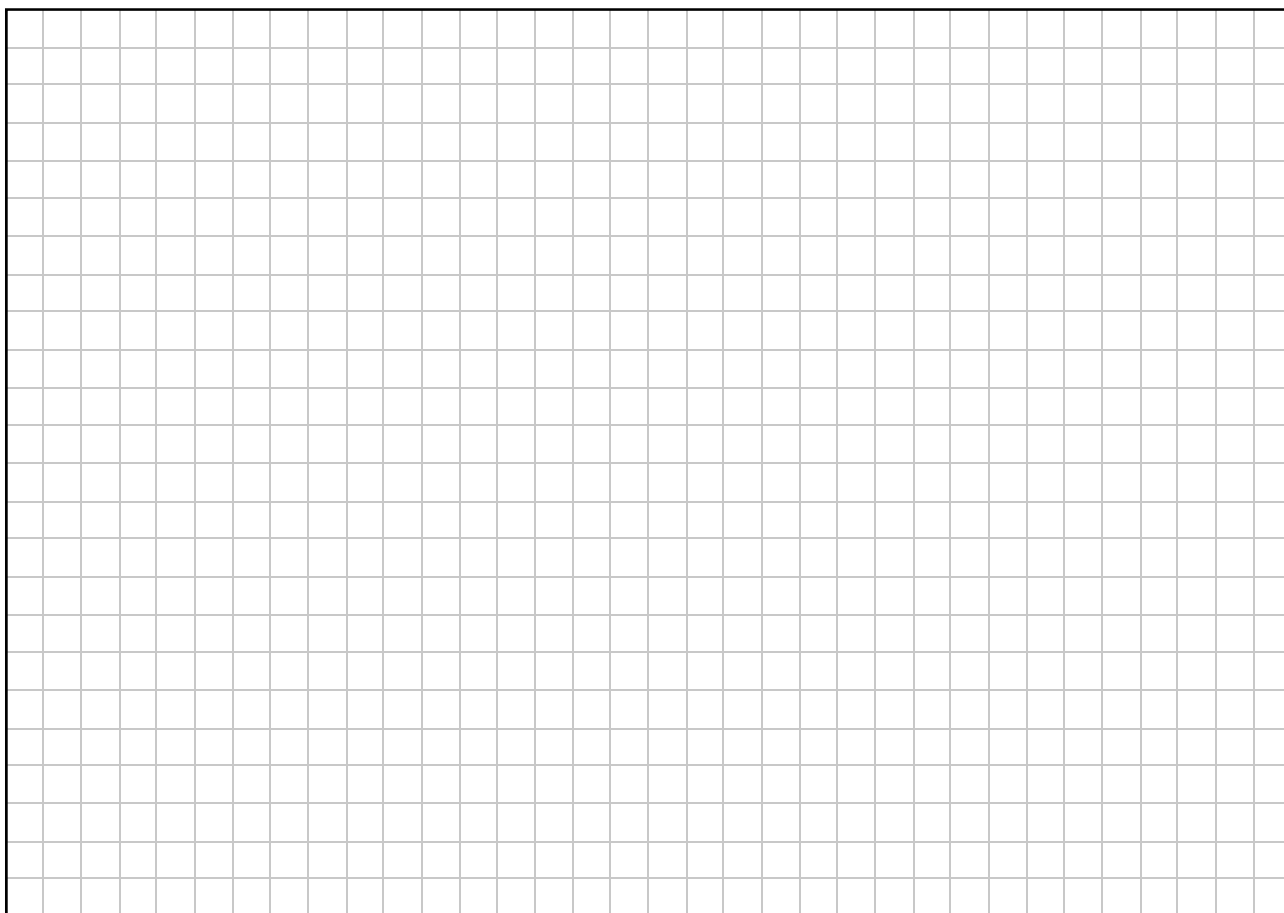


(i) Calculate  $\vec{s}$ , where  $\vec{s} = -\frac{1}{2}\vec{q} - \vec{r}$ .

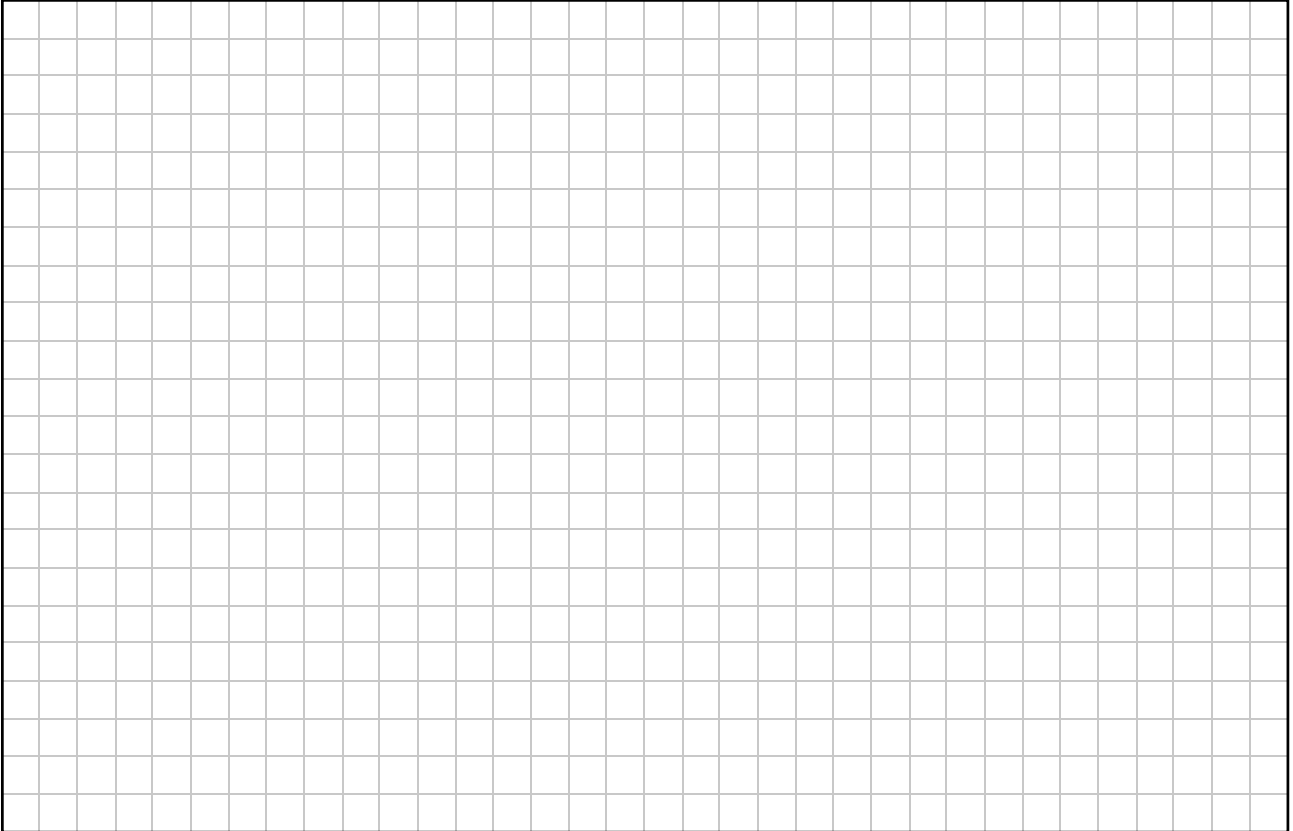


(ii) Draw  $\vec{s}$  on the axes shown.

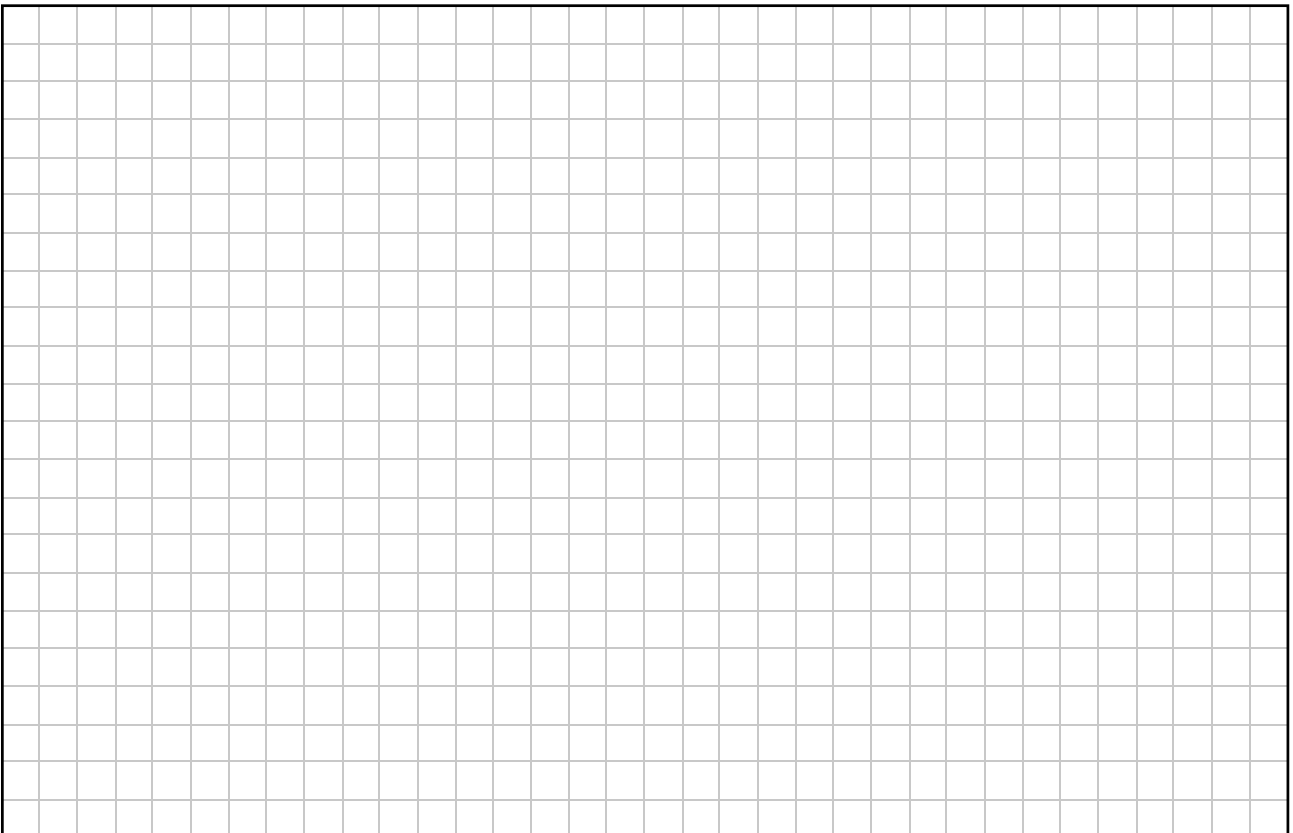
(iii) Calculate  $|\vec{q}|$  and  $|\vec{r}|$ .



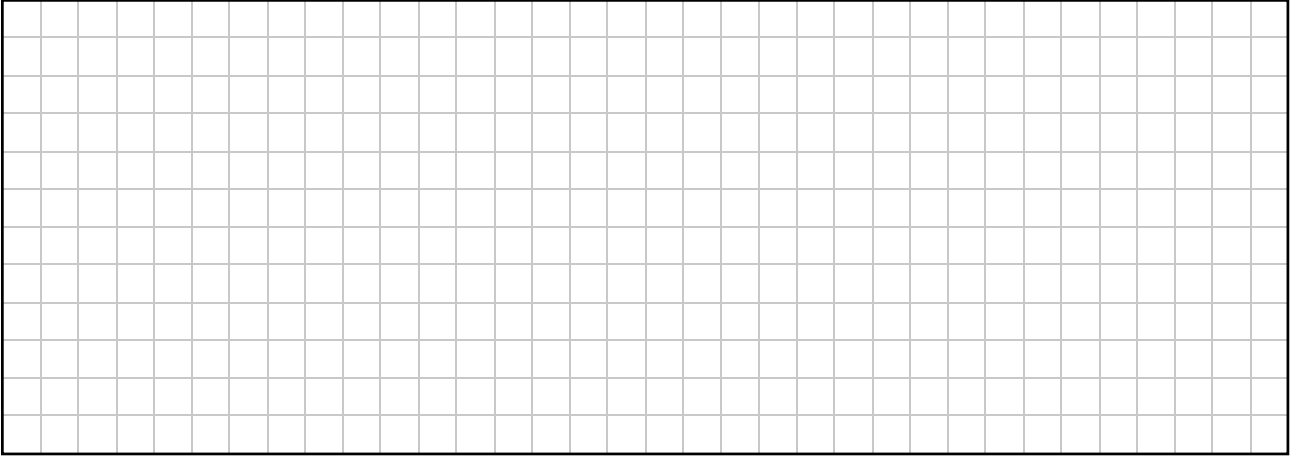
(iv) Calculate  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ .



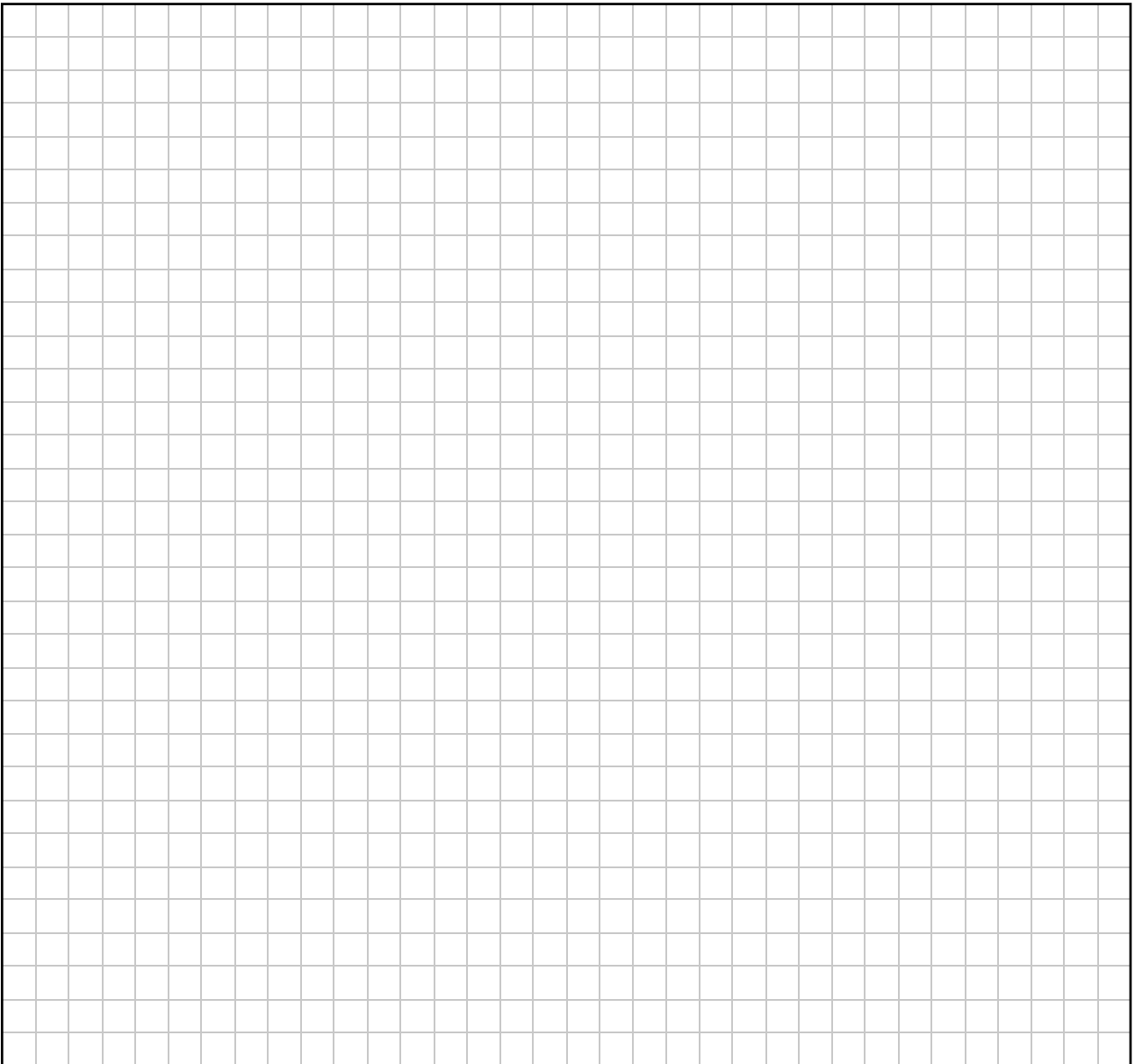
(v) Calculate  $\vec{q} \cdot \vec{r}$ , the dot product of  $\vec{q}$  and  $\vec{r}$ .



(vi) Calculate the angle between  $\vec{q}$  and  $\vec{r}$ .



(vii) Calculate the value of  $k$  and  $t$  such that  $k\vec{q} + t\vec{r} = -10\vec{i} + 20\vec{j}$ .



**Question 4**

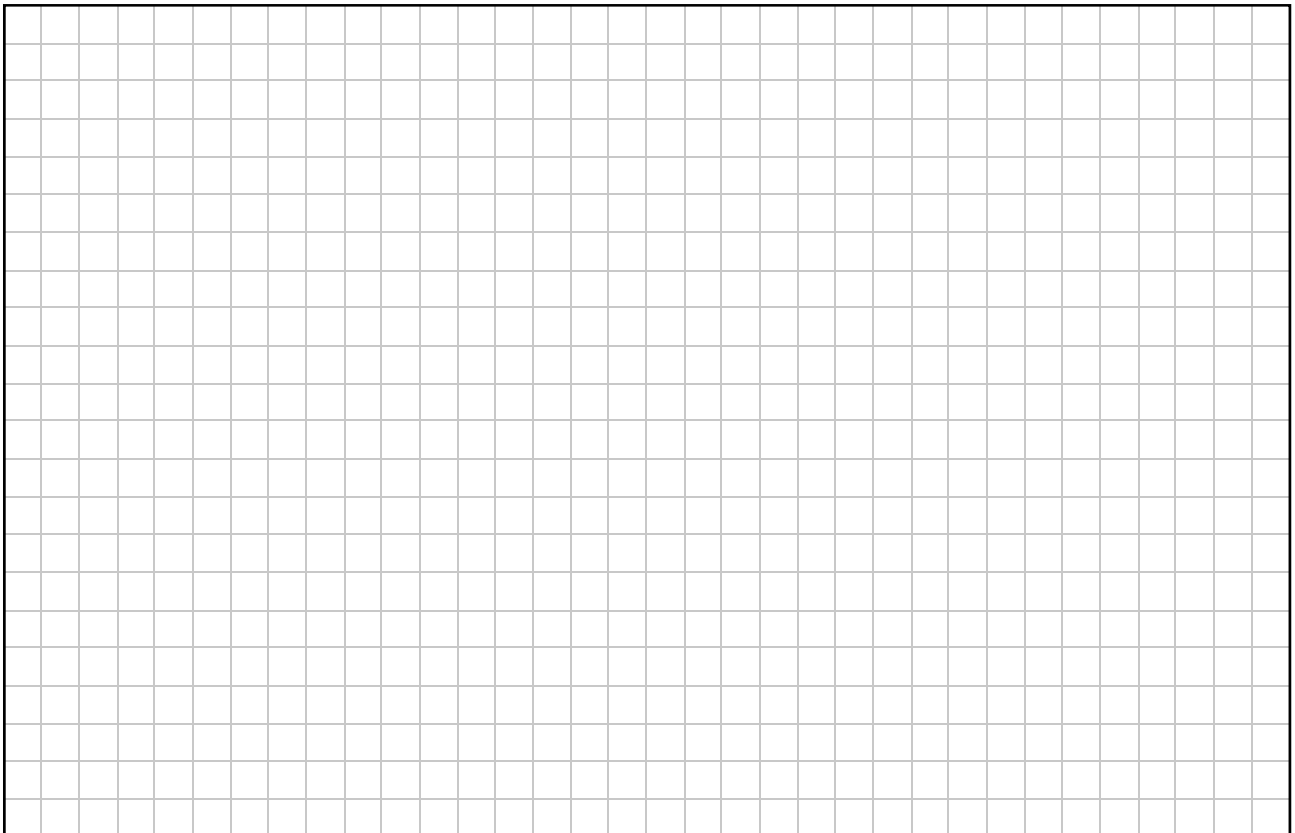
- (a) In an effort to become more energy efficient, a university campus invests in upgrading its current heating system. Each of the five buildings (Arts, Business, Cafeteria, Design, Engineering) that are on the campus will require connection to this new heating system.



An engineer measures the underground distance, in m, between each of the buildings on the campus grounds. She presents her results in the table below.

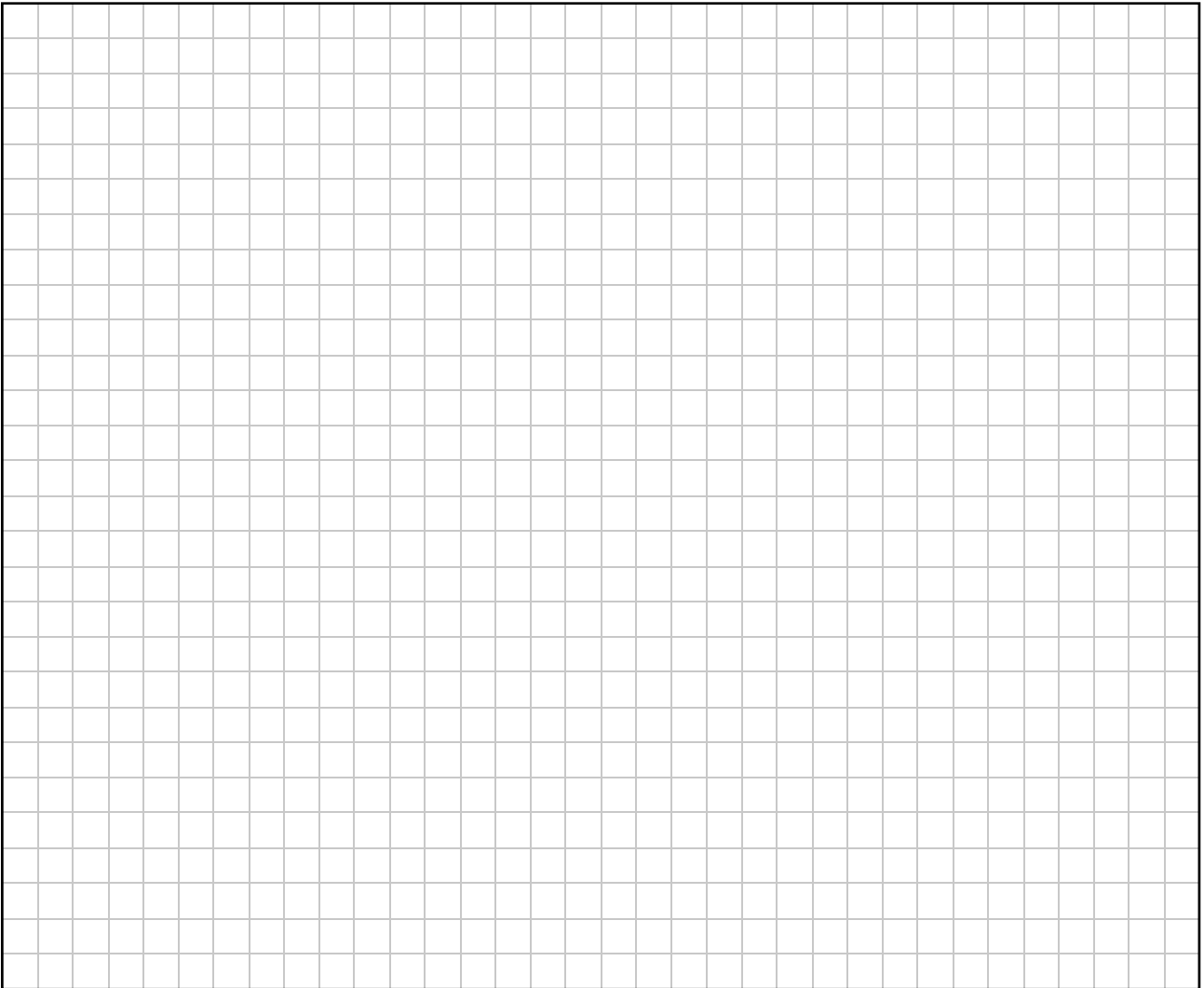
Distance (m)	Arts	Business	Cafeteria	Design	Engineering
Arts	–	300	650	525	190
Business	300	–	475	790	210
Cafeteria	650	475	–	425	145
Design	525	790	425	–	505
Engineering	190	210	145	505	–

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



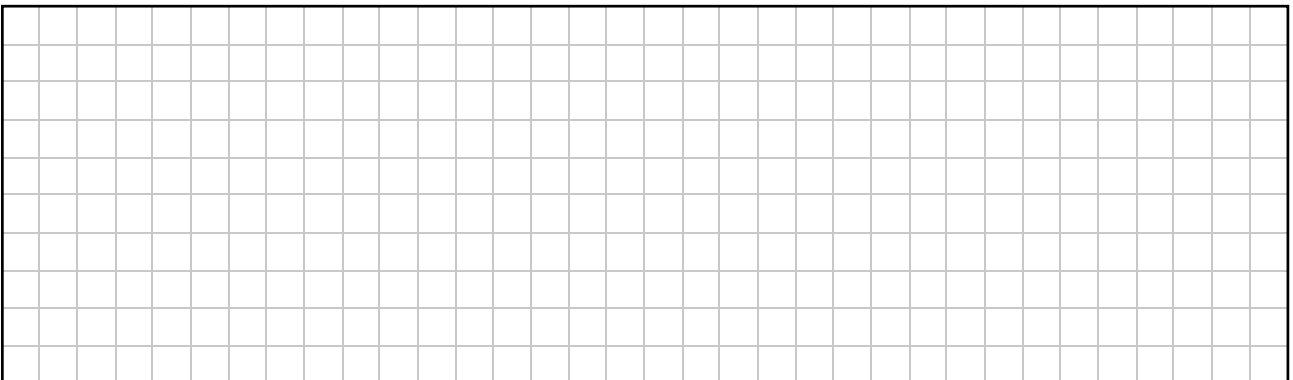
To help reduce costs, the engineer must minimise the length of pipework needed for this heating system.

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



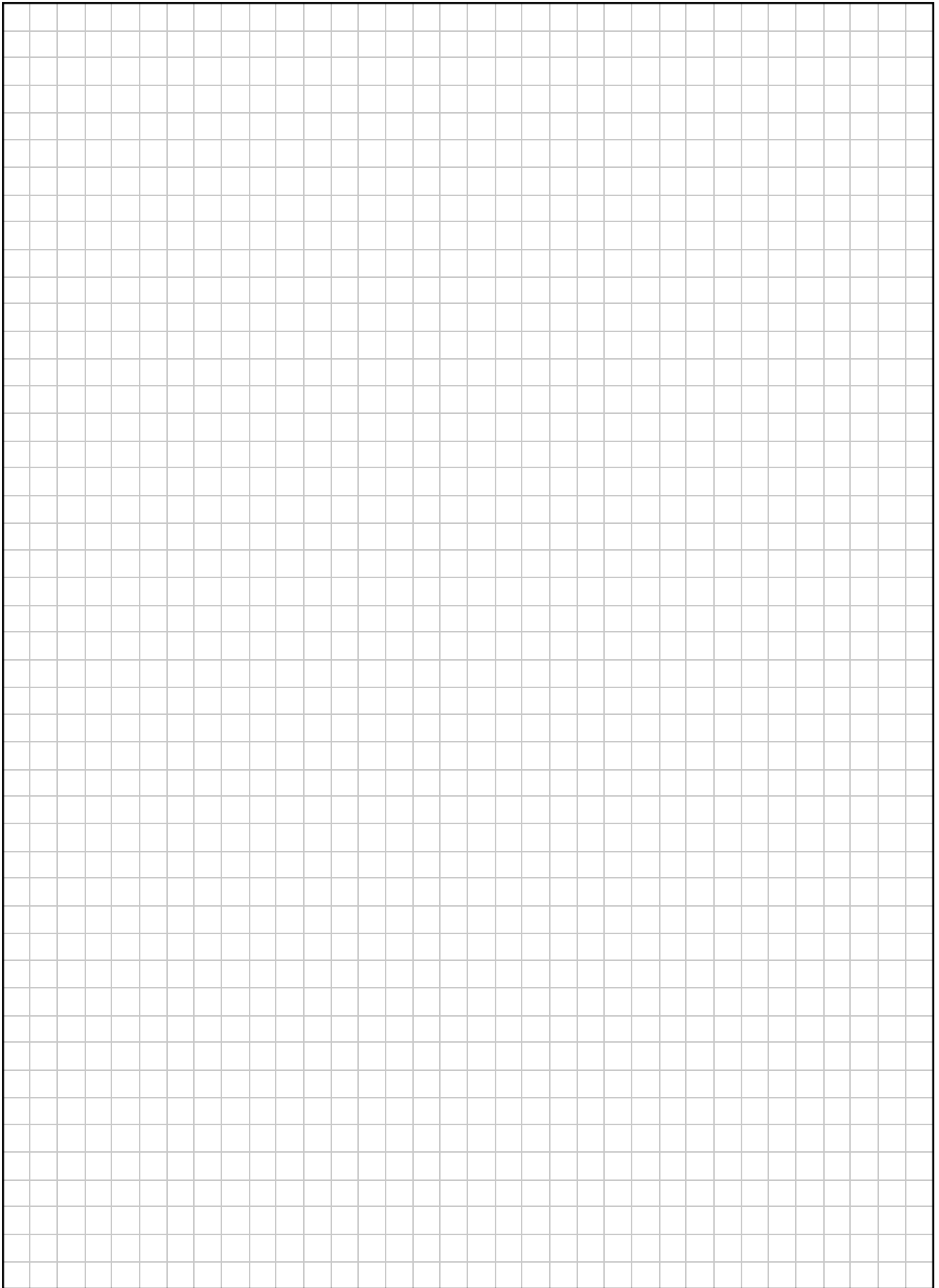
The pipes used are priced at €525 per metre. In addition, there is an installation cost of €6500 when any two buildings are connected by pipework.

- (iii)** Use your minimum spanning tree to calculate the total cost of this project.





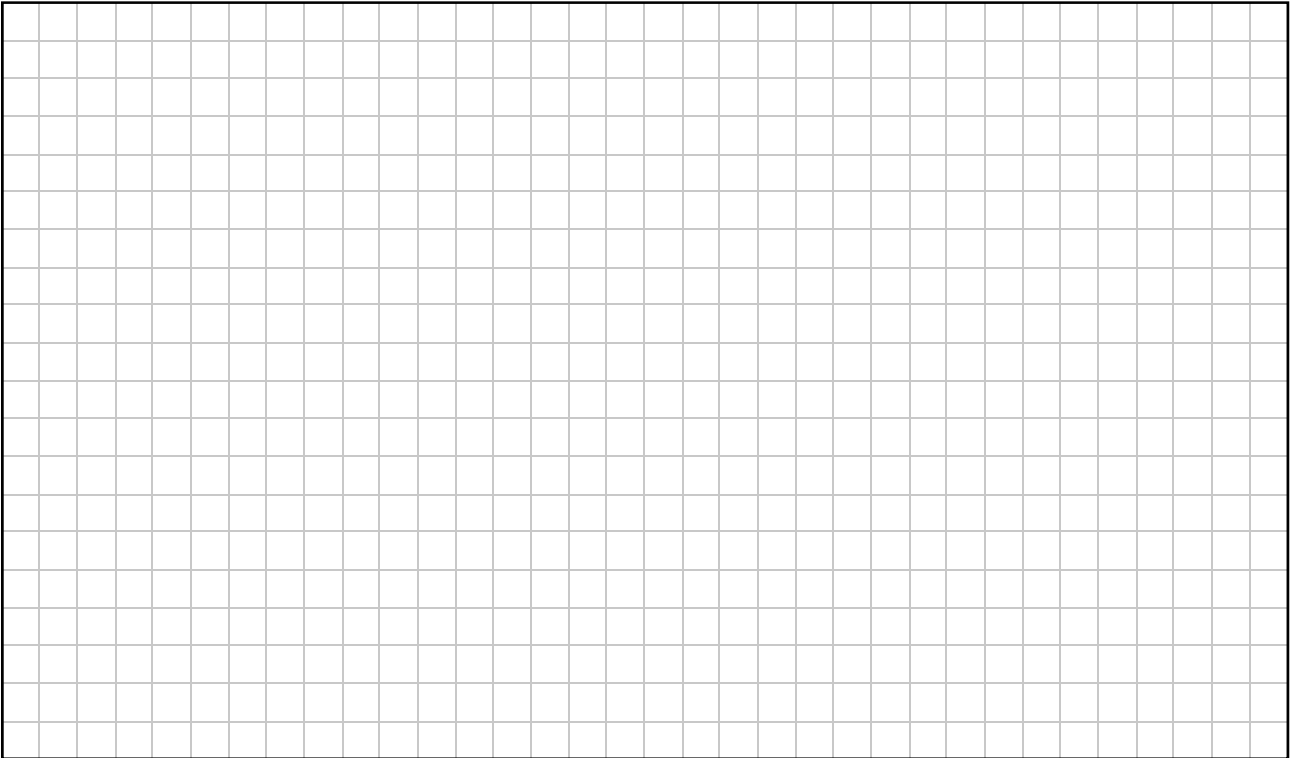




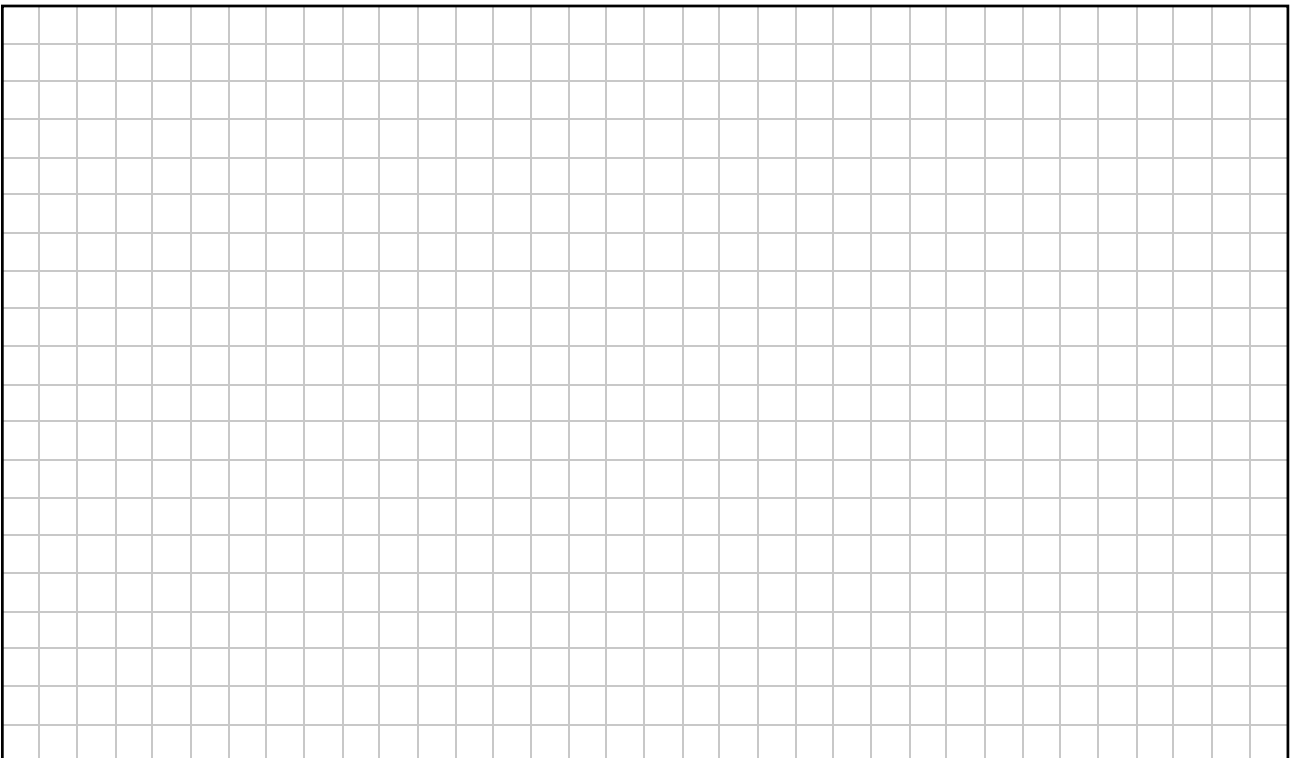
**Question 5**

**(a)** A particle is projected through the air with a velocity of  $14\vec{i} + 24.5\vec{j}$  m s<sup>-1</sup> from horizontal ground. The effects of air resistance and wind may be ignored.

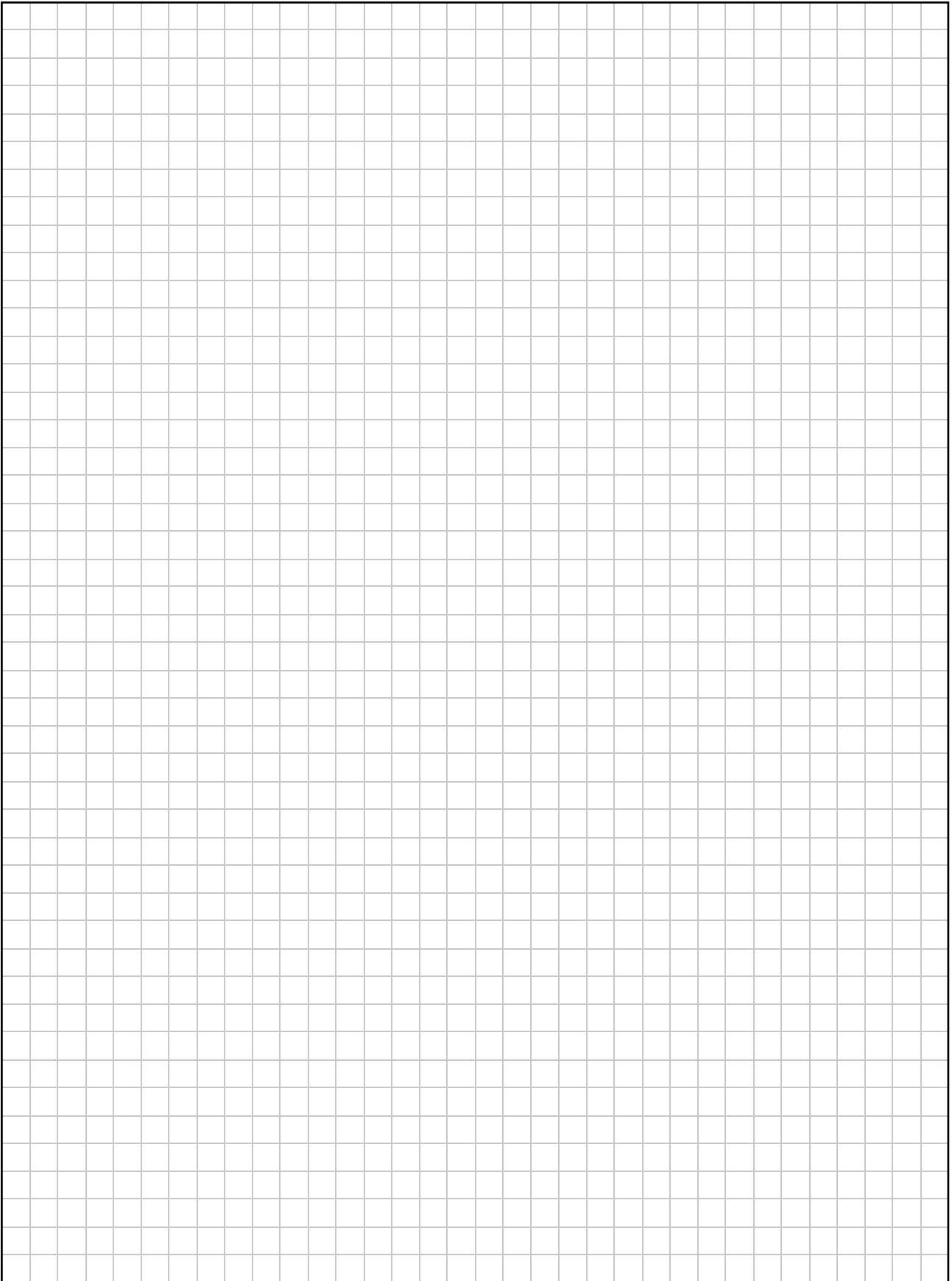
**(i)** Calculate the time of flight of the particle.



**(ii)** Calculate the maximum range of the particle.

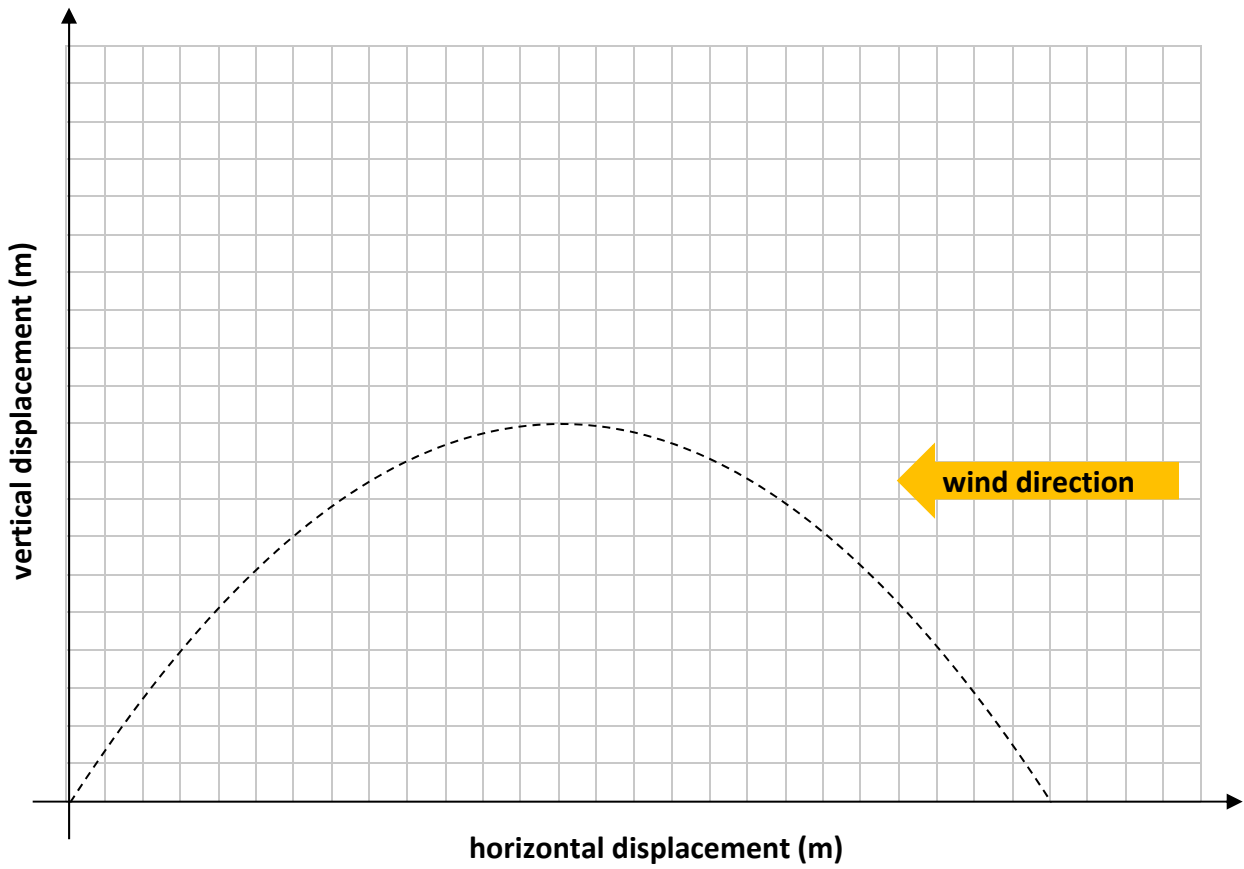


**(iii)** Calculate the times when the particle is at a height of 20 m, above the ground.



(iv) The graph below represents the predicted path of this particle when the effects of wind and air resistance are ignored. The graph is not drawn to scale.

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

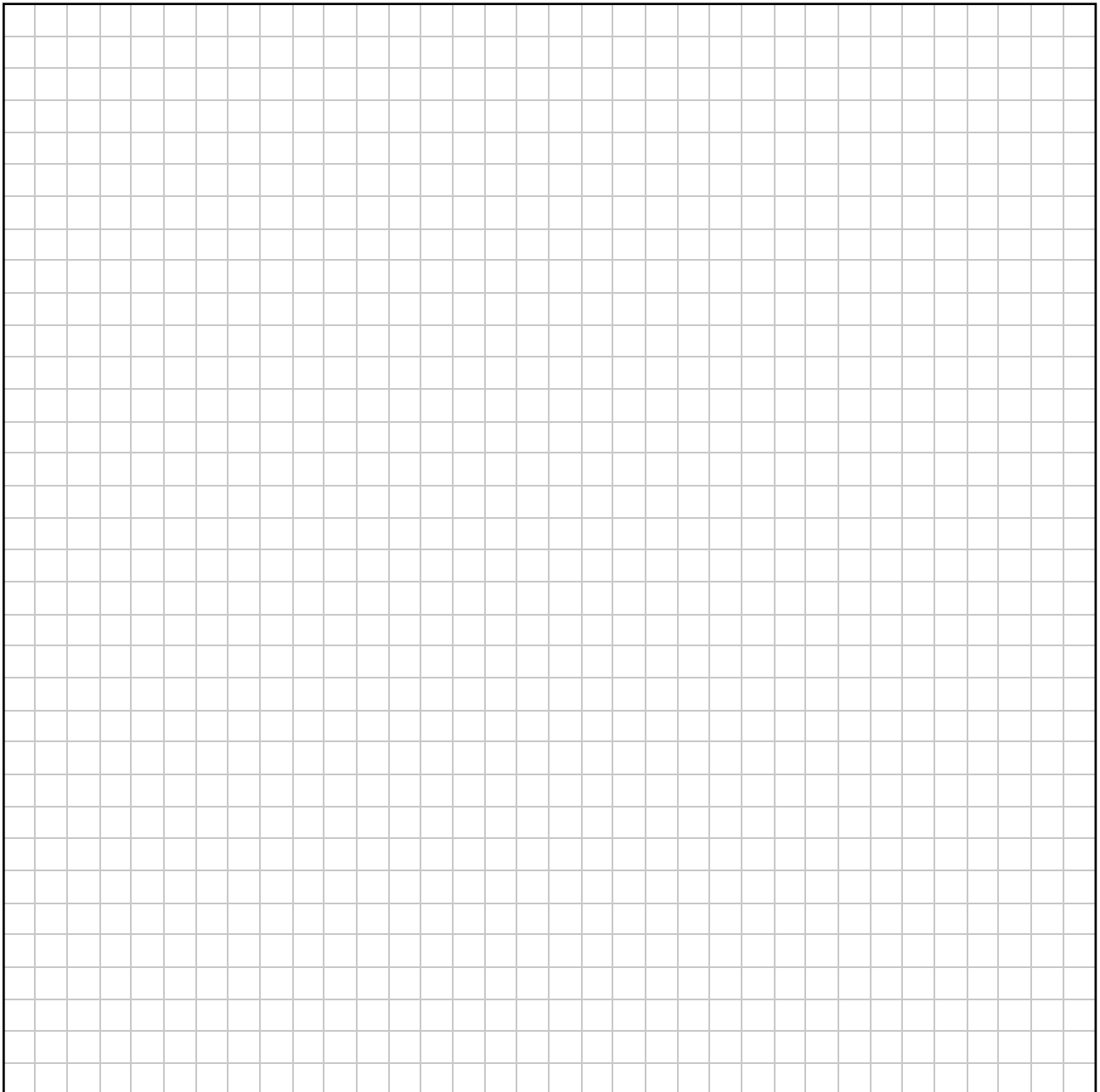


(b) The algebraic formulae below are written in terms of momentum  $p$ , mass  $m$ , displacement  $s$  and time  $t$ .

Which of the formulae, **X** or **Y**, has the same units as the units for velocity,  $\text{m s}^{-1}$ ?  
Use dimensional analysis (comparison of units) to justify your answer.

$$\mathbf{X}: \sqrt{\frac{2pm}{st}}$$

$$\mathbf{Y}: \sqrt{\frac{2ps}{mt}}$$



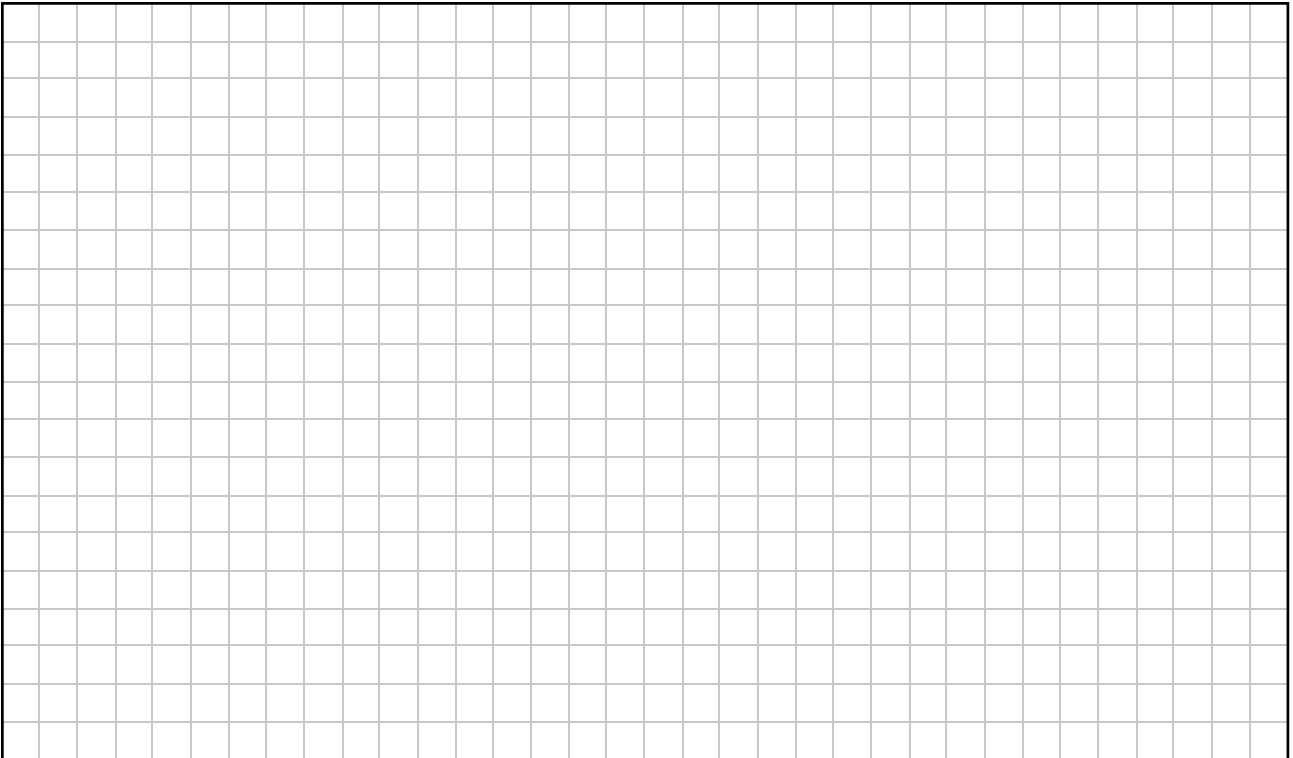
**Question 6**

A car is parked at a point  $P$ . At time  $t = 0$  s the car begins to travel in a straight line with a constant acceleration of  $4.5 \text{ m s}^{-2}$ . When the car has reached a velocity of  $18 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  it stops accelerating. The car continues travelling at a velocity of  $18 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  until  $t = 30$  s.

- (i) Calculate the time it takes for the car to reach  $18 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ .

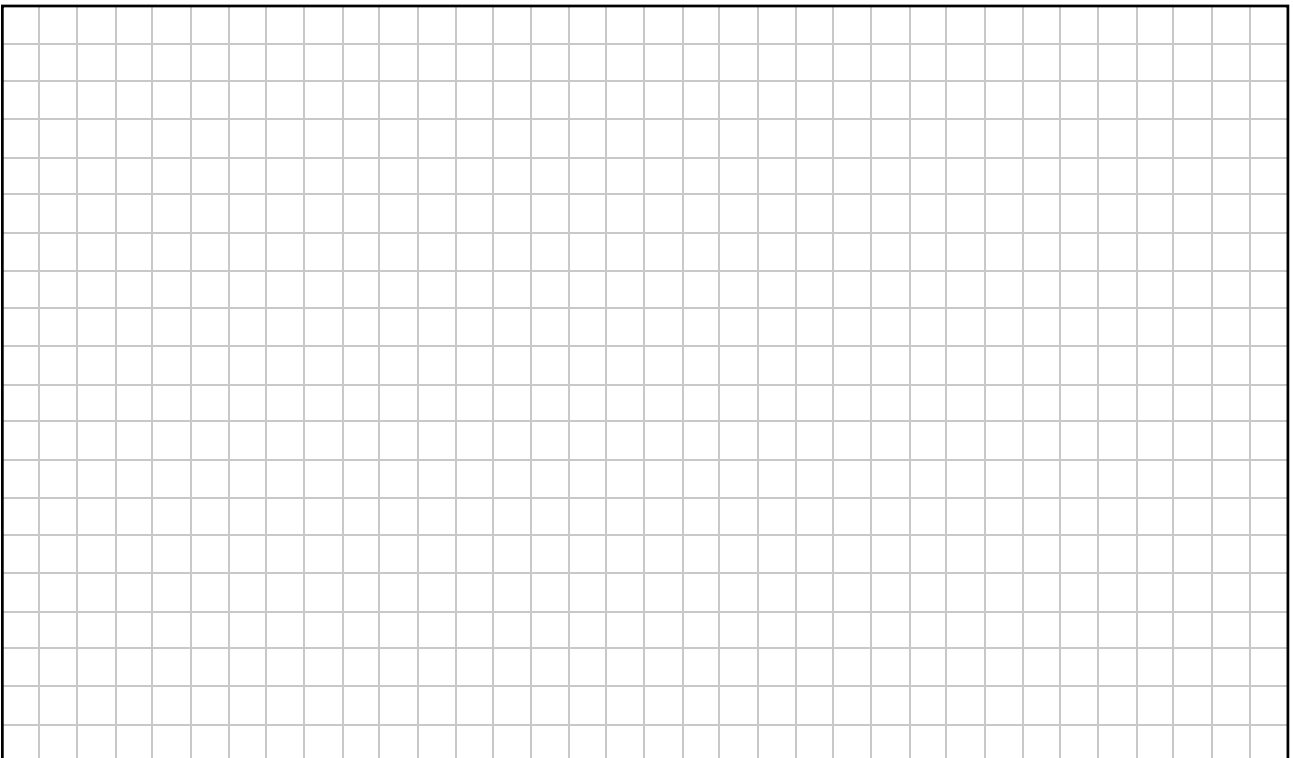
- (ii) Calculate the distance travelled by the car while it is accelerating.

**(iii)** Calculate the distance travelled by the car when  $t = 30$  s.

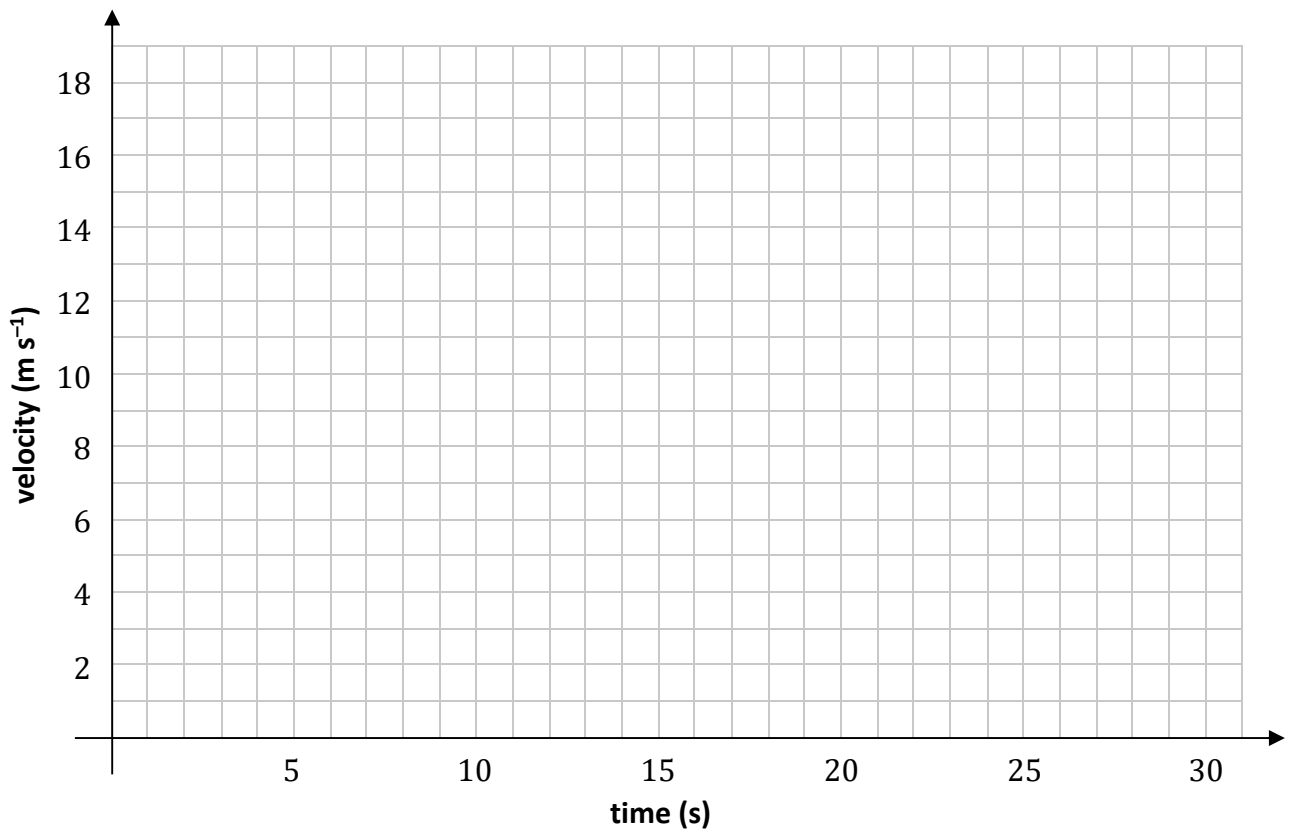


At  $t = 0$  s a cyclist passed the car while travelling with a velocity of  $8.5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  and an acceleration of  $0.5 \text{ m s}^{-2}$ . The cyclist accelerated until he reached a velocity of  $11 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ , which he then maintained.

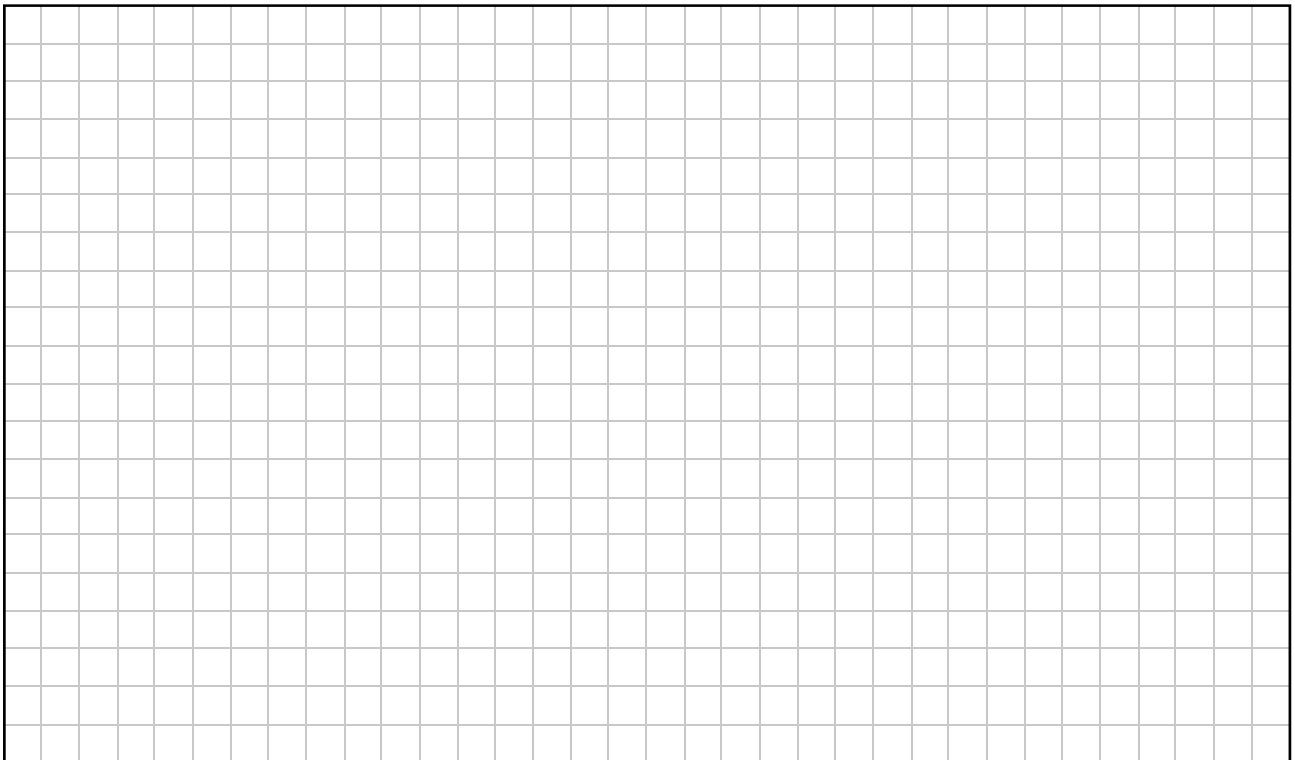
**(iv)** Calculate the time taken for the cyclist to reach a velocity of  $11 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ .



- (v) Using the axes below, draw an *accurate* velocity-time graph showing the motion of the car and the motion of the cyclist for the first 30 s of their motion.



- (vi) Calculate the distance between the car and the cyclist when  $t = 20$  s.

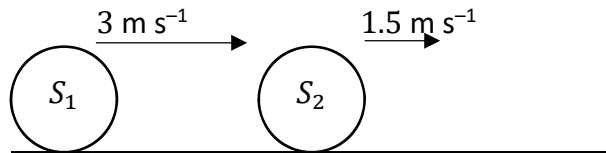




### Question 7

A small smooth sphere,  $S_1$ , of mass 6 kg is projected with a velocity of  $3 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  along a smooth horizontal surface and collides with second small smooth sphere,  $S_2$ , of mass 4 kg travelling in the same direction with a velocity of  $1.5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ .

The coefficient of restitution between the spheres is  $\frac{2}{3}$ .



- (i) Calculate the velocity of  $S_1$  and the velocity of  $S_2$  after impact.

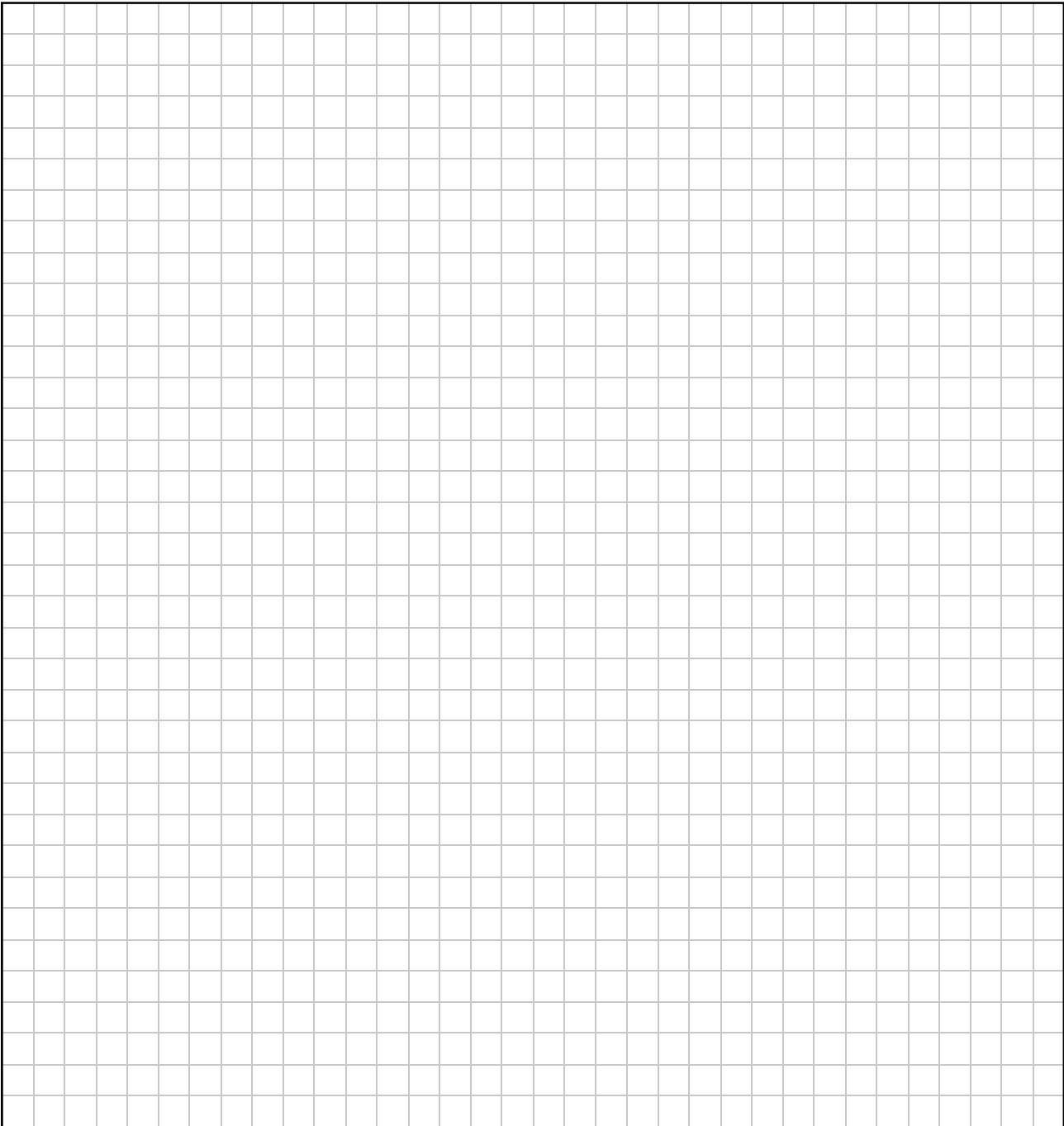
A large rectangular area filled with a grid of small squares, intended for the student to show their calculations and work for part (i) of the question.

**(ii)** Calculate the total kinetic energy of the system before impact.

**(iii)** Calculate the loss in kinetic energy as a result of the impact.

After the collision,  $S_2$  travels a distance of 80 cm at constant velocity before it decelerates to rest while travelling a further distance of 50 cm.

**(iv)** Calculate the time interval between the collision and when  $S_2$  comes to rest.



**Question 8**

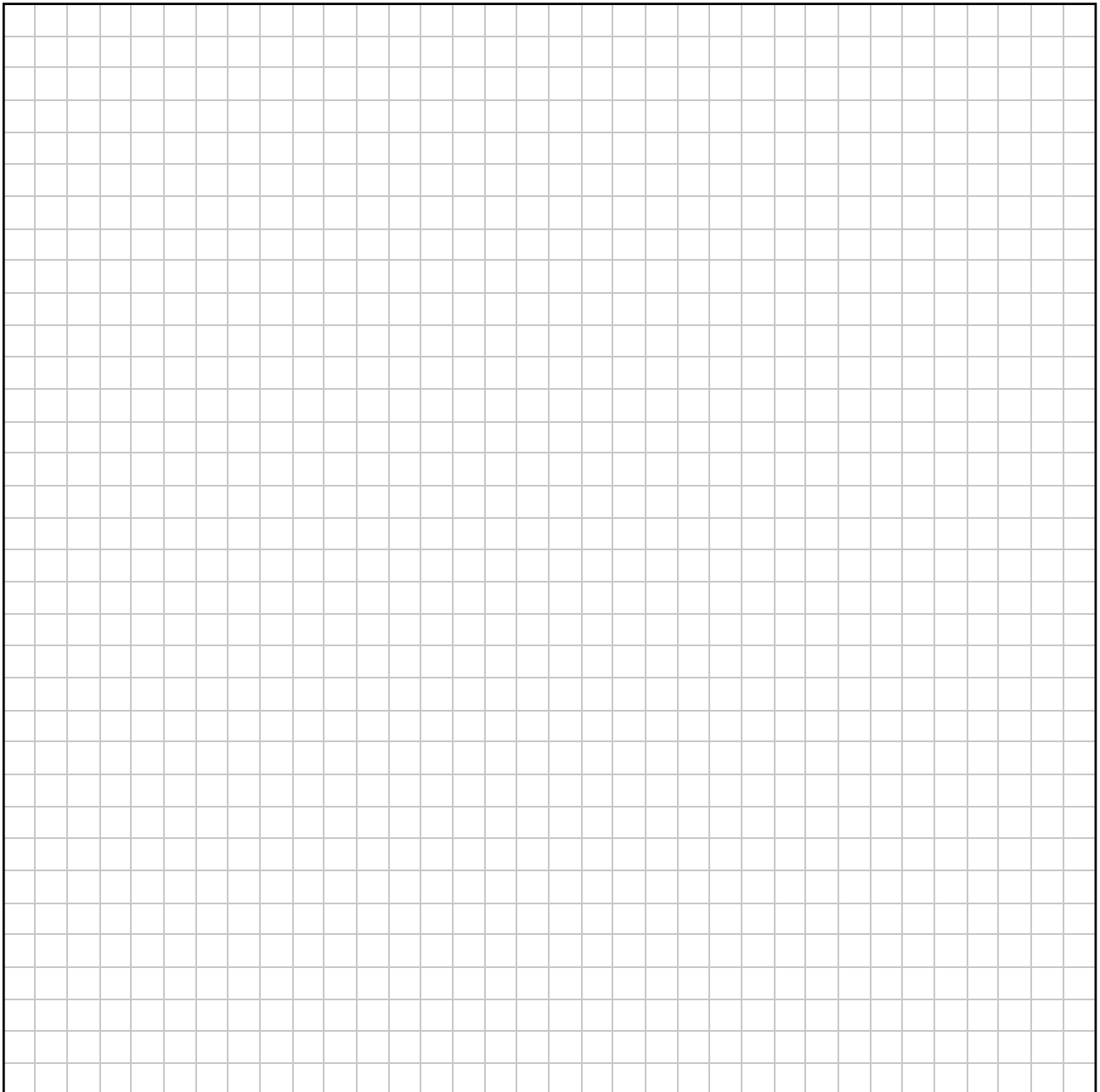
- (a) Kevin takes out a loan of €12 000 to purchase a new car. Kevin will repay the same amount, € $A$ , at the end of each month for 60 months. An interest rate of 0.69% is applied to the amount he owes every month.

$U$ , the amount in € that Kevin owes after  $n$  months, may be modelled by the difference equation:

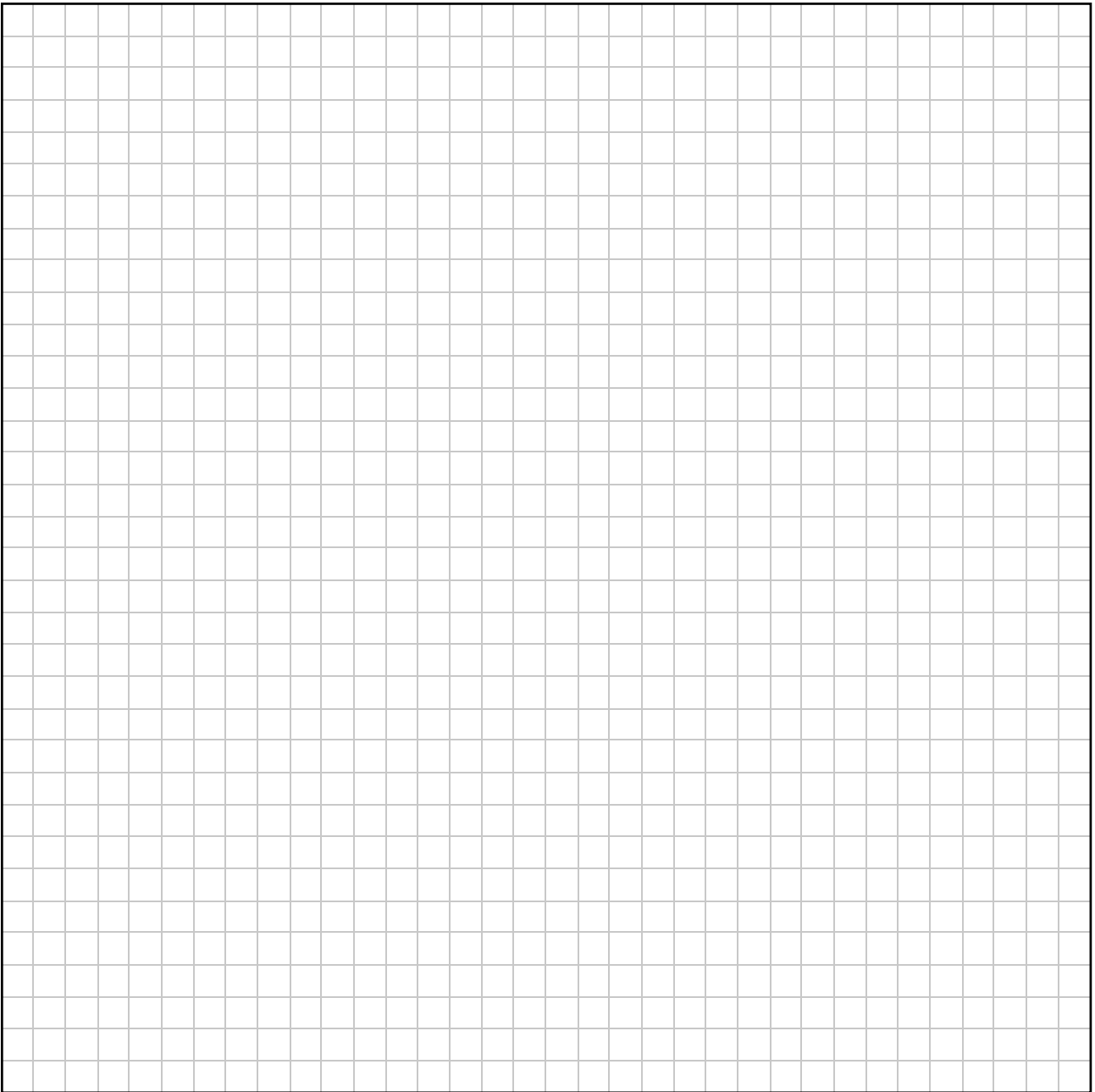
$$U_{n+1} = 1.0069U_n - A$$

where  $n \geq 0, n \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $U_0 = €12\,000$ .

- (i) Solve the difference equation to find an expression for  $U_n$ , the amount that Kevin owes after  $n$  months, in terms of  $n$  and  $A$ .



- (ii) Calculate the value of  $A$ , the repayment made by Kevin at the end of each month, so that the loan is repaid in full after 60 months.



- (b) Pike is a species of freshwater fish.  $P$ , the population of pike in a certain river, is affected by the level of pollution in the river.



At the start of 2020, the local community attempted to clean up the river and remove the pollution.

To assess if the community was successful, a zoologist measured the population of pike in 2020 and again in 2021.

In 2020 ( $n = 0$ ) 8 pike were observed. In 2021 ( $n = 1$ ) 14 pike were observed.

The zoologist predicts that the population of pike in any year is equal to twice the population in the previous year plus eight times the population in the year before that. This predication can be expressed as the second-order difference equation:

$$P_{n+2} - 2P_{n+1} - 8P_n = 0$$

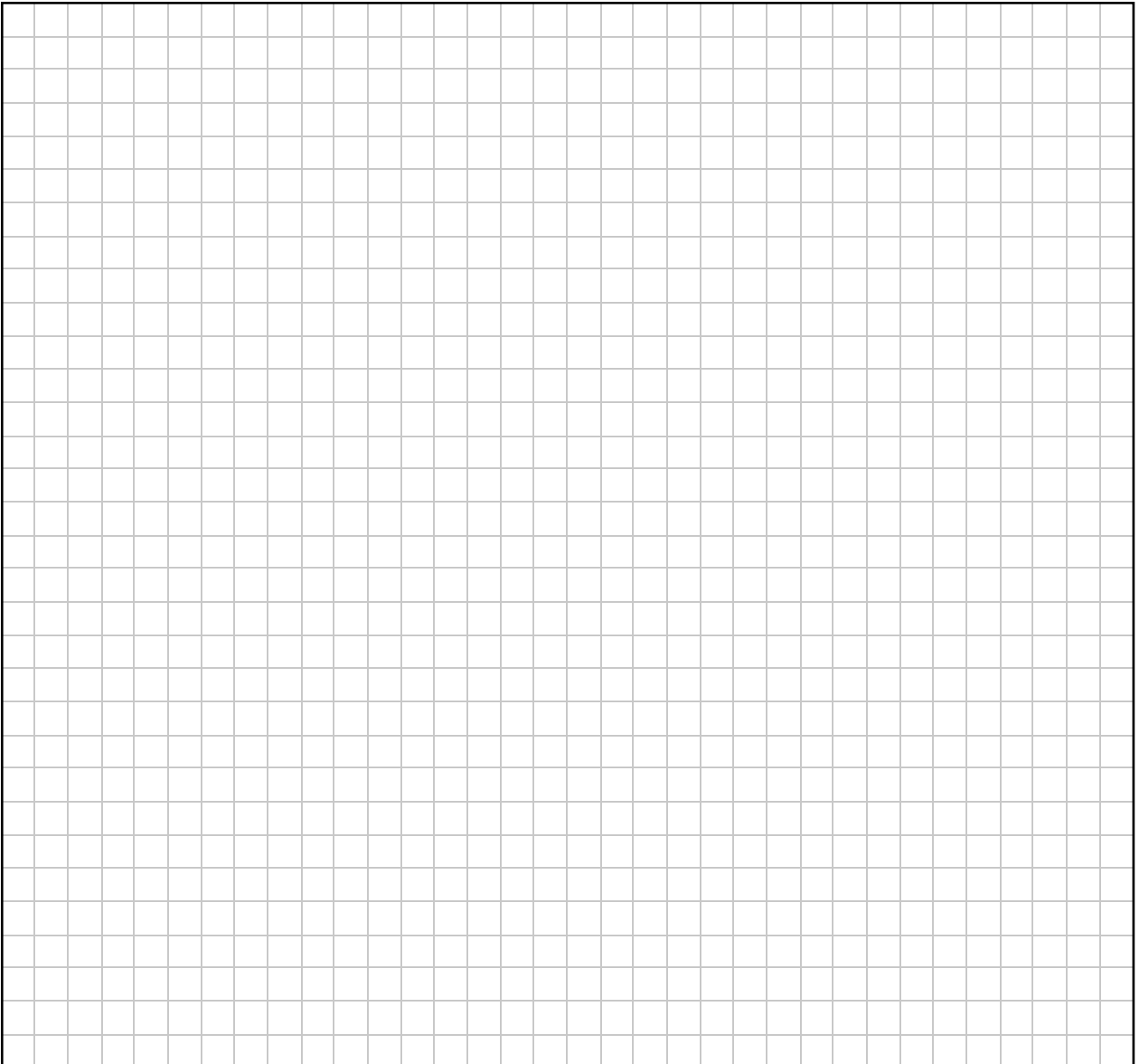
where  $n \geq 0$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $P_0 = 8$  and  $P_1 = 14$ .

This difference equation has the characteristic quadratic equation  $x^2 - 2x - 8 = 0$ .

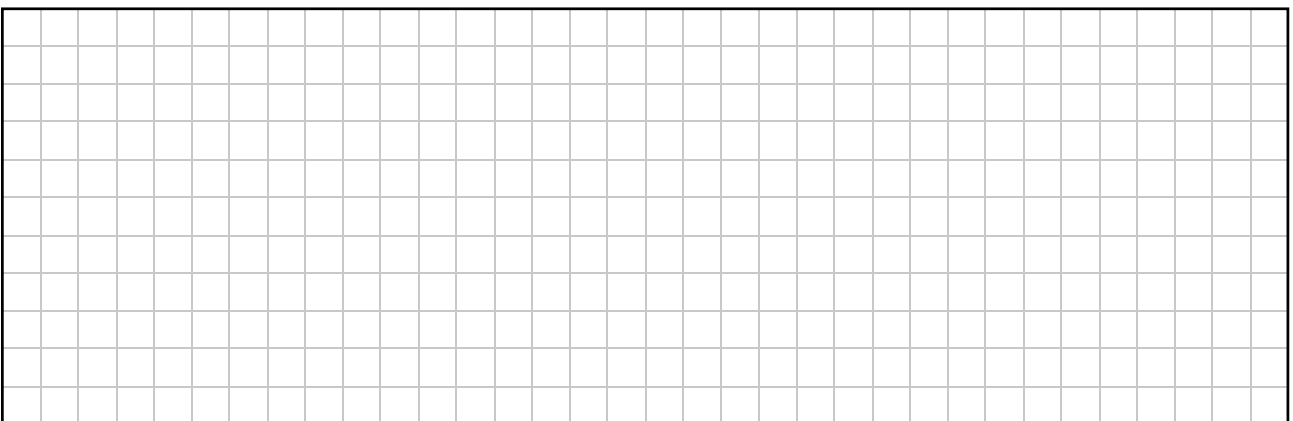
- (i) Solve this quadratic equation, i.e. calculate the two roots of the equation.

A large grid for solving the quadratic equation. The grid is 20 columns wide and 30 rows high. It is intended for the student to show their work in solving the quadratic equation  $x^2 - 2x - 8 = 0$ .

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



**(iii)** Calculate the number of pike that the model predicts will be present in 2026.



**Question 9**

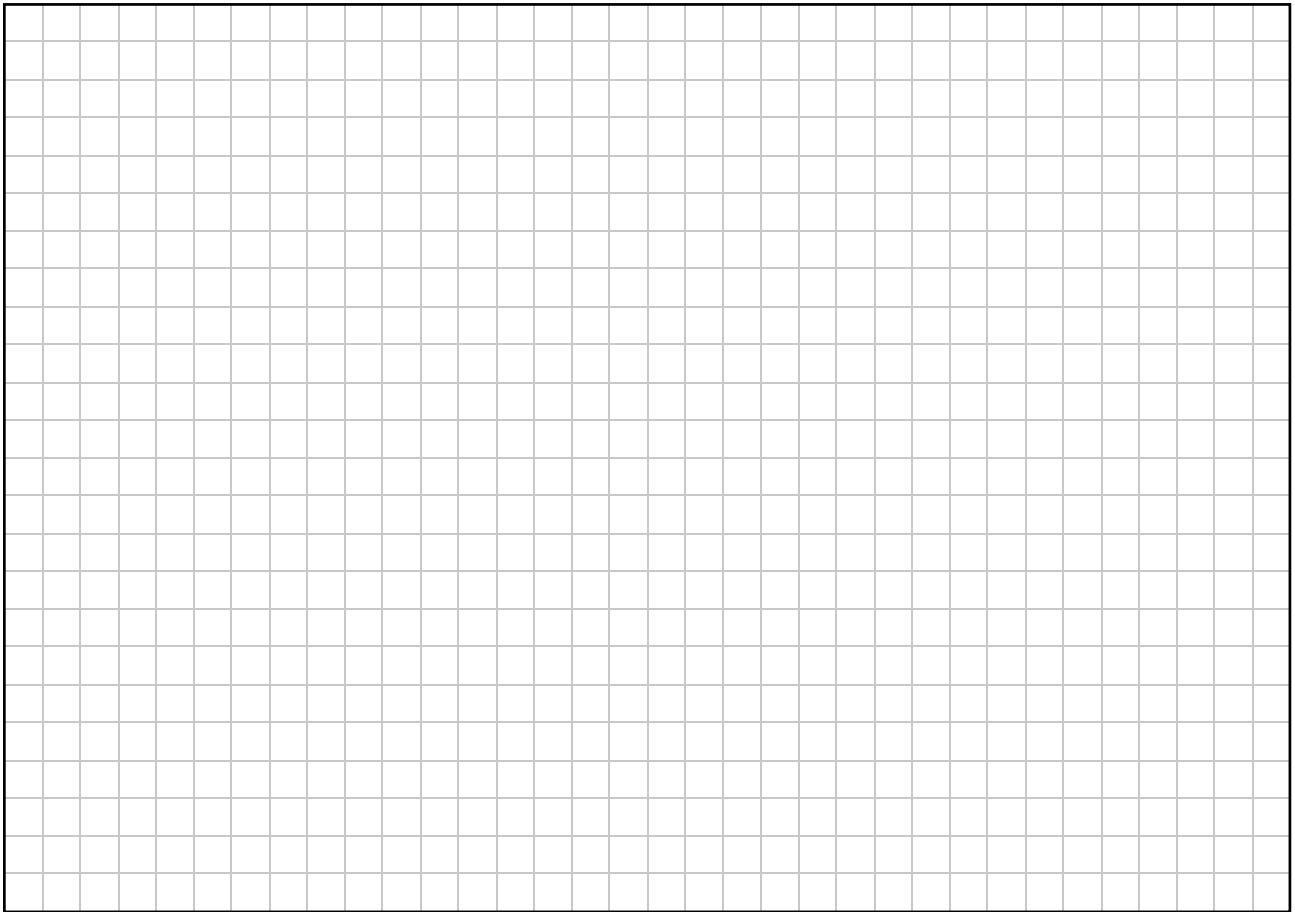
- (a) A student models the motion of a car that is being driven on a rough straight horizontal road on a dry day in June. The car has a mass of 1200 kg. The student carries out some research and estimates that the coefficient of friction,  $\mu$ , between the car and the dry road is  $\frac{1}{4}$ . The student also finds out that this car has a driving force (tractive force) of 6500 N. The student models the motion of the car starting from rest.

- (i) Calculate the force of friction that acts on the car while it is moving.

- (ii) Calculate the acceleration of the car.



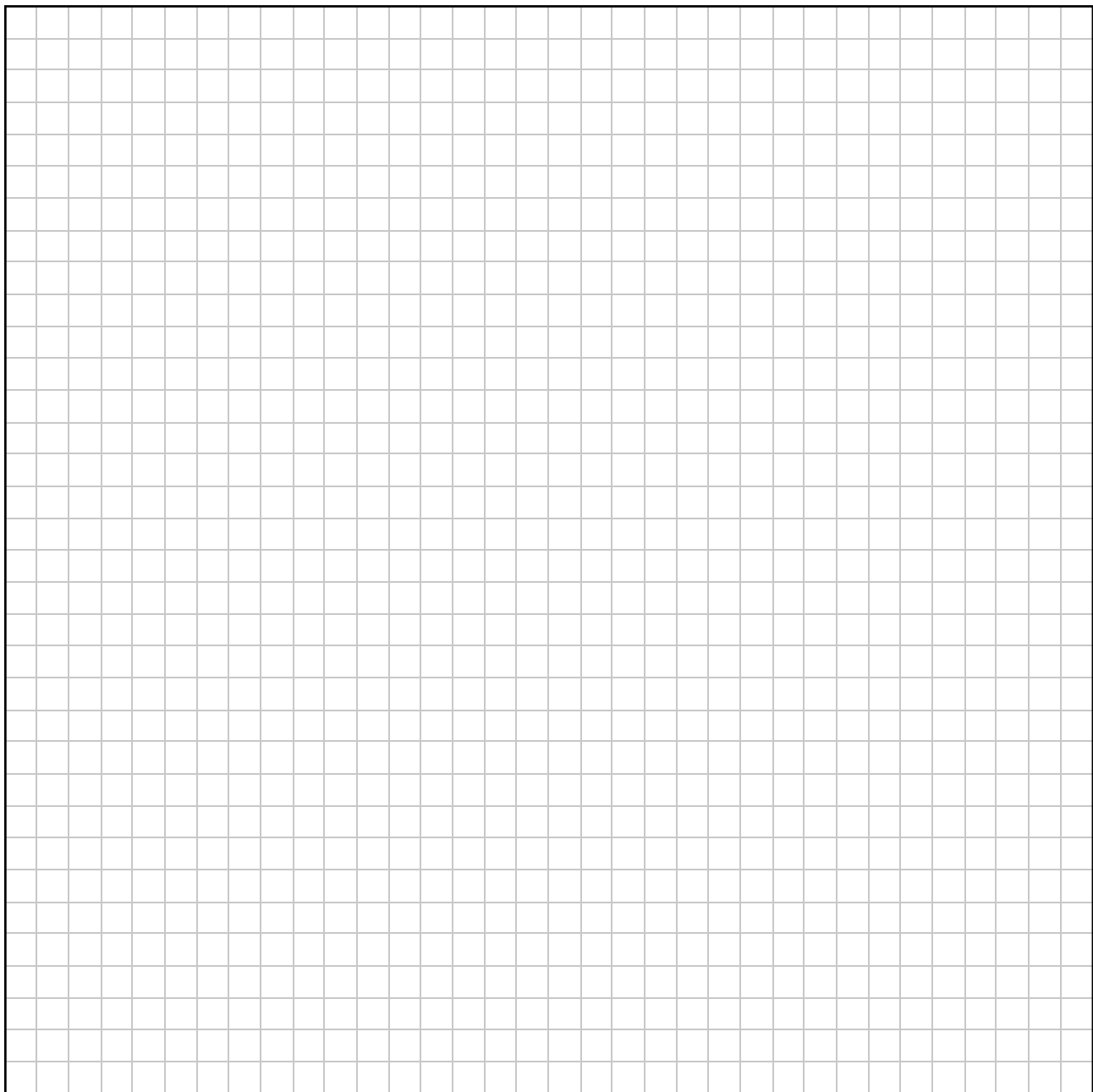
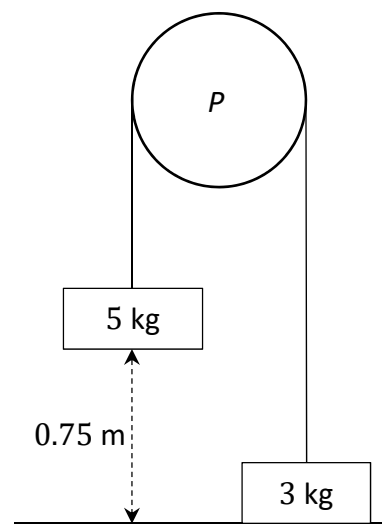
- (iii) If the student modelled the motion of this car being driven on the same road in December, explain one refinement that the student might make to the mathematical model.

A large rectangular grid of graph paper, consisting of 20 columns and 25 rows of small squares, intended for the student to write their answer to the question above.

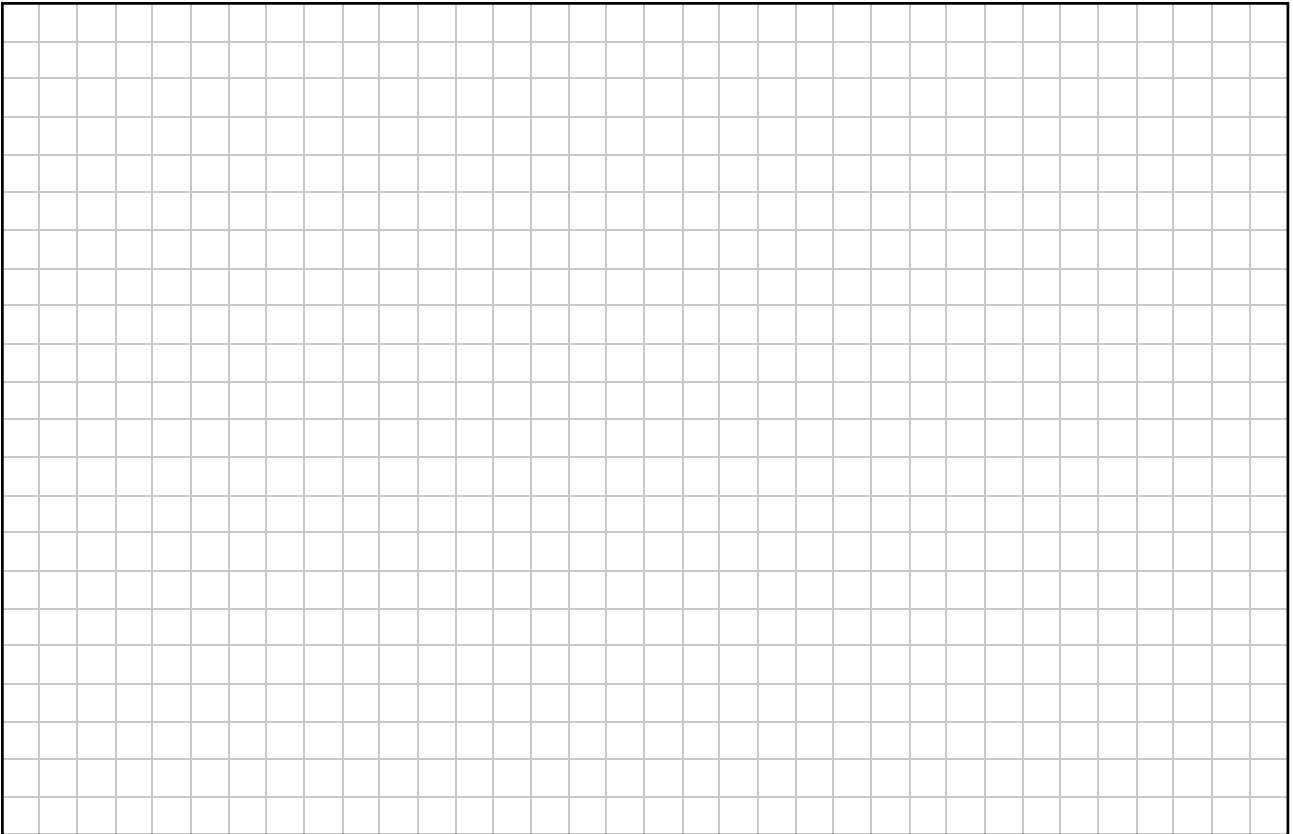
- (b) A fixed smooth pulley,  $P$ , has blocks of masses 5 kg and 3 kg hanging freely from either side. The blocks are connected by a light inextensible string which passes over the pulley  $P$ . The 3 kg block is initially at rest on a smooth table and the 5 kg block is held at a distance of 0.75 m above the table, as shown in the diagram.

The system is then released from rest.

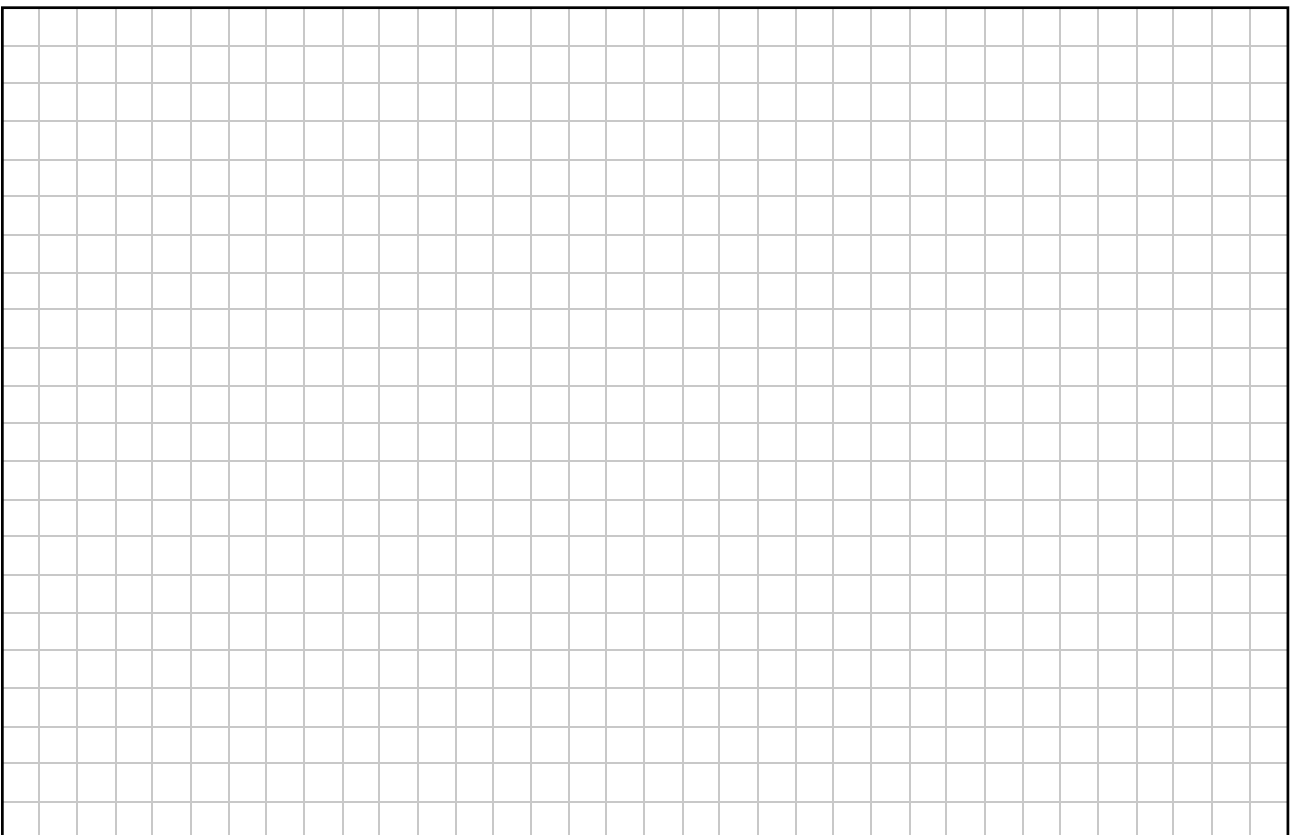
- (i) Draw separate diagrams to show the forces acting on the blocks while they are moving.



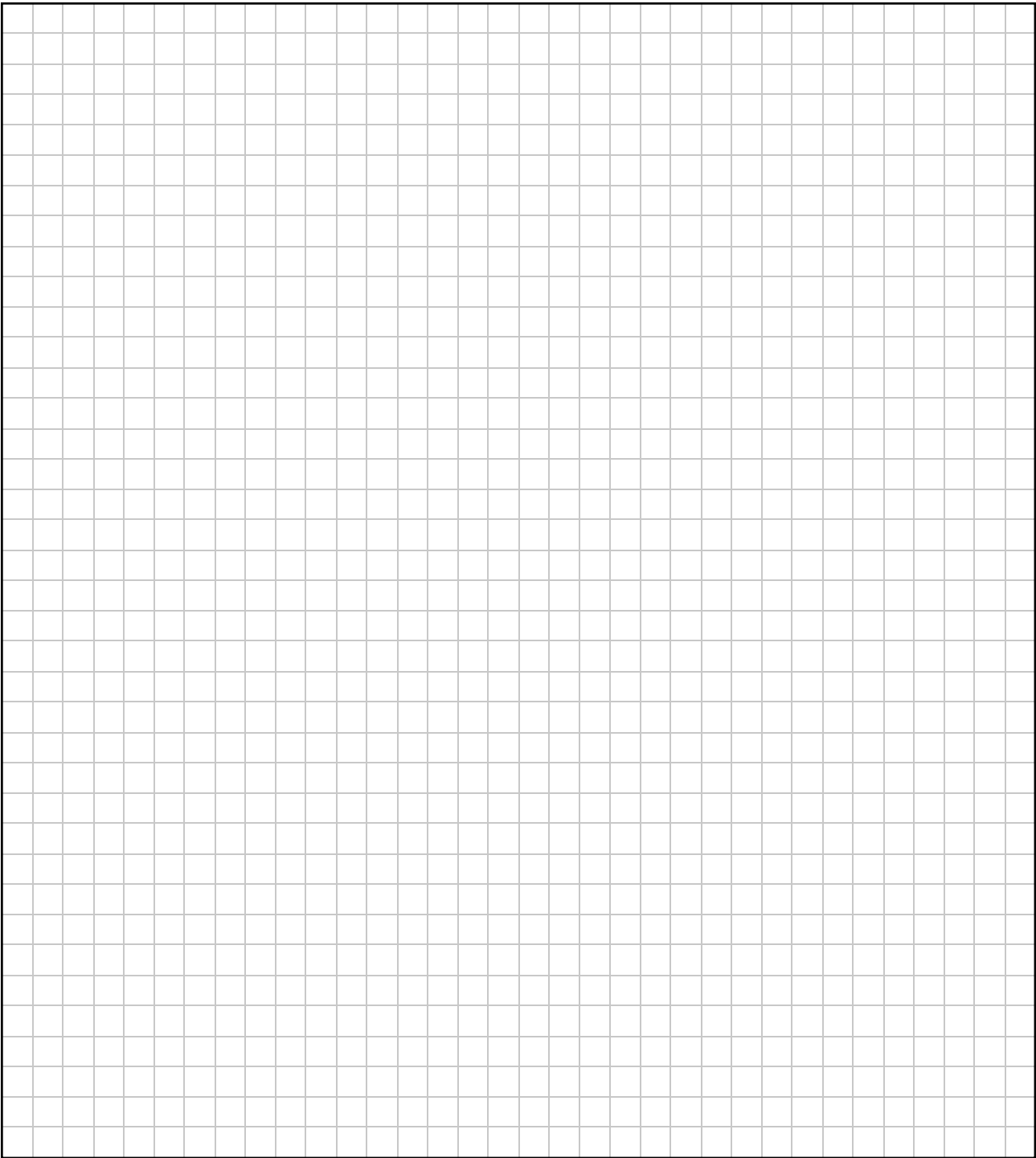
**(ii)** Calculate the acceleration of the system.



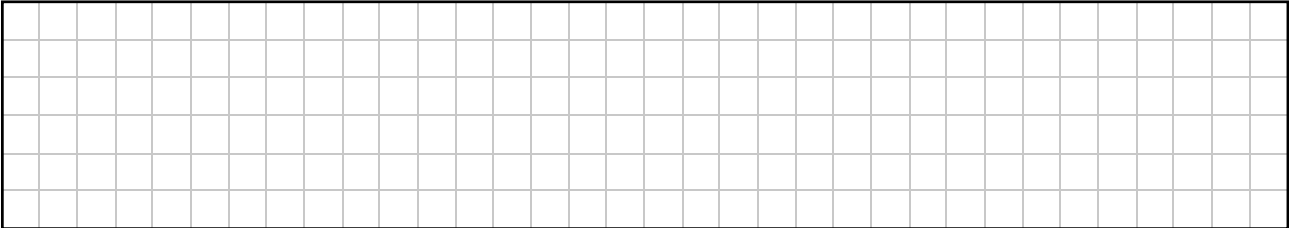
**(iii)** Calculate the kinetic energy of the 5 kg block as it hits the table.







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



**(iii)** If the workers begin processing an account at 09:30 a.m., calculate the earliest time when the work could be completed.

**(iv)** Calculate the float, in minutes, for activity *I*.

**(v)** Exactly one hour after the processing of an account has begun, a supervisor checks the work. State which activity (or activities) must be happening at this time. Justify your answer.

**(vi)** For a particular account, activity *F* takes twice as long as usual. Does this cause a delay in the processing of the account? Justify your answer.

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

Tuesday 27 June

Afternoon 2:00 - 4:30