

Conservation of Mechanical Energy Problems

Potentially useful equations:

$E_g = mgh$	$E_k = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$	$E_{T(before)} = E_{T(after)}$	$E_T = E_g + E_k$
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****be sure to state the $E_g = 0$ reference point and make a diagram where possible.**

1. A 30 kg rock is pushed off a cliff that is 95.0 m high. Assume it starts from rest.
 - a) Calculate the kinetic and gravitational potential energy of the rock at the top of the cliff. Also, calculate the total energy of the system.
 - b) Calculate the kinetic and gravitational potential energy of the rock when it is 40 m above the ground.
 - c) Calculate the kinetic and gravitational potential energy when the rock hits the ground.
 - d) Calculate the speed the rock hits the ground at.
2. A ball of mass 240 g is moving through the air at 18 m/s and has a gravitational potential energy of 70 J.
 - a) Calculate the total energy of the system.
 - b) Calculate the speed of the ball once it has fallen to height of 3 m above the ground.
 - c) Calculate the speed that the ball hits the ground.
3. A 2 kg ball is launched from the ground with an initial speed of 24 m/s.
 - a) Calculate the speed of the ball when it is 8 m above the ground.
 - b) Calculate the maximum height that the ball will reach.
4. A 5 kg object is thrown into the air from the ground with a kinetic energy of 2000 J.
 - a) Calculate how fast it is moving at the point where the gravitational potential energy is 500 J.
 - b) Calculate the height it has reached at this point?
5. A 1000 kg car is moving at 4 m/s at the top of a hill. How high is the hill if it is moving with a speed of 45 m/s at the bottom of the hill? (assume the cart simply coasts down the hill and does not use its engine).
6. A rollercoaster cart is coasting towards a large hill. The cart rolls up the hill to a maximum height of 35 m before it stops and starts rolling back down. What was the initial speed of the cart in km/h?