

# Hydrostatics Practice

## Level 1: Introduction to Fluids

### Multiple Choice Practice

1. Which of the following could be a correct unit for pressure?

(A)  $\frac{kg}{m^2}$       (B)  $\frac{kg}{m \cdot s}$       (C)  $\frac{kg}{s^2}$       (D)  $\frac{kg}{m \cdot s^2}$       (E)  $\frac{m \cdot s}{kg}$

2. The mass of a  $1.3 \text{ m}^3$  object with a specific gravity of 0.82 is

(a) 630 kg (b) 730 kg (c) 820 kg (d) 1100 kg (e) 1600 kg

3.

A vertical force of 30 N is applied uniformly to a flat button with a radius of 1 cm that is lying on a table. Which of the following is the best order of magnitude estimate for the pressure applied to the button?

- (A) 10 Pa  
(B)  $10^2$  Pa  
(C)  $10^3$  Pa  
(D)  $10^4$  Pa  
(E)  $10^5$  Pa

4.

A frog is at rest at the bottom of a lake at a depth  $y$  below the surface. If the top surface of the frog has area  $A$ , which of the following expressions correctly describes the total downward force  $F$  exerted on the frog?

- (A)  $(P_0 + \rho gy) A$   
(B)  $P_0 A$   
(C)  $\rho gy A$   
(D)  $(P_0 + \frac{1}{2} \rho v^2) A$   
(E)  $P_0 + \rho gy$

5.

Using the value of atmospheric pressure at sea level,  $1.0 \times 10^5 \text{ Pa}$ , what is the approximate mass of Earth's atmosphere that is above a flat building that has a rooftop area of  $5.0 \text{ m}^2$ ?

- (A)  $2.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{ kg}$   
(B)  $4.0 \times 10^{-2} \text{ kg}$   
(C)  $9.0 \times 10^2 \text{ kg}$   
(D)  $5.0 \times 10^4 \text{ kg}$   
(E)  $5.0 \times 10^5 \text{ kg}$

6.

- If the gauge pressure of a device reads  $2.026 \times 10^5 \text{ N/m}^2$ , the absolute pressure it is measuring is
- (a)  $1.013 \times 10^5 \text{ N/m}^2$
  - (b)  $2.052 \times 10^5 \text{ N/m}^2$
  - (c)  $2.026 \times 10^5 \text{ N/m}^2$
  - (d)  $3.039 \times 10^5 \text{ N/m}^2$
  - (e)  $6.078 \times 10^5 \text{ N/m}^2$

## Free Response

**Example 18.7** A flat piece of wood, of area  $0.5 \text{ m}^2$ , is lying at the bottom of a lake. If the depth of the lake is 30 m, what is the force on the wood due to the pressure? (Use  $p_{\text{atm}} = 1 \times 10^5 \text{ Pa}$ .)

**Example 18.8** Consider a closed container, partially filled with a liquid of density  $\rho = 1200 \text{ kg/m}^3$ , and a point X that's 0.5 m below the surface of the liquid.

- (a) If the space above the surface of the liquid is vacuum, what's the absolute pressure at point X?
- (b) If the space above the surface of the liquid is occupied by a gas whose pressure is  $2.4 \times 10^4 \text{ Pa}$ , what's the absolute pressure at point X?

## Free Response Question 2

2003B6.

A diver descends from a salvage ship to the ocean floor at a depth of 35 m below the surface. The density of ocean water is  $1.025 \times 10^3 \text{ kg/m}^3$ .

- (a) Calculate the gauge pressure on the diver on the ocean floor.
- (b) Calculate the absolute pressure on the diver on the ocean floor.

The diver finds a rectangular aluminum plate having dimensions 1.0 m x 2.0 m x 0.03 m. A hoisting cable is lowered from the ship and the diver connects it to the plate. The density of aluminum is  $2.7 \times 10^3 \text{ kg/m}^3$ . Ignore the effects of viscosity.

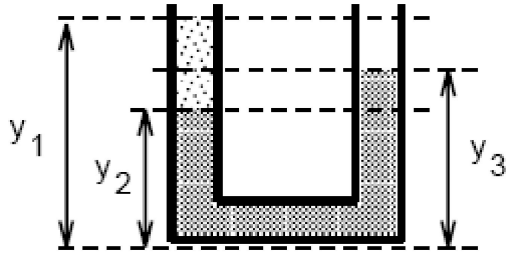
- (c) Calculate the tension in the cable if it lifts the plate upward at a slow, constant velocity.
- (d) Will the tension in the hoisting cable increase, decrease, or remain the same if the plate accelerates upward at  $0.05 \text{ m/s}^2$ ?

\_\_\_\_ increase \_\_\_\_ decrease \_\_\_\_ remain the same  
Explain your reasoning.

## Level 2: Measuring Pressure

### Multiple Choice

1.



In the open manometer shown, water occupies a part of the left arm, from a height of  $y_1$  to a height of  $y_2$ . The remainder of the left arm, the bottom of the tube, and the right arm to a height of  $y_3$  are filled with mercury.

Which of the following is correct?

- (a) the pressure at a height  $y_3$  is the same in both arms.
- (b) the pressure at a height  $y_2$  is the same in both arms.
- (c) the pressure at the bottom of the right arm is greater than at the bottom of the left arm.
- (d) the pressure at a height  $y_3$  is less in the left arm than in the right arm.
- (e) the pressure at a height  $y_1$  is greater in the left arm than in the right arm.

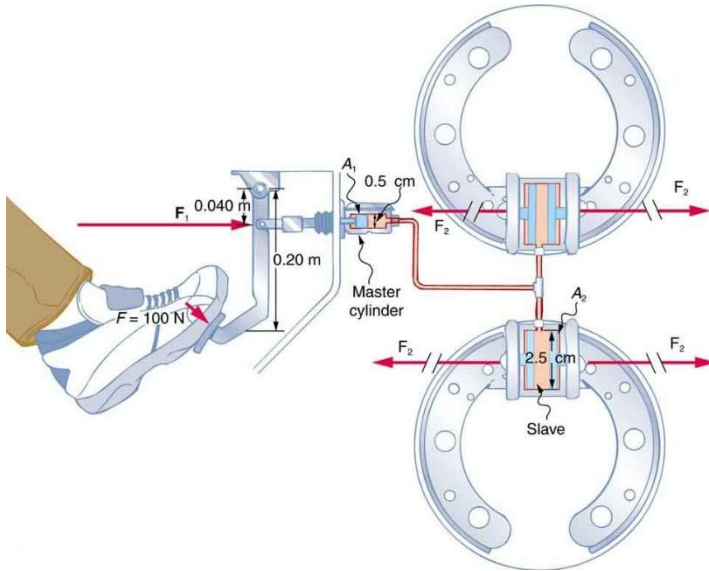
## Level 3: Pascal's Principle

### Multiple Choice Practice

1. A 500 N weight sits on the small piston of a hydraulic machine. The small piston has an area of  $2 \text{ cm}^2$ . If the large piston has an area of  $40 \text{ cm}^2$ , how much weight can the large piston support?
  - A) 25 N
  - B) 500 N
  - C) 10000 N
  - D) 40000 N
2. A 500 N weight sits on the small piston of a hydraulic machine. The small piston has an area of  $2 \text{ cm}^2$ . If the large piston has an area of  $40 \text{ cm}^2$ , how much weight can the large piston support?
  - A) 25 N
  - B) 500 N
  - C) 10000 N
  - D) 40000 N

### Free Response

A force of 100 N is applied to the brake pedal, which acts on the cylinder—called the master—through a lever. A force of 500 N is exerted on the master cylinder. (The reader can verify that the force is 500 N using techniques of statics from [Applications of Statics, Including Problem-Solving Strategies](#).) Pressure created in the master cylinder is transmitted to four so-called slave cylinders. The master cylinder has a diameter of 0.500 cm, and each slave cylinder has a diameter of 2.50 cm. Calculate the force  $F_2$  created at each of the slave cylinders.



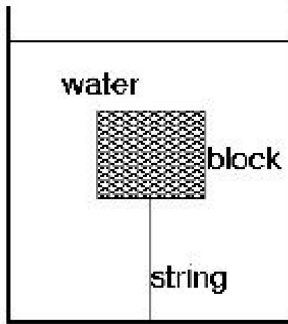
## Level 4: Buoyancy

1.

A block of mass  $m$ , density  $\rho_B$ , and volume  $V$  is completely submerged in a liquid of density  $\rho_L$ . The density of the block is greater than the density of the liquid. The block

- floats, because  $\rho_B > \rho_L$
  - experiences a buoyant force equal to  $\rho_B gV$ .
  - experiences a buoyant force equal to  $\rho_L gV$ .
  - experiences a buoyant force equal to  $m_B g$
  - does not experience any buoyant force, because  $\rho_B > \rho_L$ .
2.  $50 \text{ cm}^3$  of wood is floating on water, and  $50 \text{ cm}^3$  of iron is totally submerged. Which has the greater buoyant force on it?
- The wood.
  - The iron.
  - Both have the same buoyant force.
  - Cannot be determined without knowing their densities.
3. A cork has weight  $mg$  and density 25% of water density. A string is tied around the cork and attached to the bottom of a water-filled container. The cork is totally immersed. Express in terms of the cork weight  $mg$ , the tension in the string
- 0
  - $mg$
  - $2mg$
  - $3mg$
  - $4mg$

4.



A block is connected to a light string attached to the bottom of a large container of water. The tension in the string is 3.0 N. The gravitational force from the earth on the block is 5.0 N. What is the block's volume?

- (A)  $2.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^3$
- (B)  $3.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^3$
- (C)  $5.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^3$
- (D)  $8.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^3$
- (E)  $1.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3$

5. Three fishing bobbers all float on top of water. They have the following relationships:

-A,B: same mass, same density, different shapes

-B,C: same size, same shape, mass & density

C < mass & density B

Three identical weights are tied to each bob, and each is pulled completely beneath the water.

Which bob will displace the greatest amount of water

- A) A
  - B) B
  - C) C
  - D) A and B
  - E) All displace the same amount of water.
6. Salt water is more dense than fresh water. A ship floats in both fresh water and salt water. Compared to the fresh water, the amount of water displaced in the salt water is
- A) more.
  - B) less.
  - C) the same.
  - D) Cannot be determined from the information given.

## Free Response

2005B5.

A large rectangular raft (density  $650 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ) is floating on a lake. The surface area of the top of the raft is  $8.2 \text{ m}^2$  and its volume is  $1.80 \text{ m}^3$ . The density of the lake water is  $1000 \text{ kg/m}^3$

(a) Calculate the height  $h$  of the portion of the raft that is above the surrounding water.

(b) Calculate the magnitude of the buoyant force on the raft and state its direction.

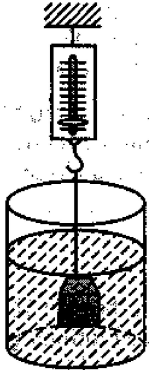
(c) If the average mass of a person is  $75 \text{ kg}$ , calculate the maximum number of people that can be on the raft without the top of the raft sinking below the surface of the water. (Assume that the people are evenly

distributed on the raft.)

## Level 5: Percent Submerged and Apparent Weight

### Multiple Choice

1. What vertical percentage of a 0.25 m deep sheet of ice, whose density is  $0.95 \times 10^3 \text{ kg/m}^3$ , will be visible in an ocean whose density is  $1.1 \times 10^3 \text{ kg/m}^3$   
(a) 14% (b) 34% (c) 58% (d) 71% (e) 87%

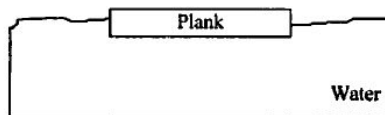


2. The figure shows an object of mass 0.4 kg that is suspended from a scale and submerged in a liquid. If the reading on the scale is 3 N, then the buoyant force that the fluid exerts on the object is most nearly  
(A) 1.3 N  
(B) 1.0 N  
(C) 0.75 N  
(D) 0.33 N  
(E) 0.25 N

### Free Response

#### Practice Problem 1

##### SAMPLE PROBLEM 2



A plank of pine wood (density of  $550 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ) of dimensions  $4.0 \text{ m} \times 4.0 \text{ m} \times 0.3 \text{ m}$  is placed in a water bath whose density is  $1000 \text{ kg/m}^3$  as shown.

- Sketch the forces acting on the floating plank.
- Verify by calculation that this plank must float.
- Determine the buoyant force on this plank while it is floating.
- Determine the percentage of the plank that is not submerged.

#### Problem 2

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### Problem 3

**Example 18.10** A brick, of specific gravity 2 and volume  $1.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3$ , is dropped into a swimming pool full of water.

- (a) Explain briefly why the brick will sink.
- (b) When the brick is lying on the bottom of the pool, what is the magnitude of the normal force on the brick?