

Free Fall Problems

1. You are standing on the edge of a cliff by the sea and drop a rock. It falls for 4 seconds, and splashes into the water.
 - a. What is the velocity of the rock just as it hits the water? What about the speed?

 - b. How high was the cliff?

2. A worker on the edge of a building drops a hammer. It falls for 2.3 seconds before hitting the ground.
 - a. How fast is the hammer going just as it hits the ground?

 - b. How tall was the building?

3. A seagull drops a clam onto some rocks in order to crack the shell. The clam falls for 1.25 seconds.
 - a. What is the velocity of the clam just as it hits the ground?

 - b. How high up was the seagull?

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4. A 1.5 kg ball is dropped and falls for 2 meters before hitting the ground.
 - a. How many seconds did it take to fall?

 - b. What is the velocity of the ball just as it hits the ground?

5. A painter drops a paintbrush while painting the side of a building. The brush falls 12.8 meters.
 - a. How many seconds does it take to fall?

 - b. How fast is the brush going just as it hits the ground?

6. Someone throws a rock straight down with an initial speed of 7 m/s. It falls for 1.5 seconds.
 - a. What is its velocity when it hits the ground? (*Hint: what is the initial velocity?*)

 - b. How far did the rock travel?

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Answers:

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| 1. a) -40 m/s (and 40 m/s) | b) 80 m |
| 2. a) 23 m/s | b) 26.5 m |
| 3. a) -12.5 m/s | b) 7.8 m |
| 4. a) 0.63 s | b) -6.3 m/s |
| 5. a) 1.6 s | b) 16 m/s |
| 6. a) -22 m/s | b) 21.8 m |