

Skydiver Problem Notes.

Assume there is air resistance, up is positive, down is negative, and that  $g = -10 \text{ m/s/s}$ .

Force air resistance is proportional to the square of velocity, but we will ignore this fact for simplicity.

1. A skydiver is falling at a terminal constant velocity of  $-60 \text{ m/s}$ . The skydiver's mass is  $70 \text{ kg}$ .
  - a. Draw a force diagram for the skydiver.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. Write the  $\sum F$  in terms of  $F_{Air \text{ Resistance}}$  and  $F_g$ .
  - c. Calculate force gravity in Newtons.  $F_g = mg$
  - d. Calculate the  $F_{Air \text{ Resistance}}$  using Newton's 2<sup>nd</sup> Law  $\sum F = ma$ . Use substitution.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. The skydiver opens her parachute and begins to experience a constant positive acceleration of  $+12 \text{ m/s/s}$  as the chute opens. Assume force air resistance on the skydiver (not including the parachute) is the same as in problem #1.
  - a. Draw a force diagram for the skydiver as the parachute opens.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. Write the  $\sum F$  in terms of  $F_{Air \text{ Resistance}}$ ,  $F_{tension}$  and  $F_g$ .
  - c. Calculate force gravity in Newtons.  $F_g = mg$
  - d. Calculate the  $F_{tension}$  using Newton's 2<sup>nd</sup> Law  $\sum F = ma$ . Use substitution.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - e. How many seconds until the skydiver comes to reach  $-24 \text{ m/s}$ ?

3. The skydiver's parachute strings snap when she reaches a velocity of  $-24 \text{ m/s}$  and she begins to accelerate downward at  $-3 \text{ m/s}^2$ . The skydiver's new mass without the parachute is  $60 \text{ kg}$  and force air resistance is much less now that she is traveling at a slower speed.
- Draw a force diagram for the skydiver.
  - Write the  $\sum F$  in terms of  $F_{Air \text{ Resistance}}$  and  $F_g$ .
  - Calculate  $F_g$  in Newtons.  $F_g = mg$
  - Calculate the new  $F_{Air \text{ Resistance}}$  using Newton's 2<sup>nd</sup> Law  $\sum F = ma$ .
  - How much time is required for her to reach a final velocity of  $-40 \text{ m/s}$ ?
  - Calculate the distance fallen as she accelerates from  $-24 \text{ m/s}$  to  $-40 \text{ m/s}$ .