

PHYSICS  
CLASS

$$E = m \cdot c^2$$

$$P = \frac{F}{A}$$

$$V = a \cdot t$$

$$\frac{1}{u} + \frac{1}{v} = \frac{1}{f}$$



PHYSICS - Speed, velocity and  
acceleration

# LEARNING OBJECTIVES

## 1.2 Motion

### Core

- Define speed and calculate average speed from total time / total distance
- Plot and interpret a speed-time graph or a distance- time graph
- Recognise from the shape of a speed-time graph when a body is
  - at rest
  - moving with constant speed
  - moving with changing speed
- Calculate the area under a speed-time graph to work out the distance travelled for motion with constant acceleration
- Demonstrate understanding that acceleration and deceleration are related to changing speed including qualitative analysis of the gradient of a speed-time graph
- State that the acceleration of free fall for a body near to the Earth is constant

### Supplement

- Distinguish between speed and velocity
- Define and calculate acceleration using time taken change of velocity
- Calculate speed from the gradient of a distance-time graph
- Calculate acceleration from the gradient of a speed-time graph
- Recognise linear motion for which the acceleration is constant
- Recognise motion for which the acceleration is not constant
- Understand deceleration as a negative acceleration
- Describe qualitatively the motion of bodies falling in a uniform gravitational field with and without air resistance (including reference to terminal velocity)

$$\text{Average speed} = \frac{\text{Distance moved}}{\text{Time taken}}$$

A

$$\text{Average speed} = \frac{\text{Distance moved}}{\text{Time taken}}$$

Distance measured in metres (m)

Time measured in seconds (s)

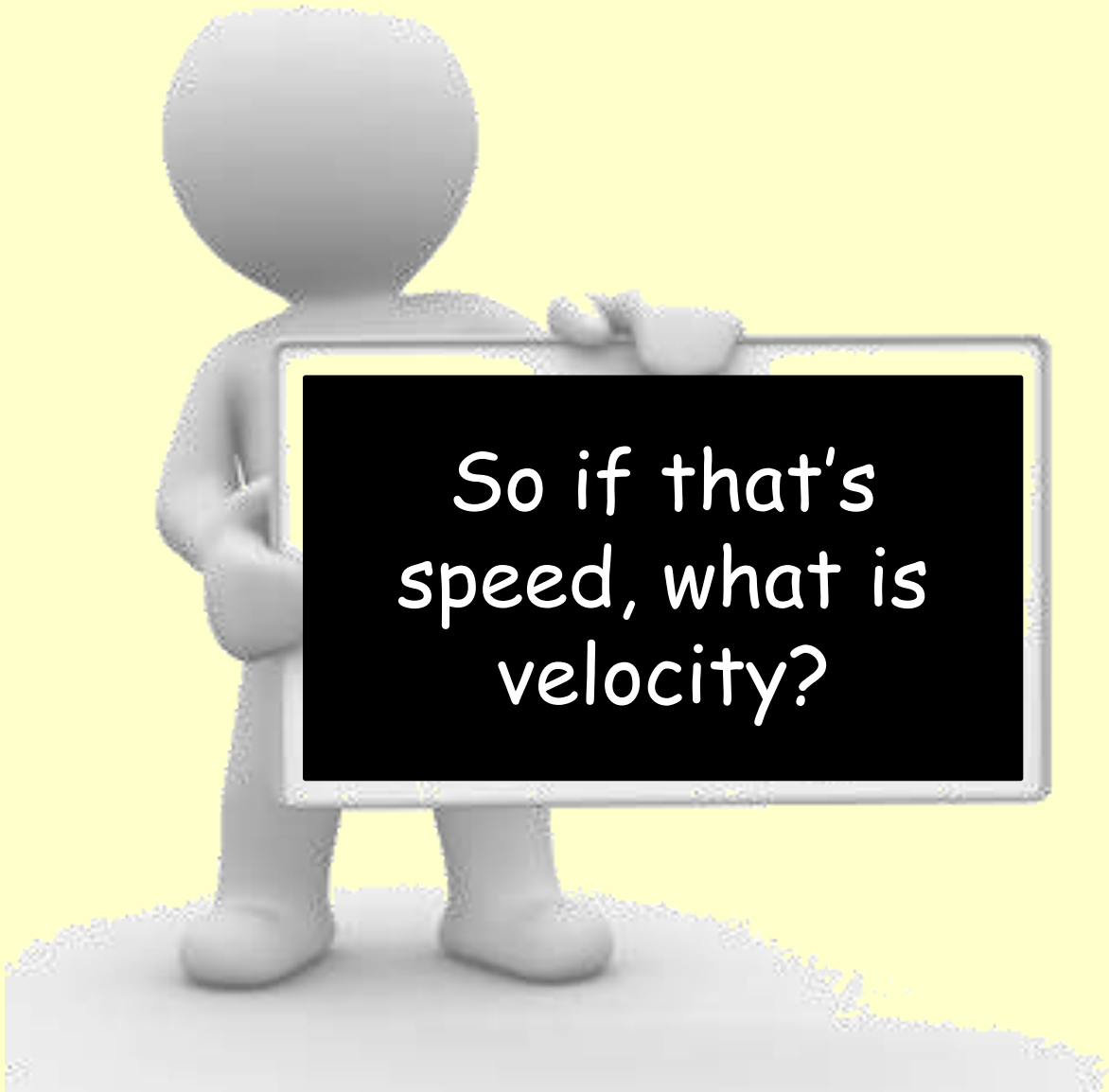
Speed - metres per second (m/s)

$$\text{Average speed} = \frac{\text{Distance moved}}{\text{Time taken}}$$

Example:

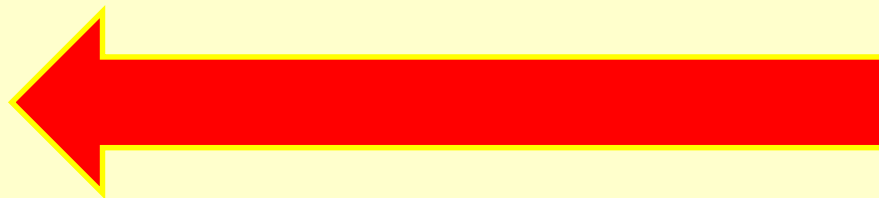
Car travels <sup>A</sup> 50m  
time 2s

$$\text{speed} = 50/2 = 25 \text{ m/s} \\ 25 \text{ m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$$

A 3D rendered white figure stands on a light gray circular shadow on a yellow background. The figure is holding a rectangular sign with a black background and a white border. The sign contains the text "So if that's speed, what is velocity?".

So if that's  
speed, what is  
velocity?

Velocity is speed in a given direction.



Velocity is speed in a given direction.



Velocity is 25m/s due west



Example:



Example:



Example:



Example:



Cyclist

+10m/s to the right

Example:



Cyclist

+10m/s to the right

-10m/s to the left



What's your  
vector Victor?



What's your  
vector Victor?

Quantities such as  
velocity are called  
vectors because they  
have size and direction

Acceleration is the rate at which an object increases speed or velocity.



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Also written as:  $a = \frac{v - u}{t}$

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$$\text{Acceleration} = \frac{\text{change in velocity}}{\text{time taken}}$$

Velocity measured in m/s

Time measured in s

Acceleration measured in m/s/s or m/s<sup>2</sup>

Example: a drag car increases its velocity from zero to 60m/s in 3s.

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Don't forget that acceleration is a vector – it has size and direction

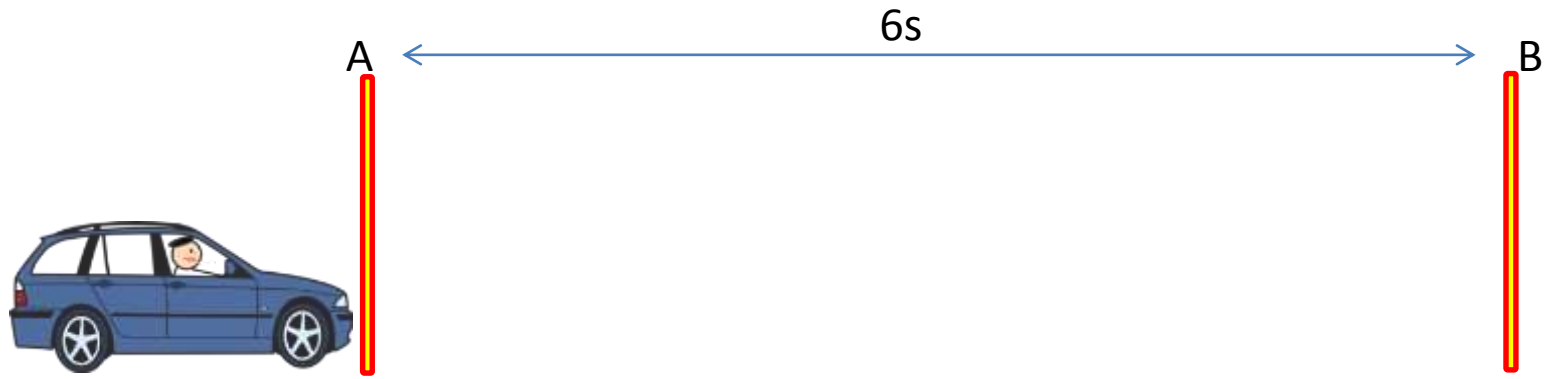
## Deceleration (retardation)

Deceleration is negative acceleration - the object is slowing down.  
Eg.  $-4\text{m/s}^2$



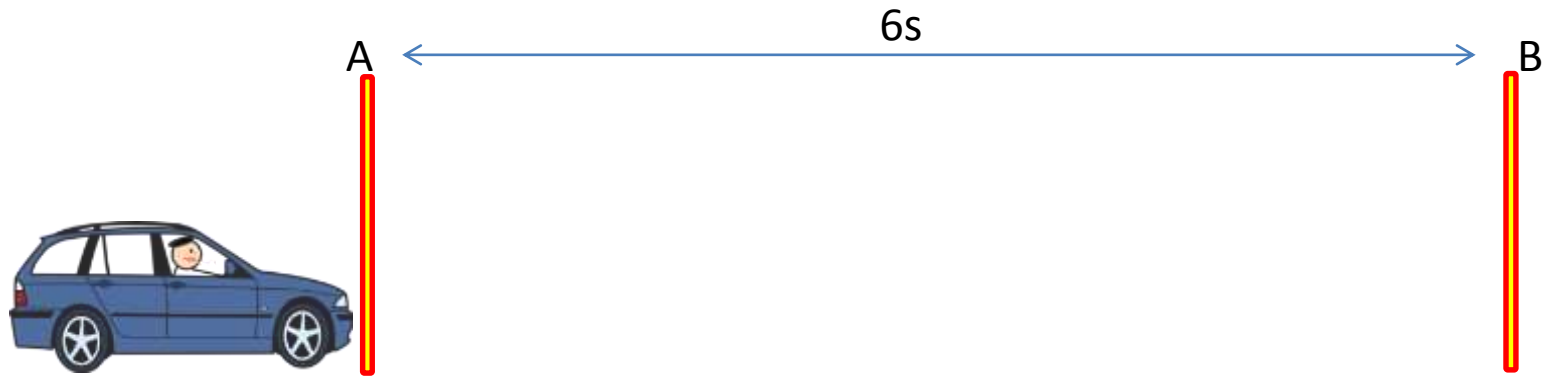


# Constant acceleration example



Car passes point A with a velocity of  $10\text{m/s}$ . It has a steady (constant) acceleration of  $4\text{m/s}^2$ . What is the velocity when it passes point B?

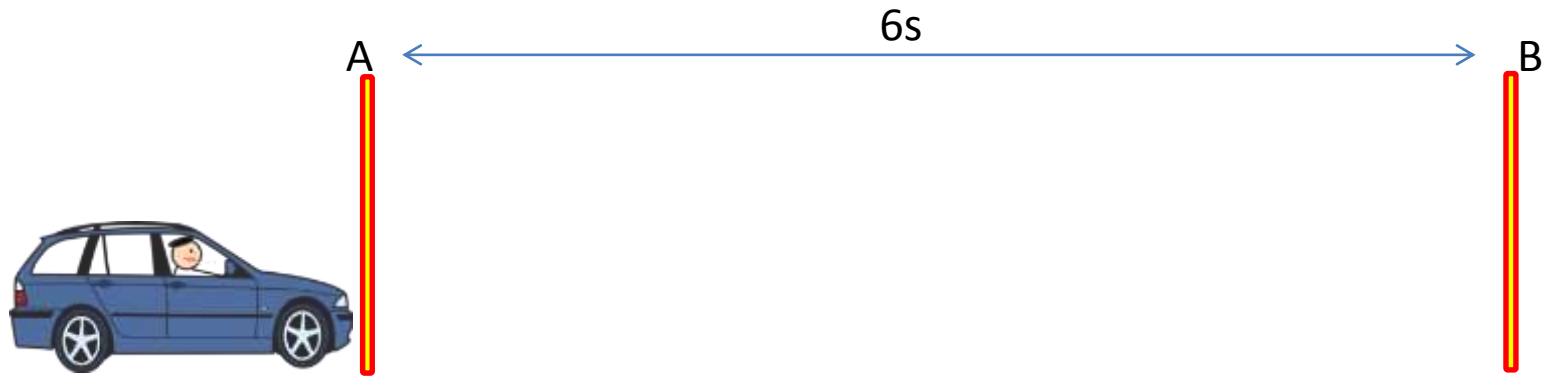
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**Solution:** car gains  $4\text{m/s}$  of velocity every second. In  $6\text{s}$  it gains an extra  $24\text{m/s}$ .

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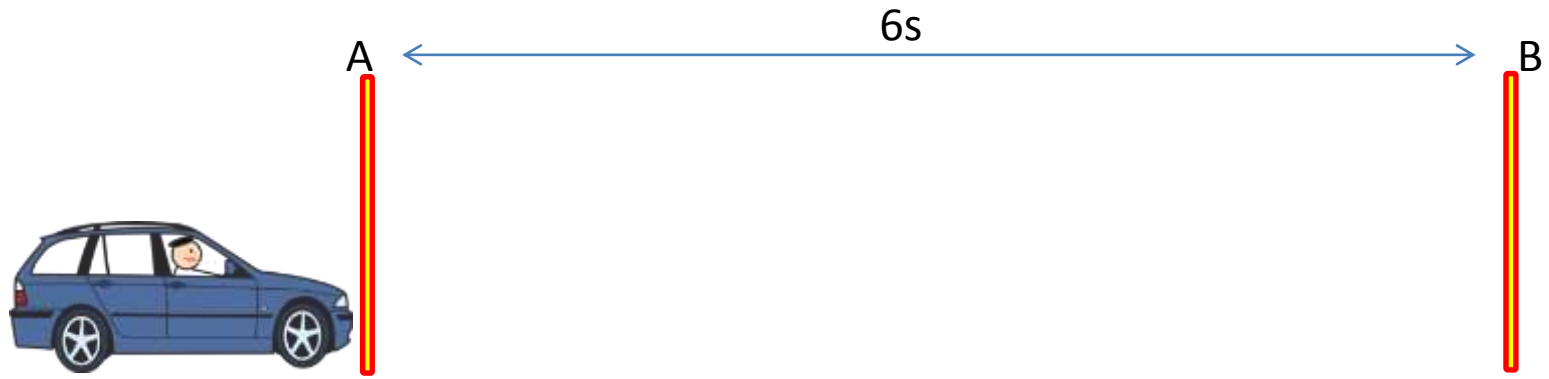


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**Final velocity = initial velocity + extra velocity**

# Constant acceleration example



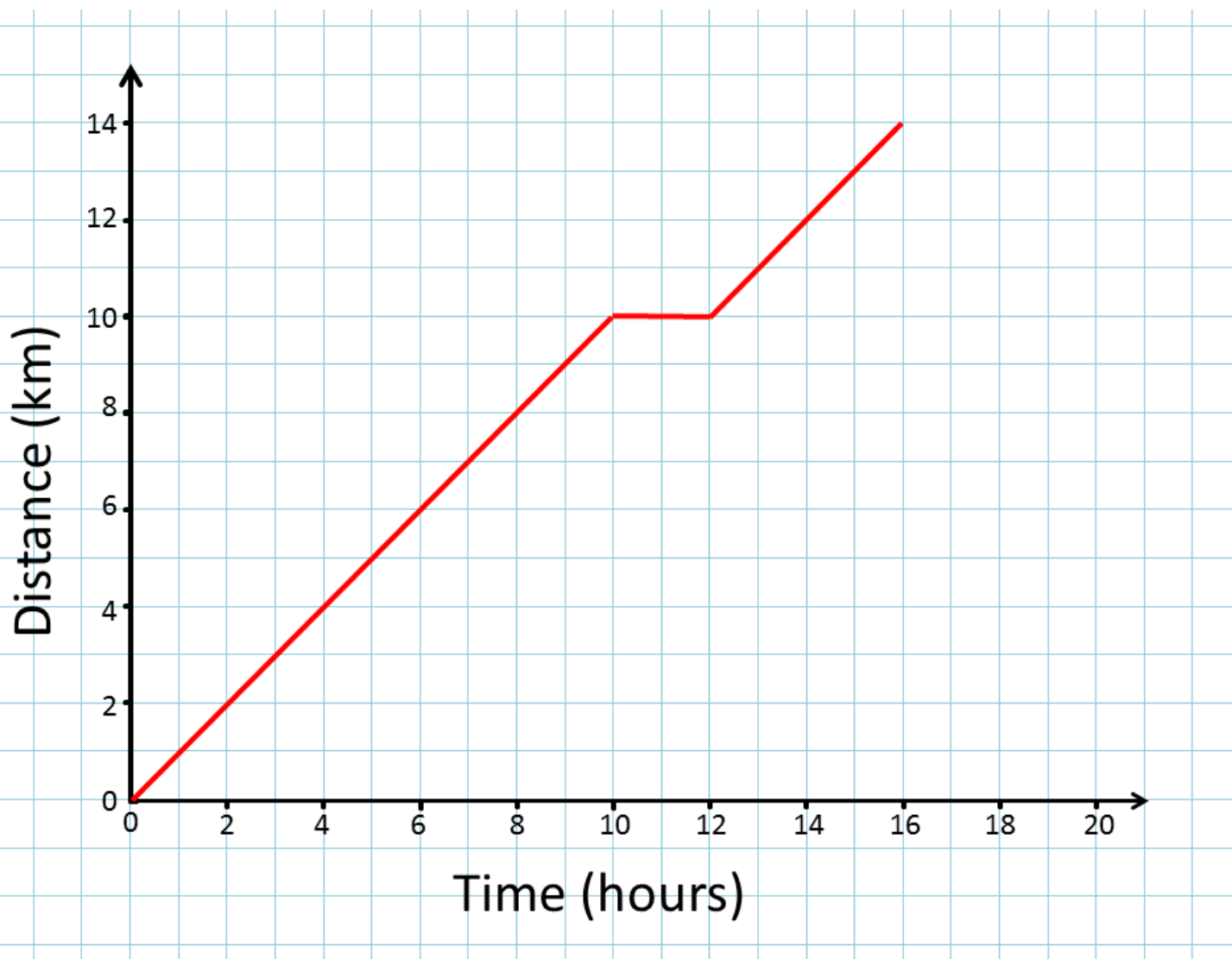
Car passes point A with a velocity of 10m/s. It has a steady (constant) acceleration of  $4\text{m/s}^2$ . What is the velocity when it passes point B?

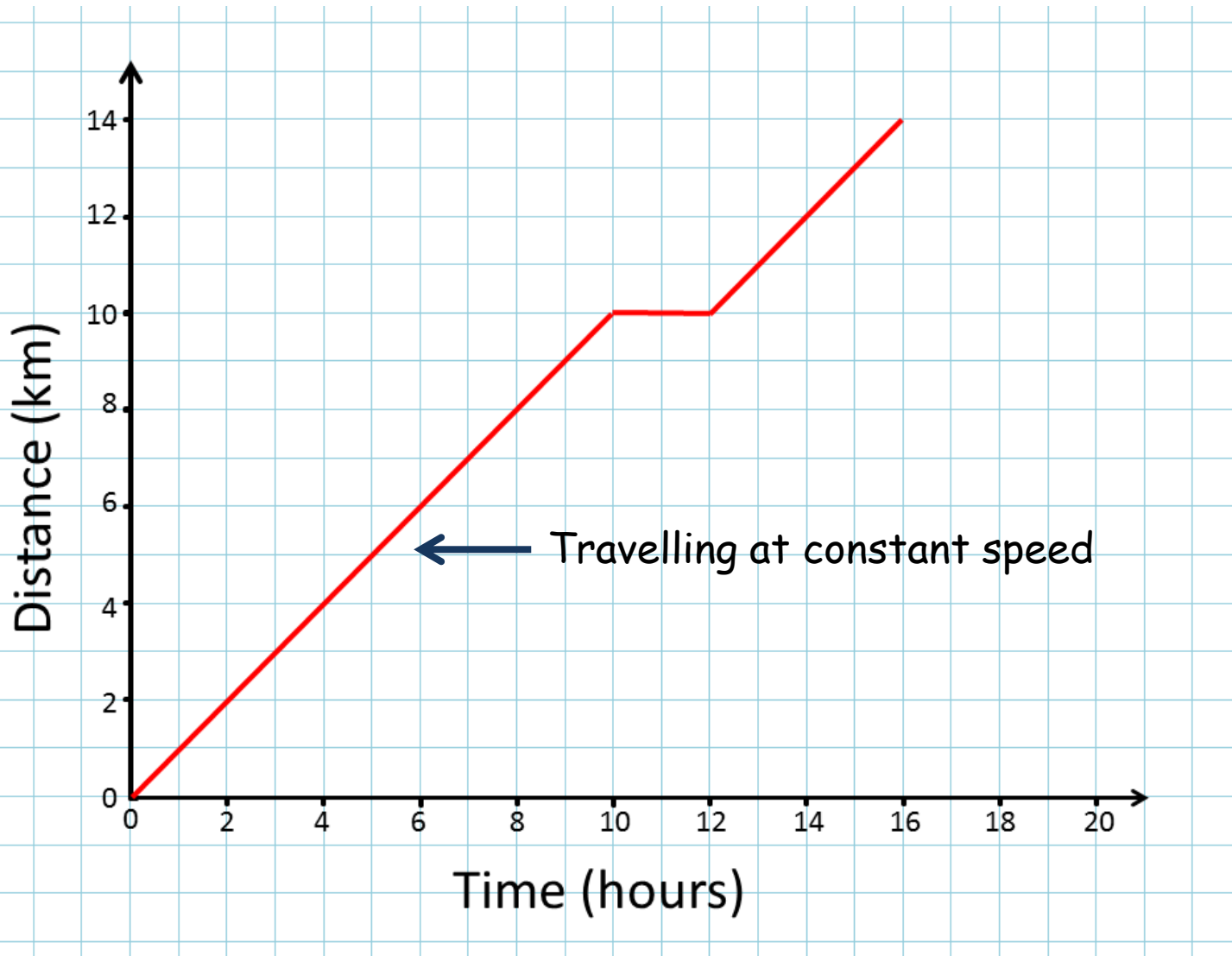
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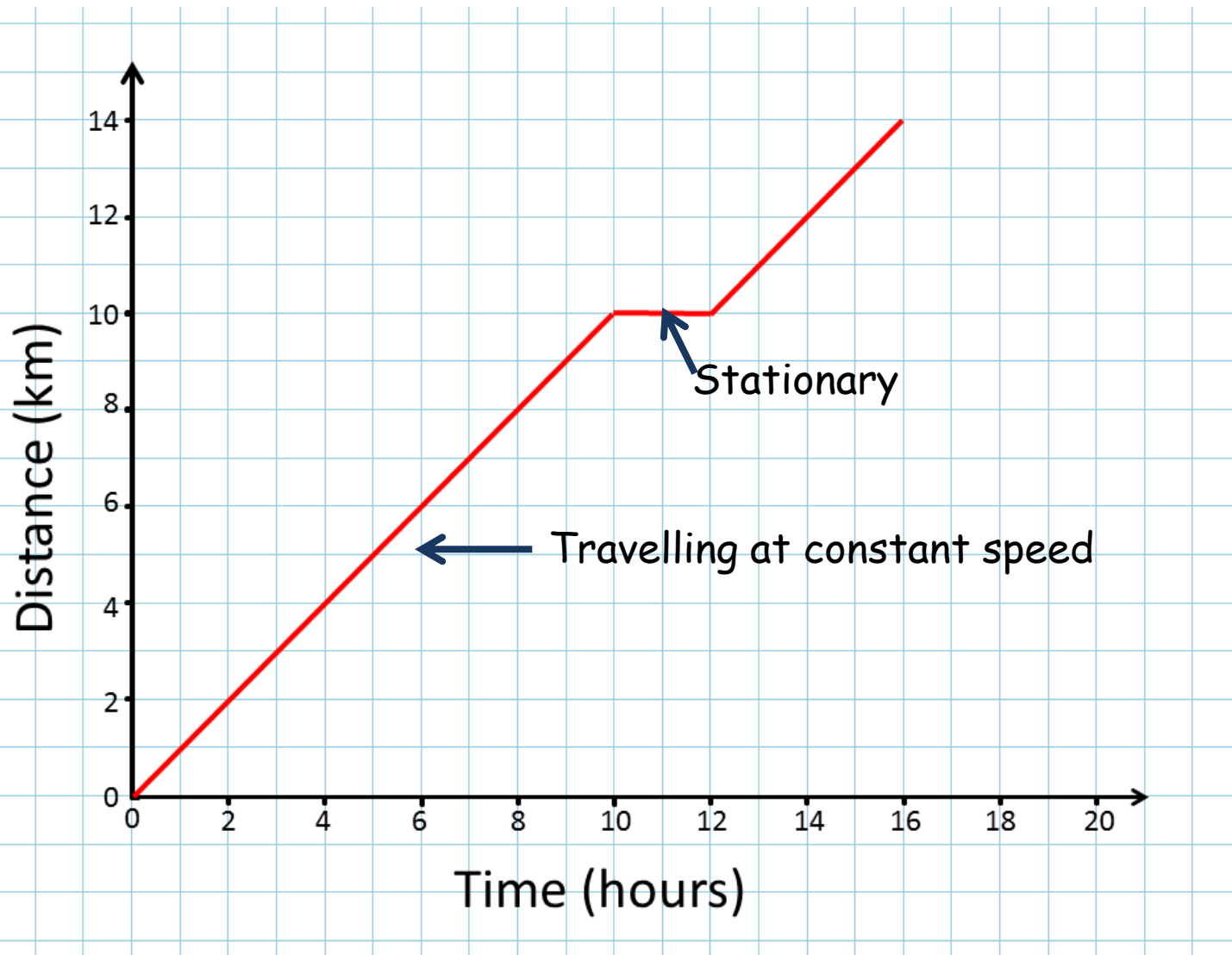
**Final velocity = initial velocity + extra velocity**

$$\text{Final velocity} = 10 + 24 = 34\text{m/s}$$

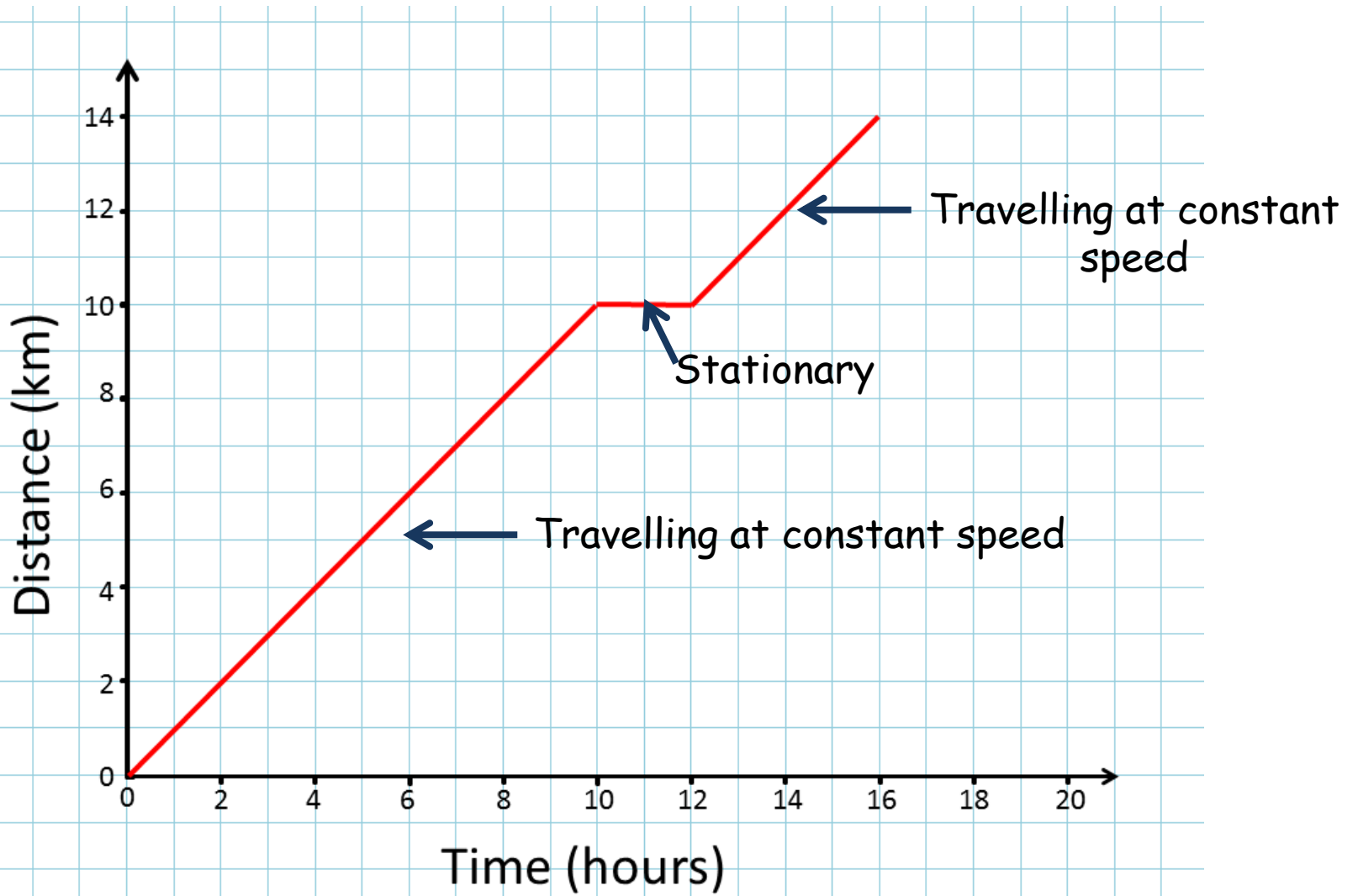
# Motion graphs

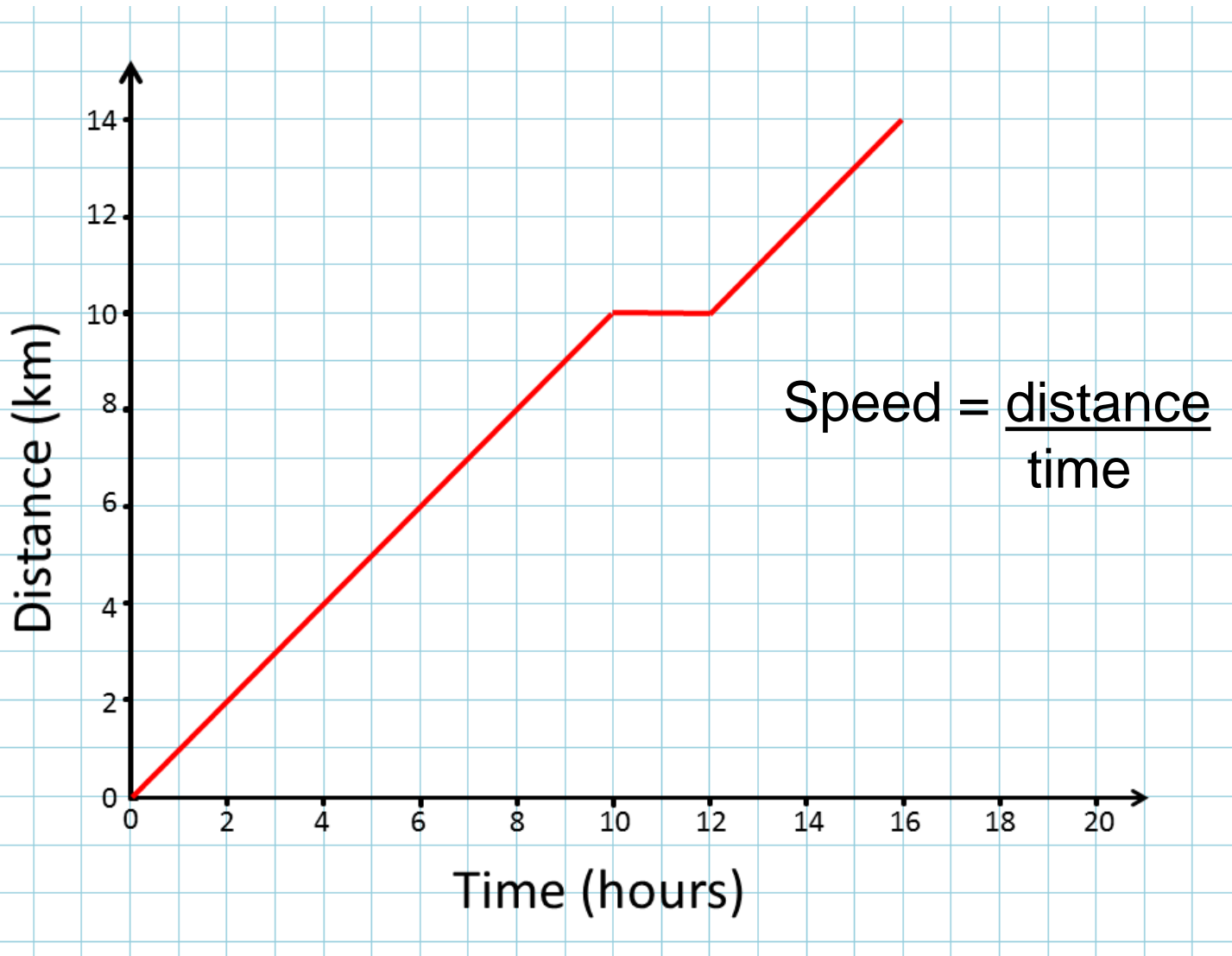


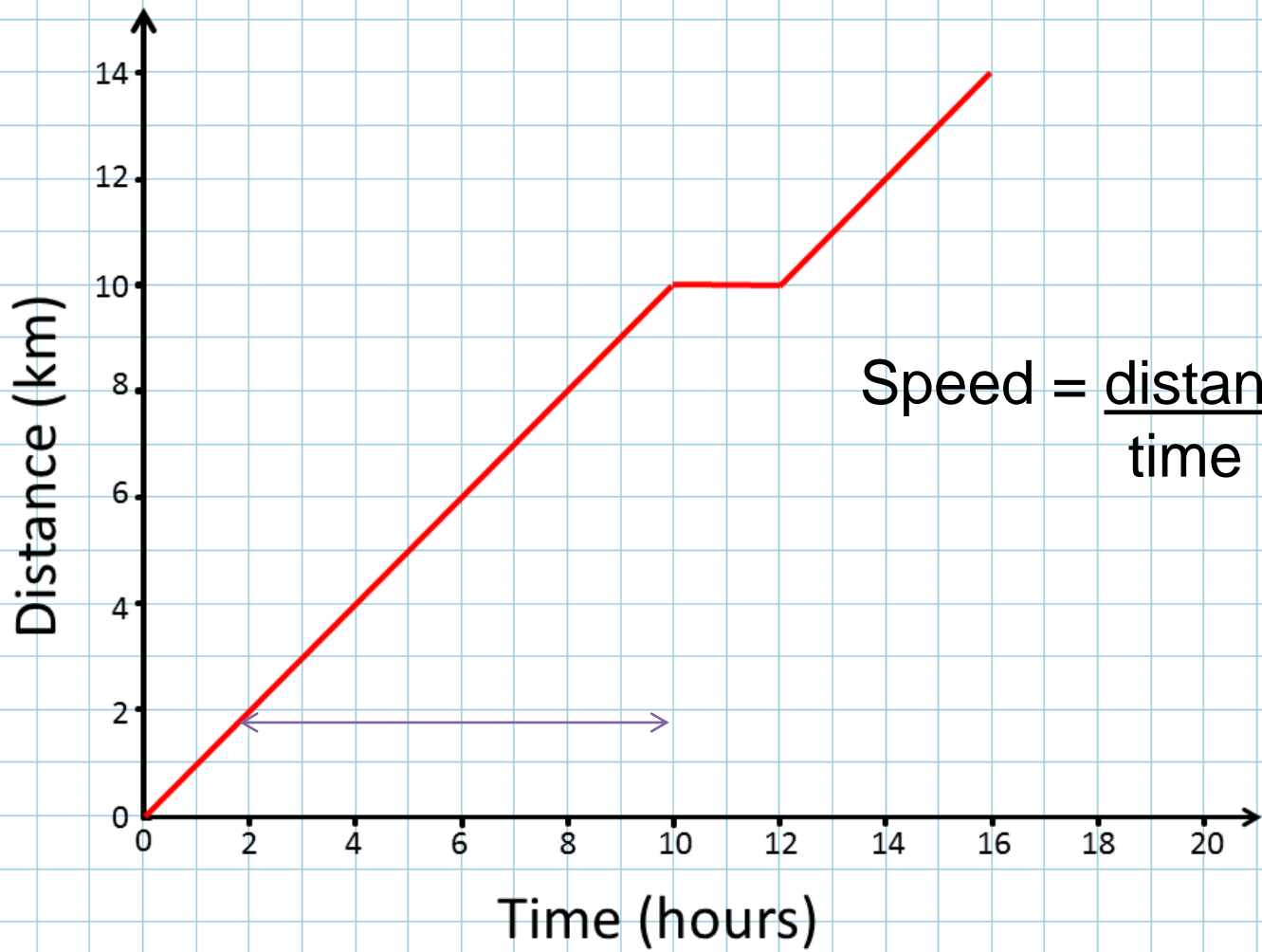


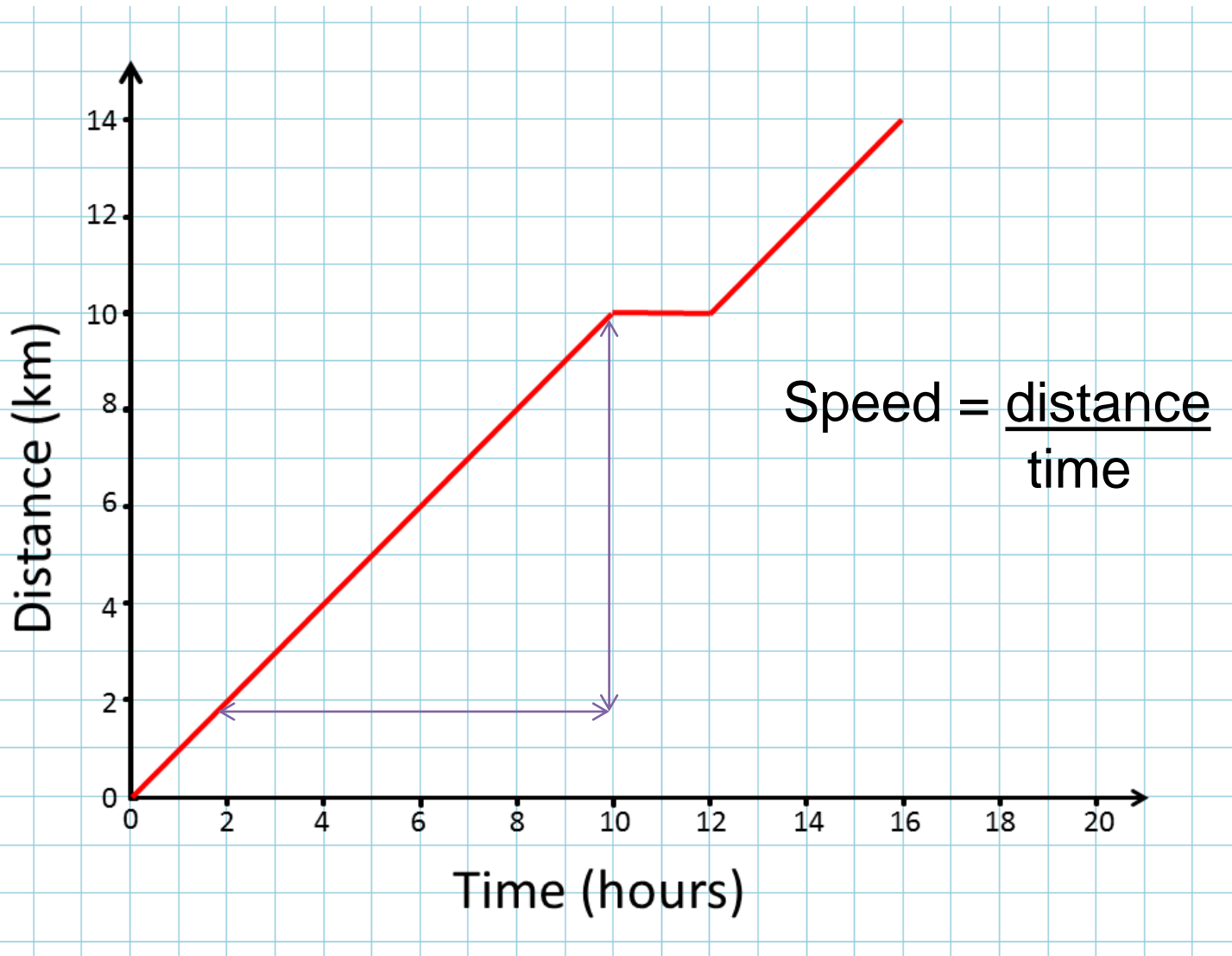


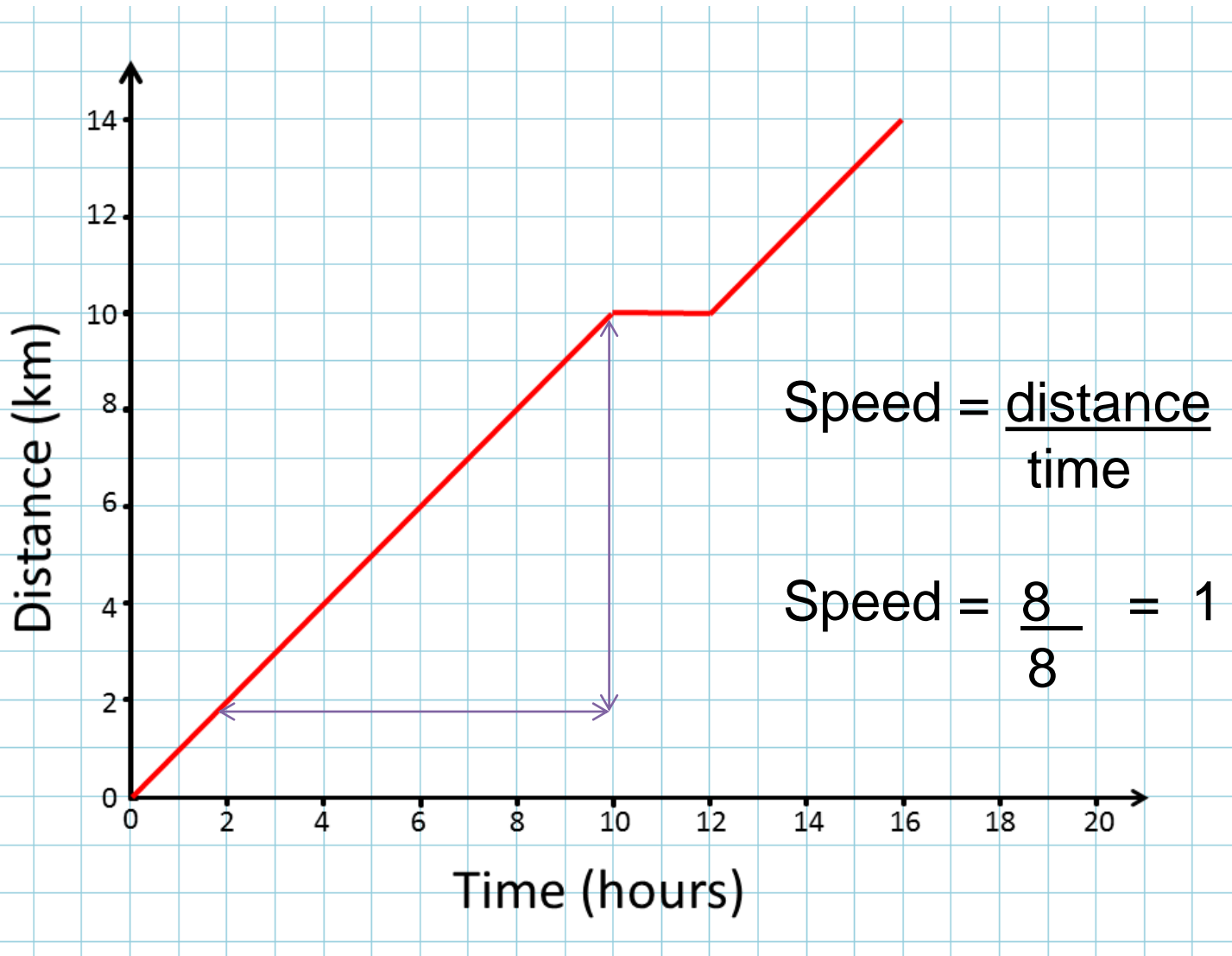








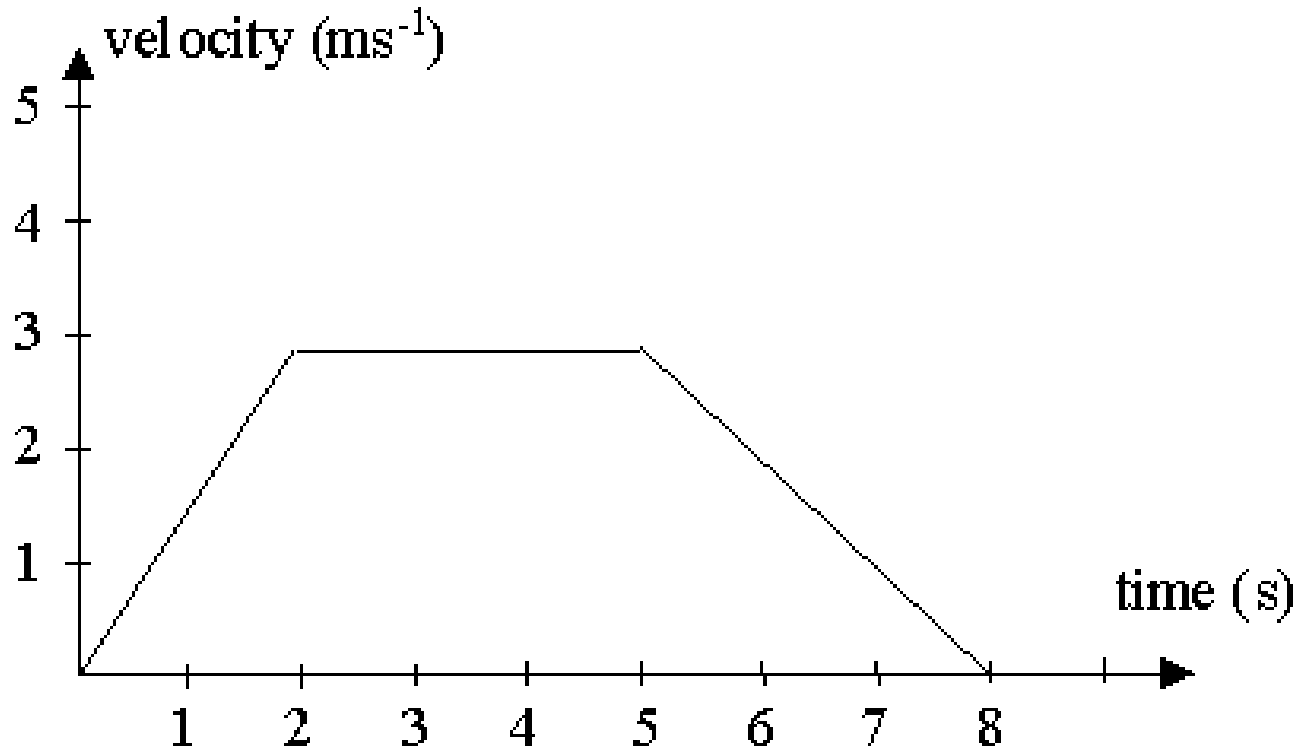




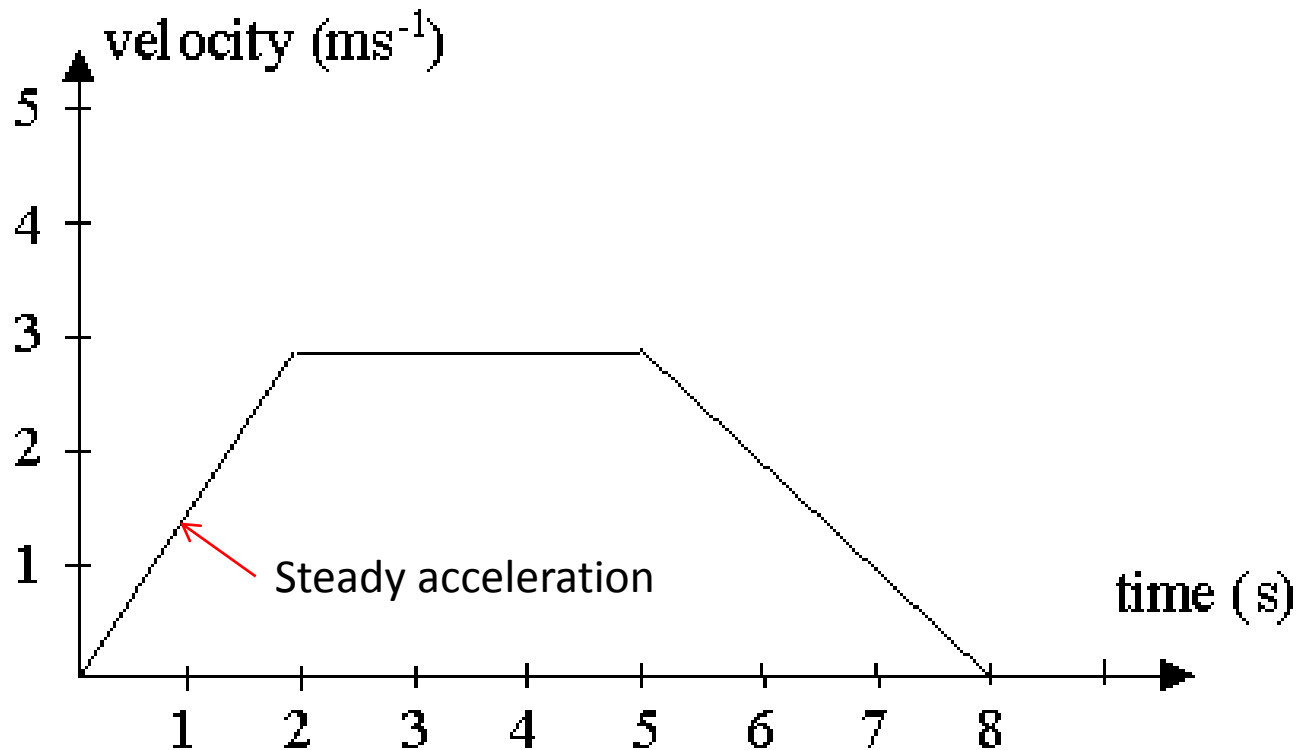
$$\text{Speed} = \frac{\text{distance}}{\text{time}}$$

$$\text{Speed} = \frac{8}{8} = 1 \text{ km/h}$$

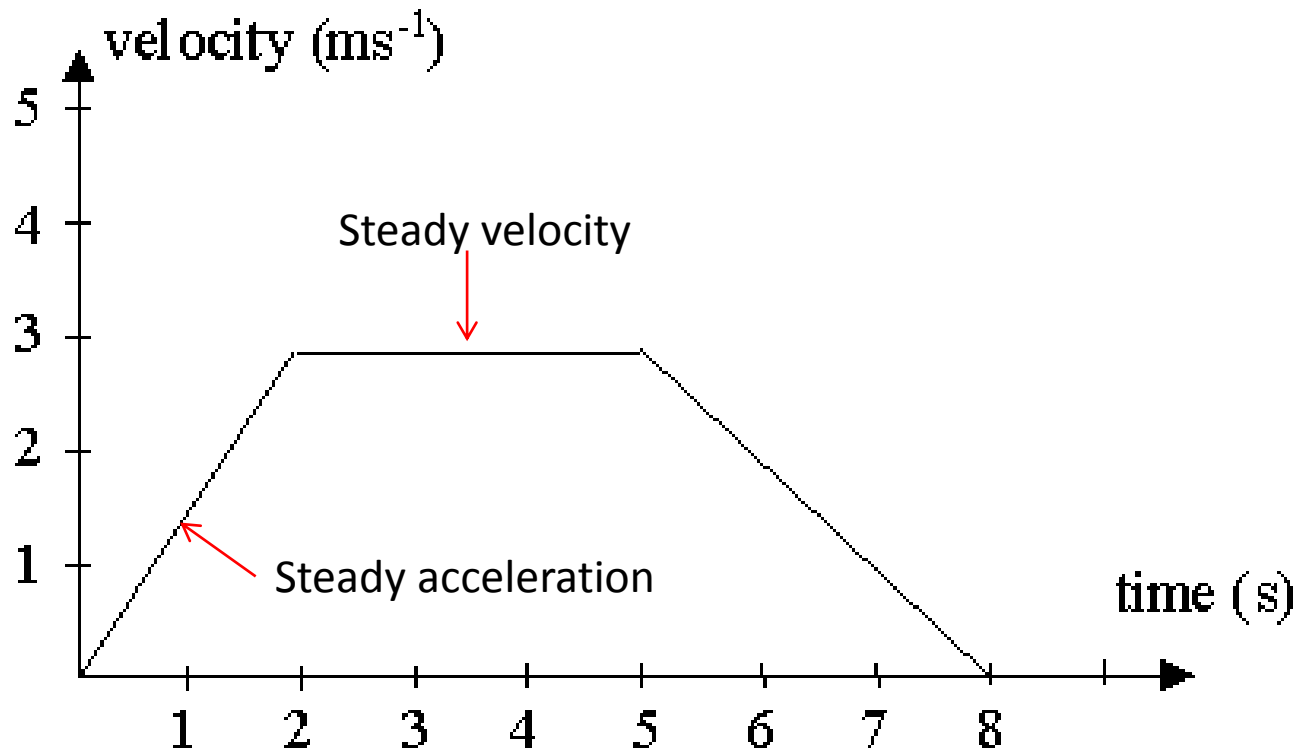
# Acceleration from velocity : time graph



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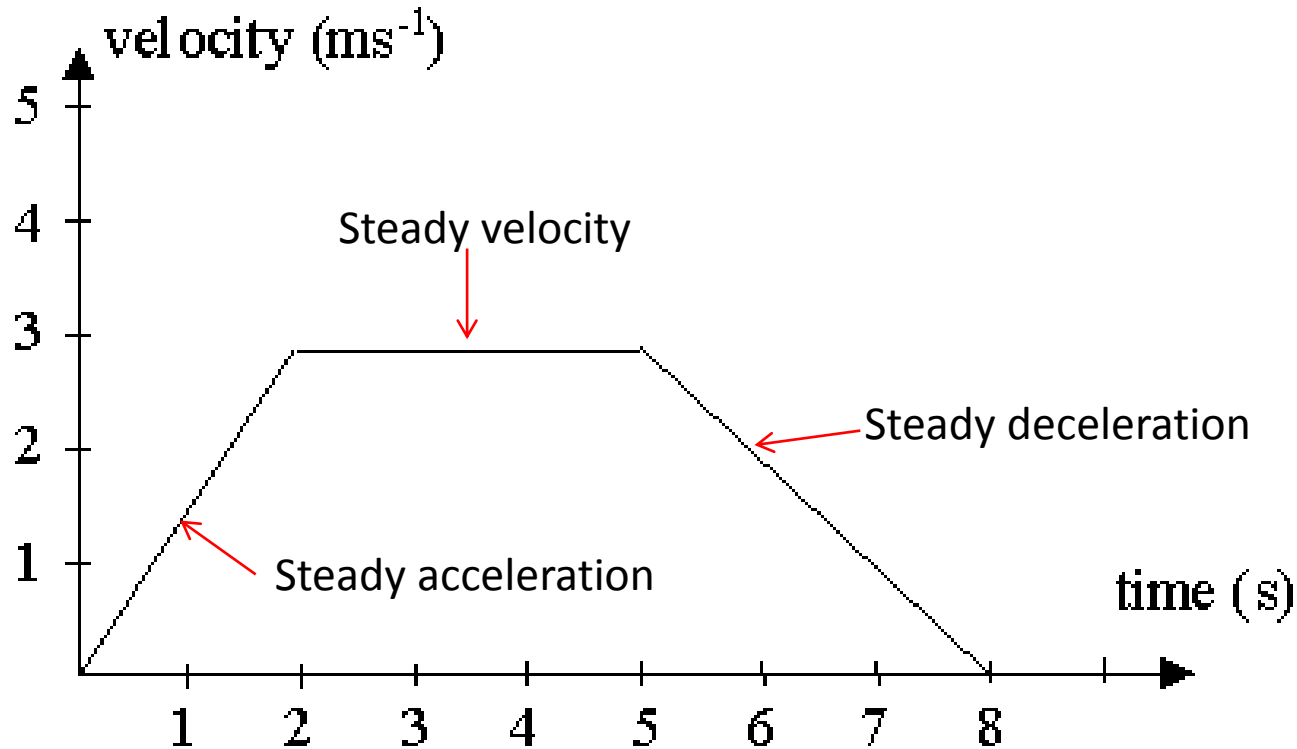


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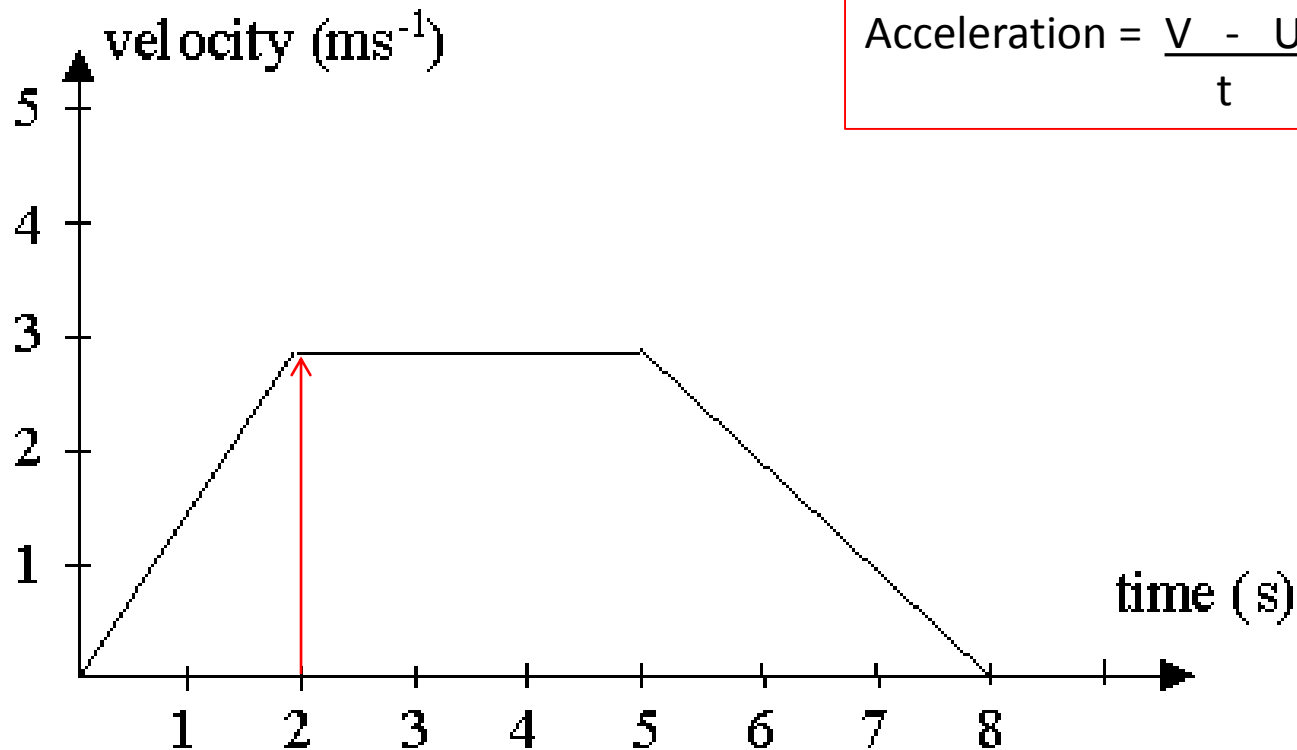




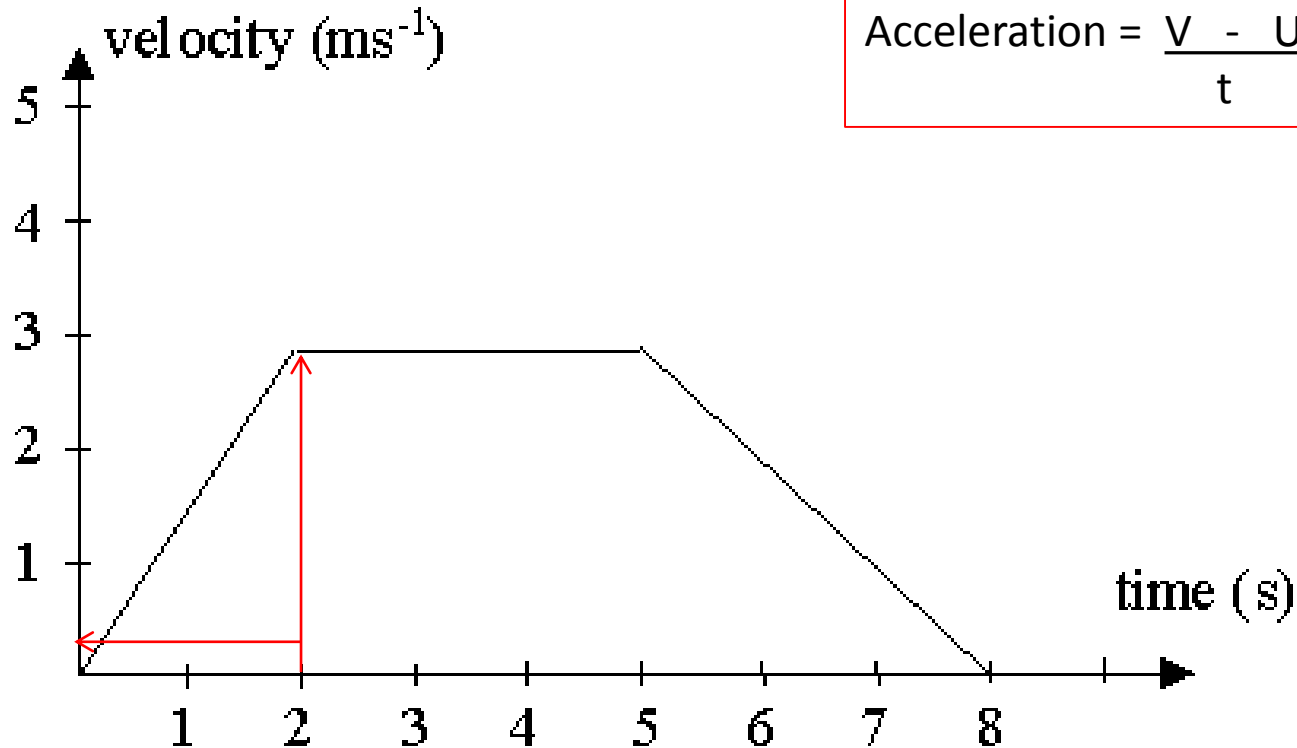
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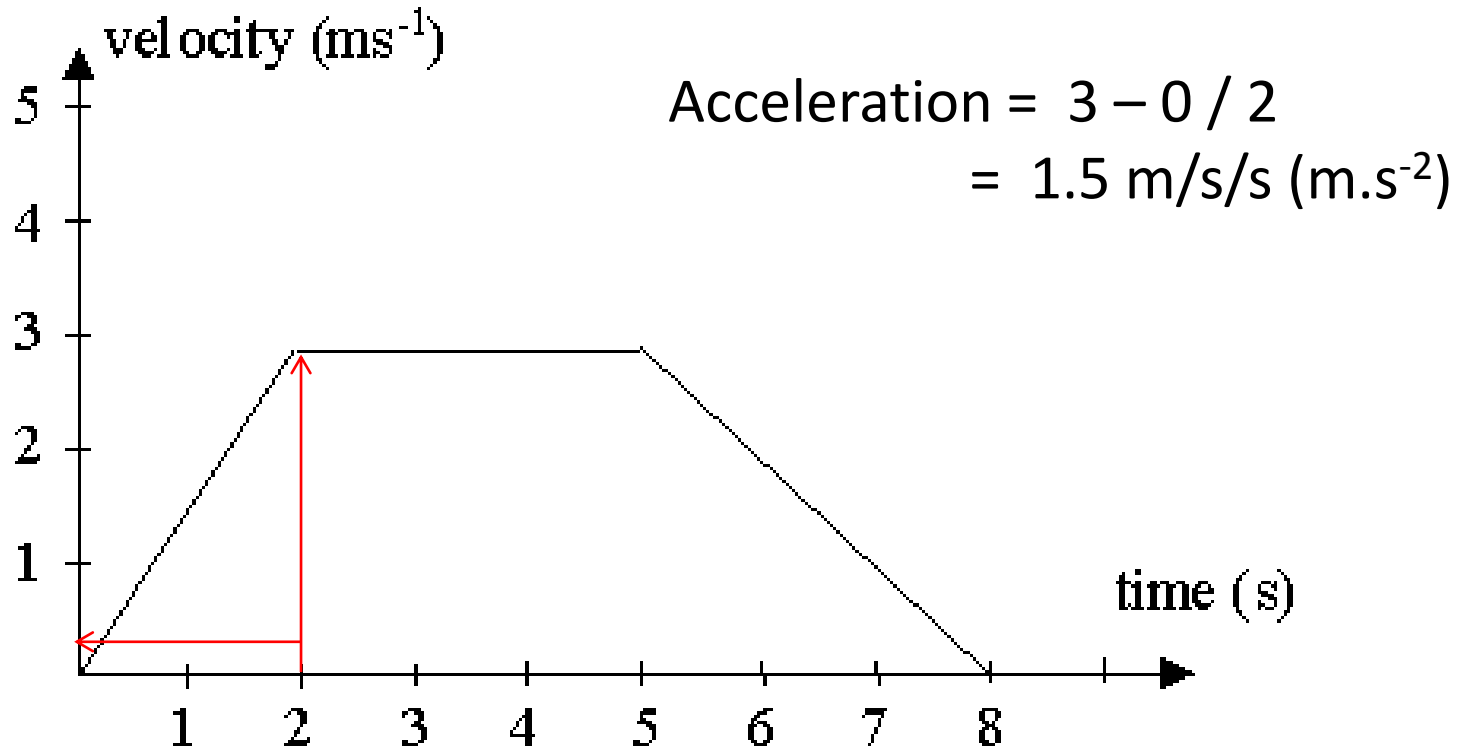
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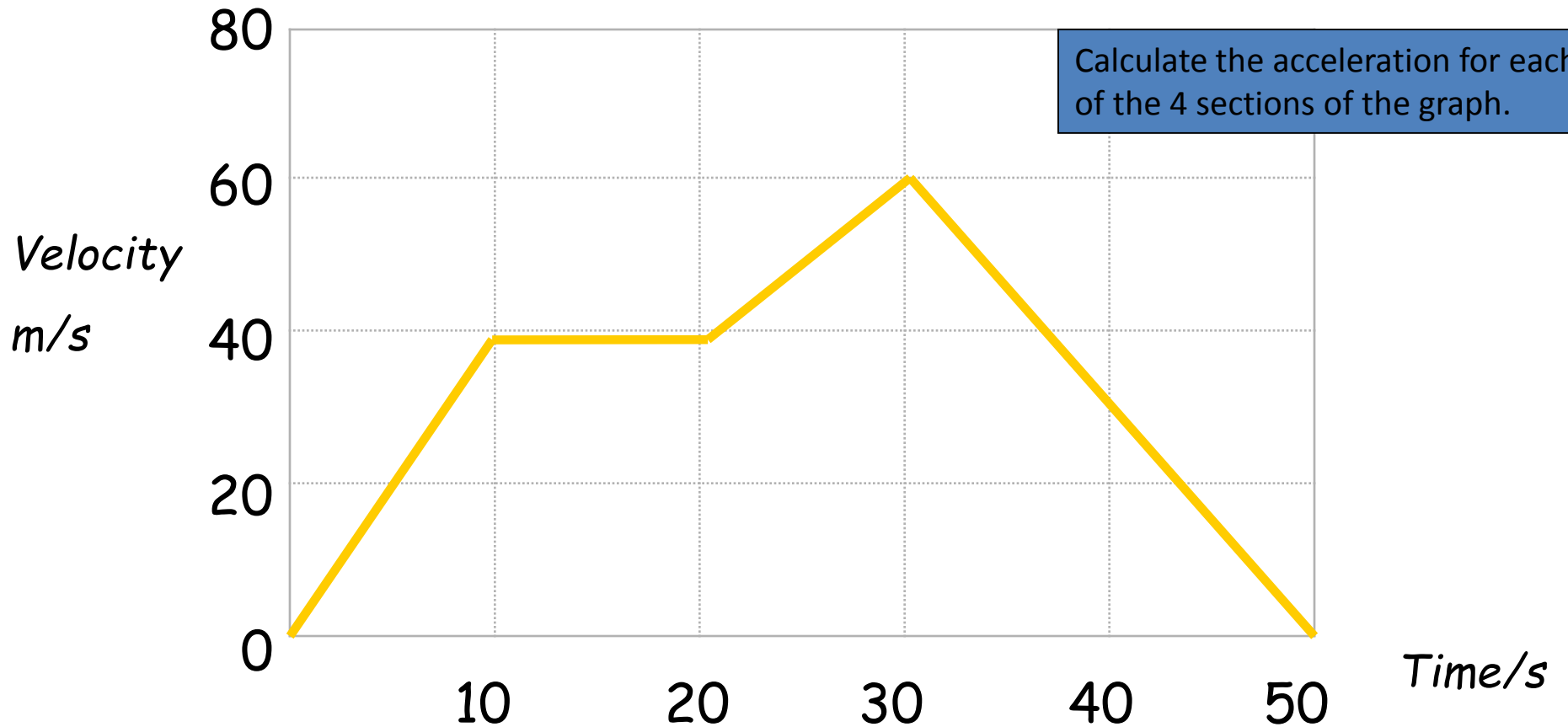


# Acceleration from velocity : time graph



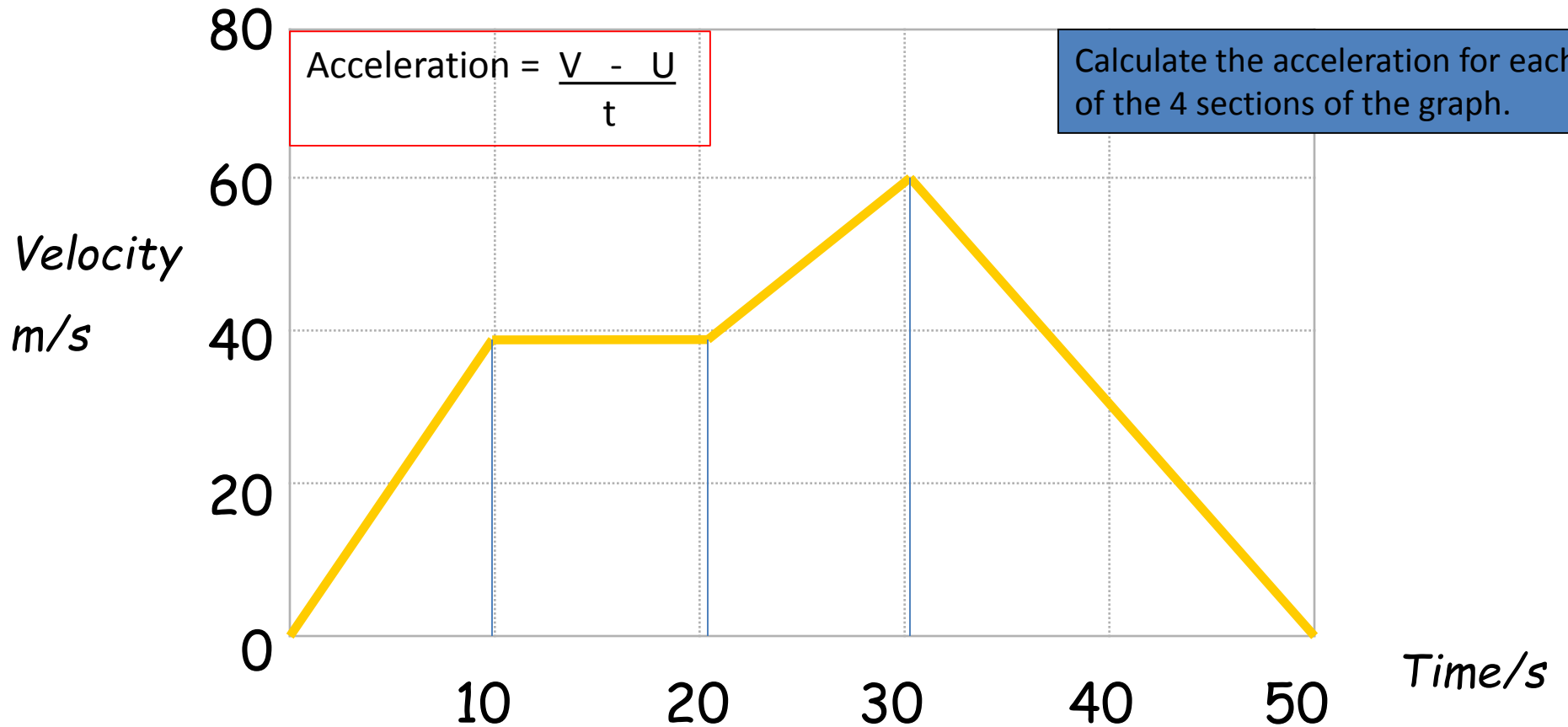
# Velocity-time graphs

Acceleration can be calculated by the gradient of a velocity:time graph. (Remember gradient is the difference up divided by the difference across)



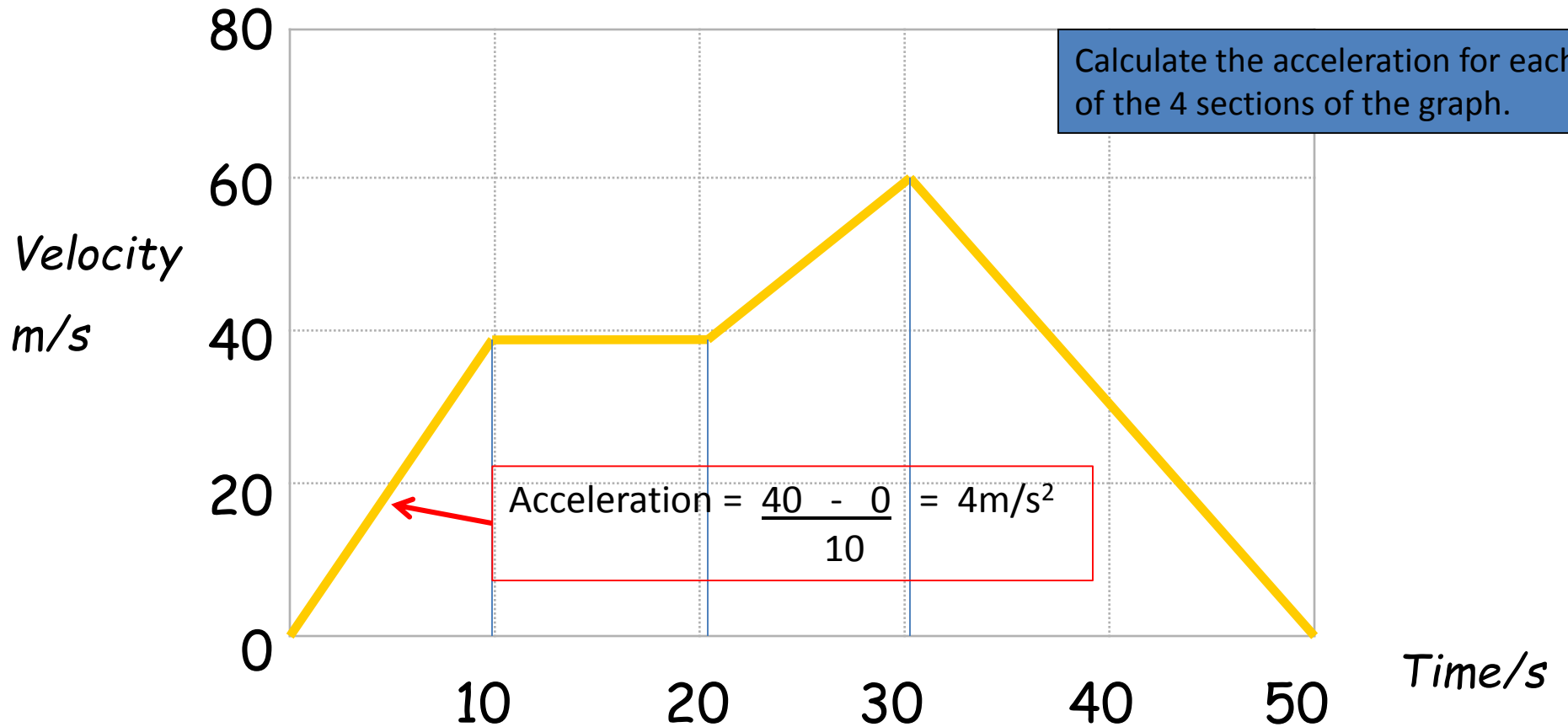
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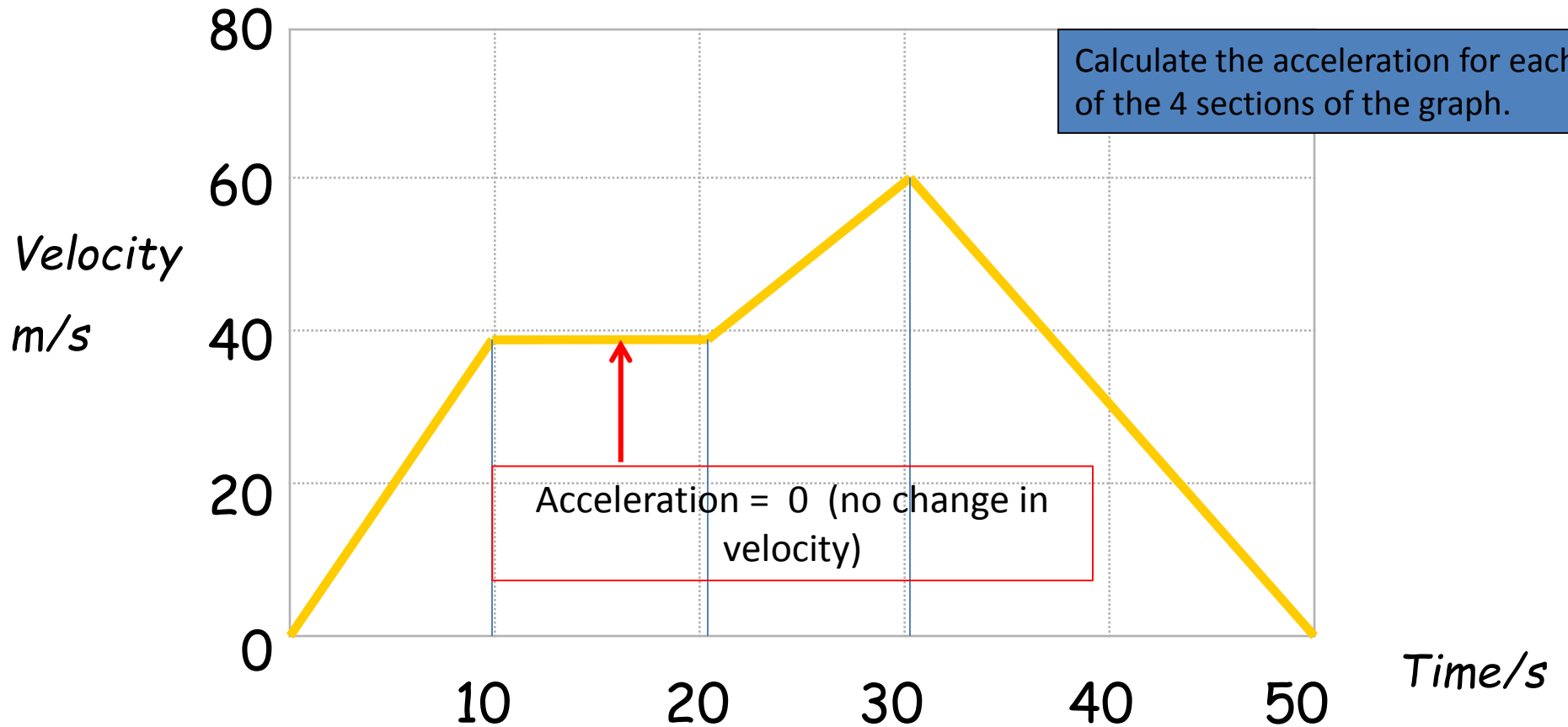
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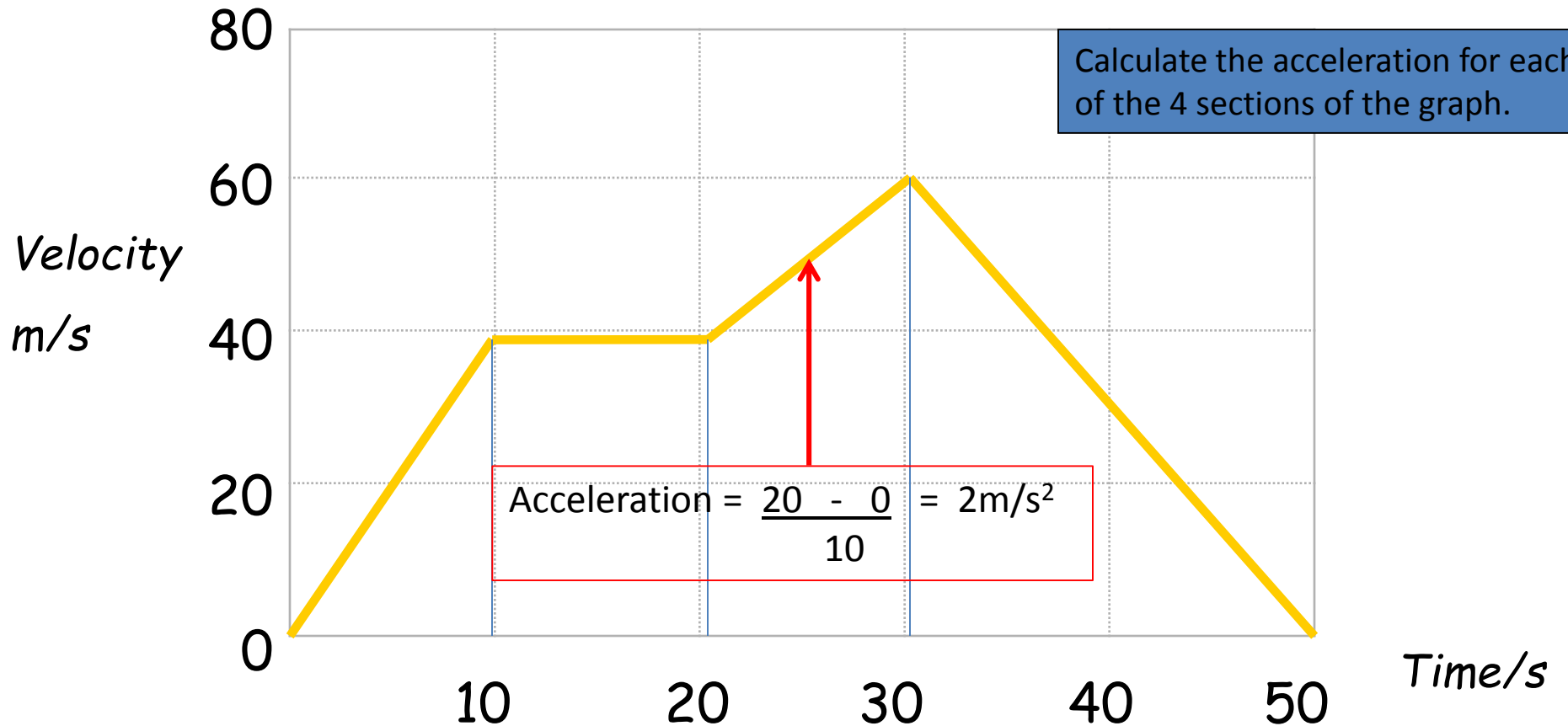
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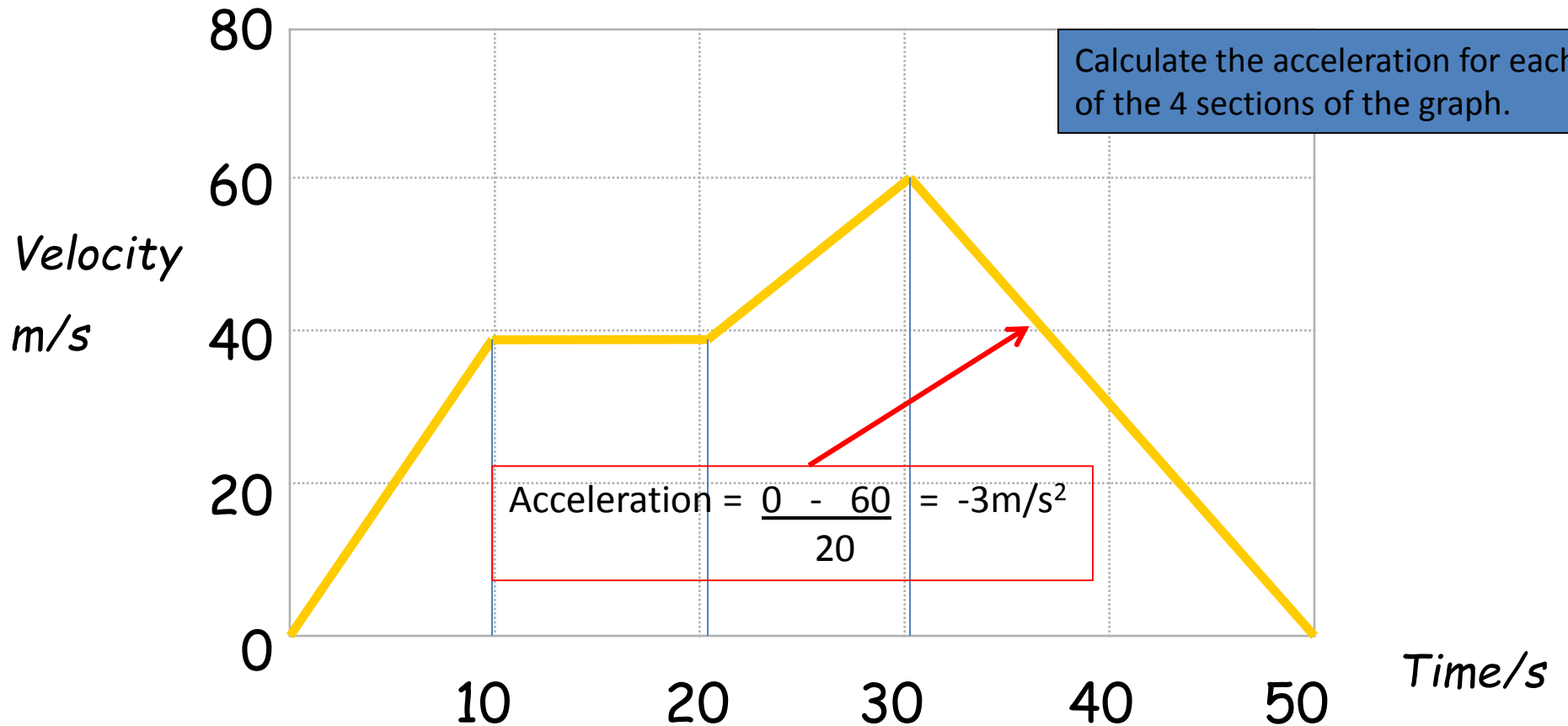
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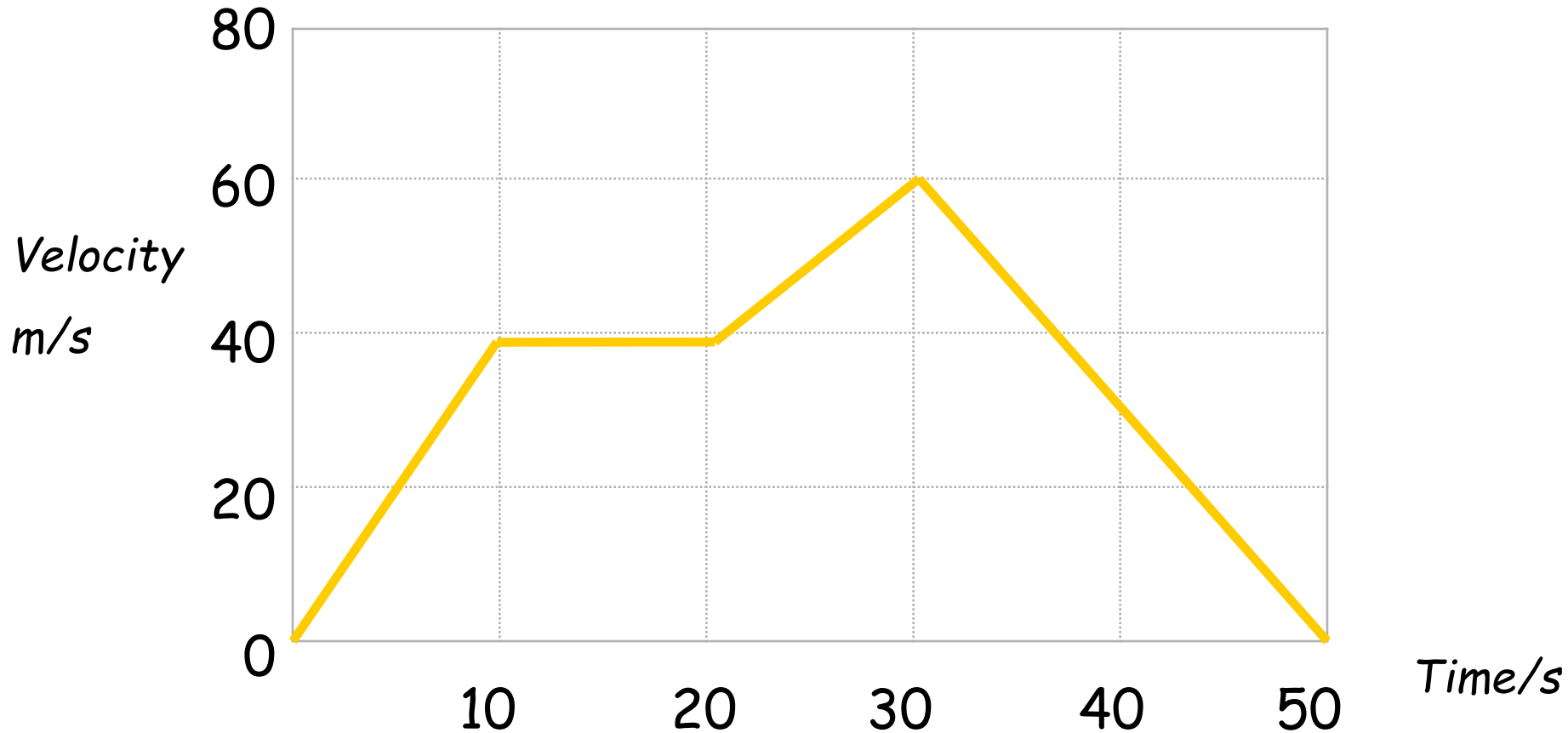
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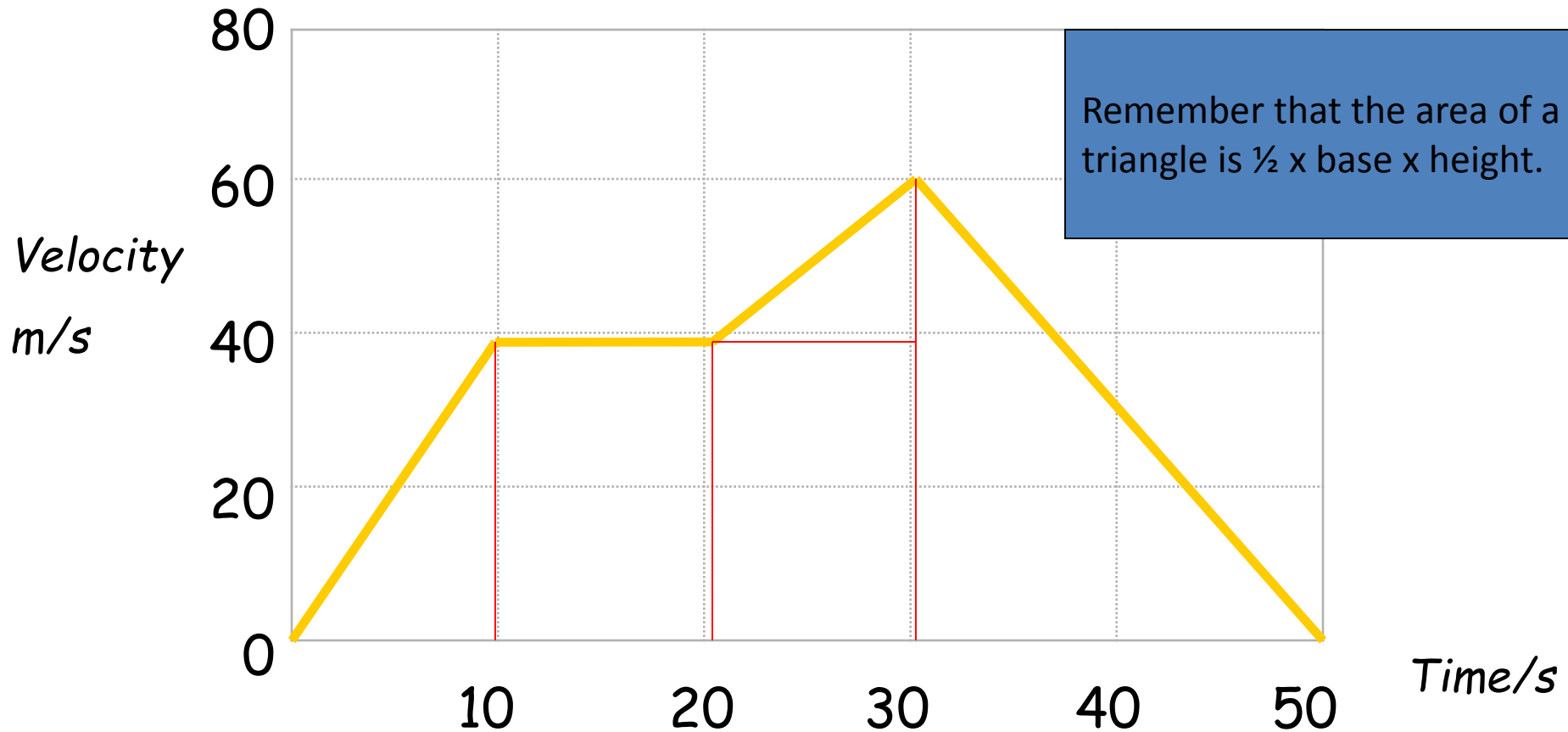
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On a velocity – time (or speed – time) graph, the area under the line is numerically equal to the distance travelled.



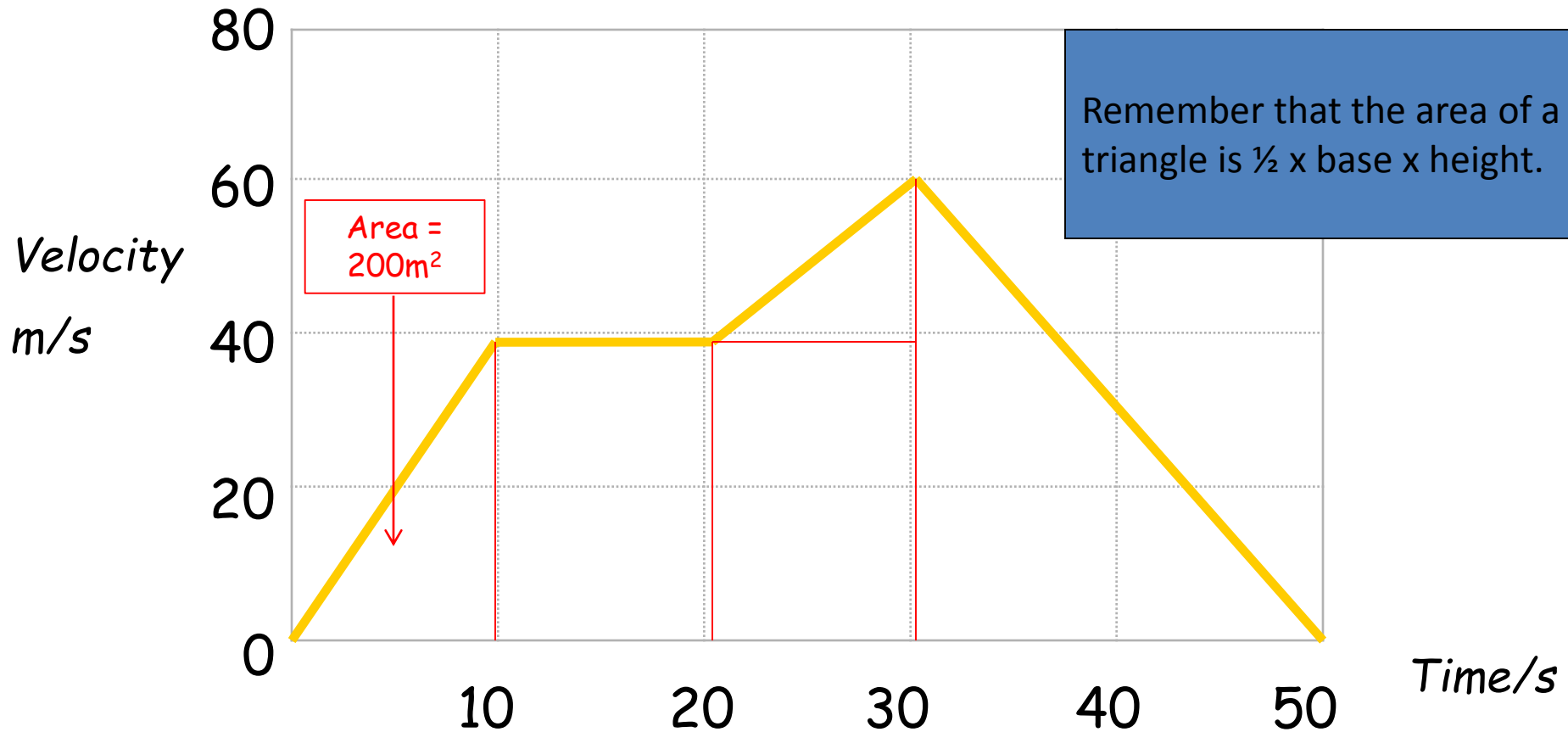
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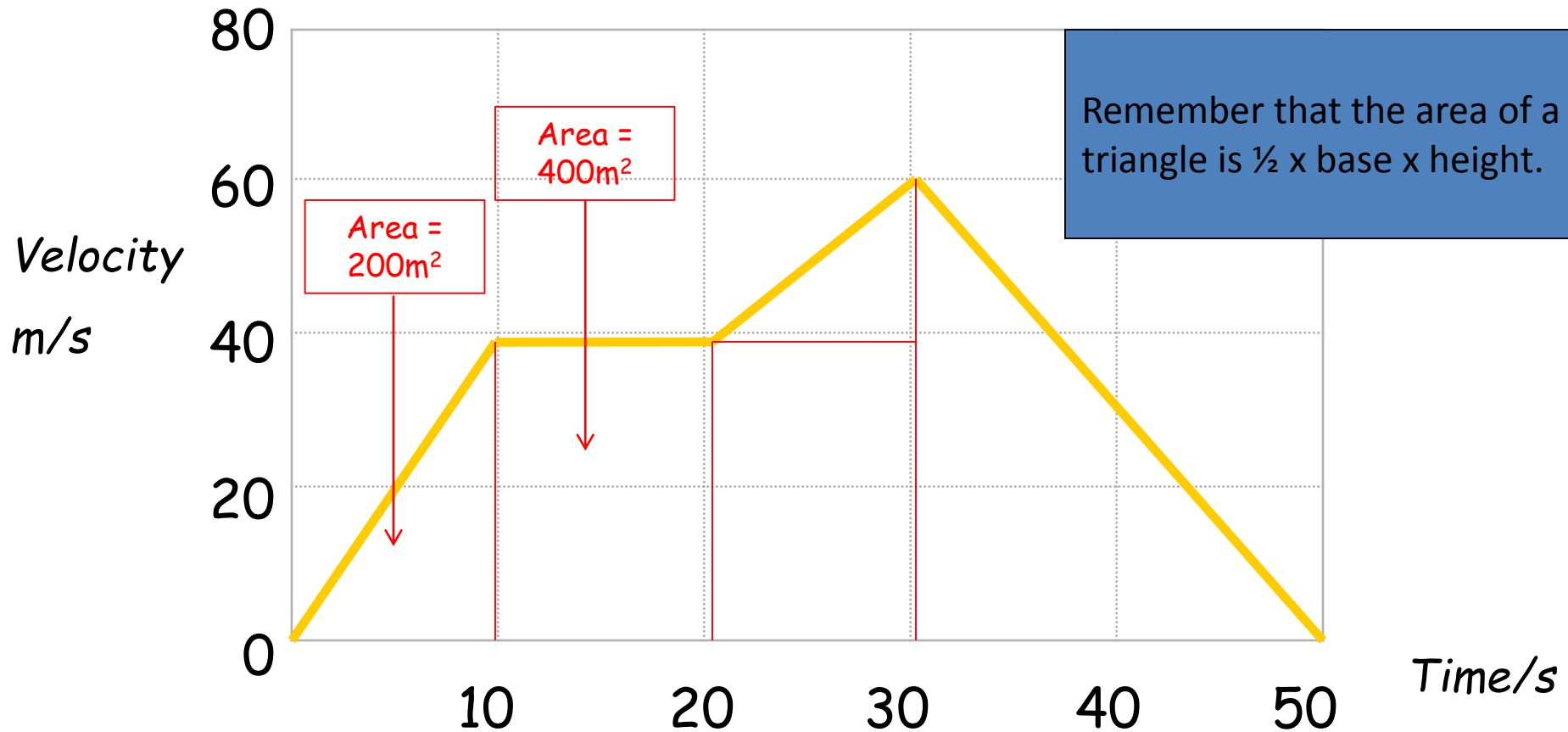
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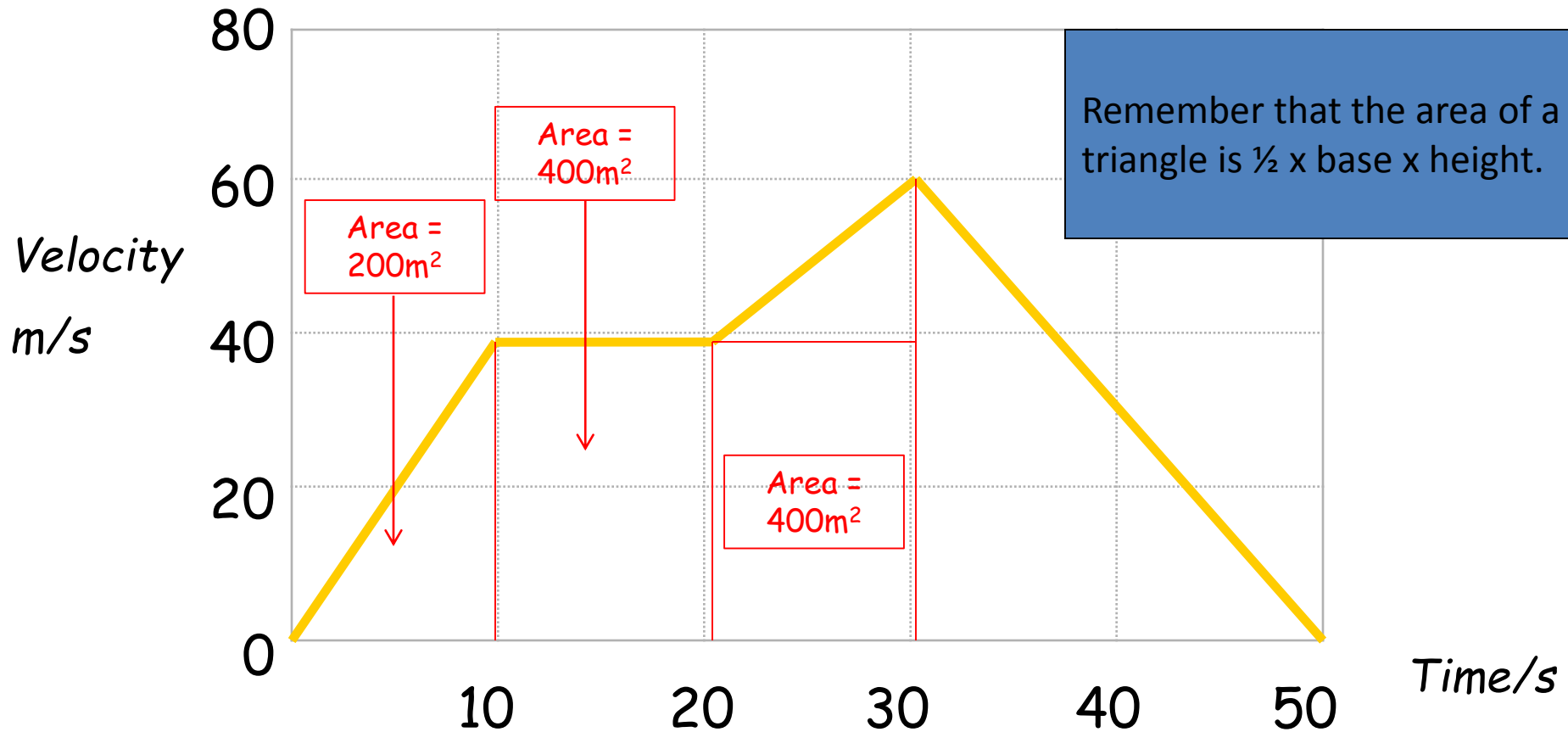
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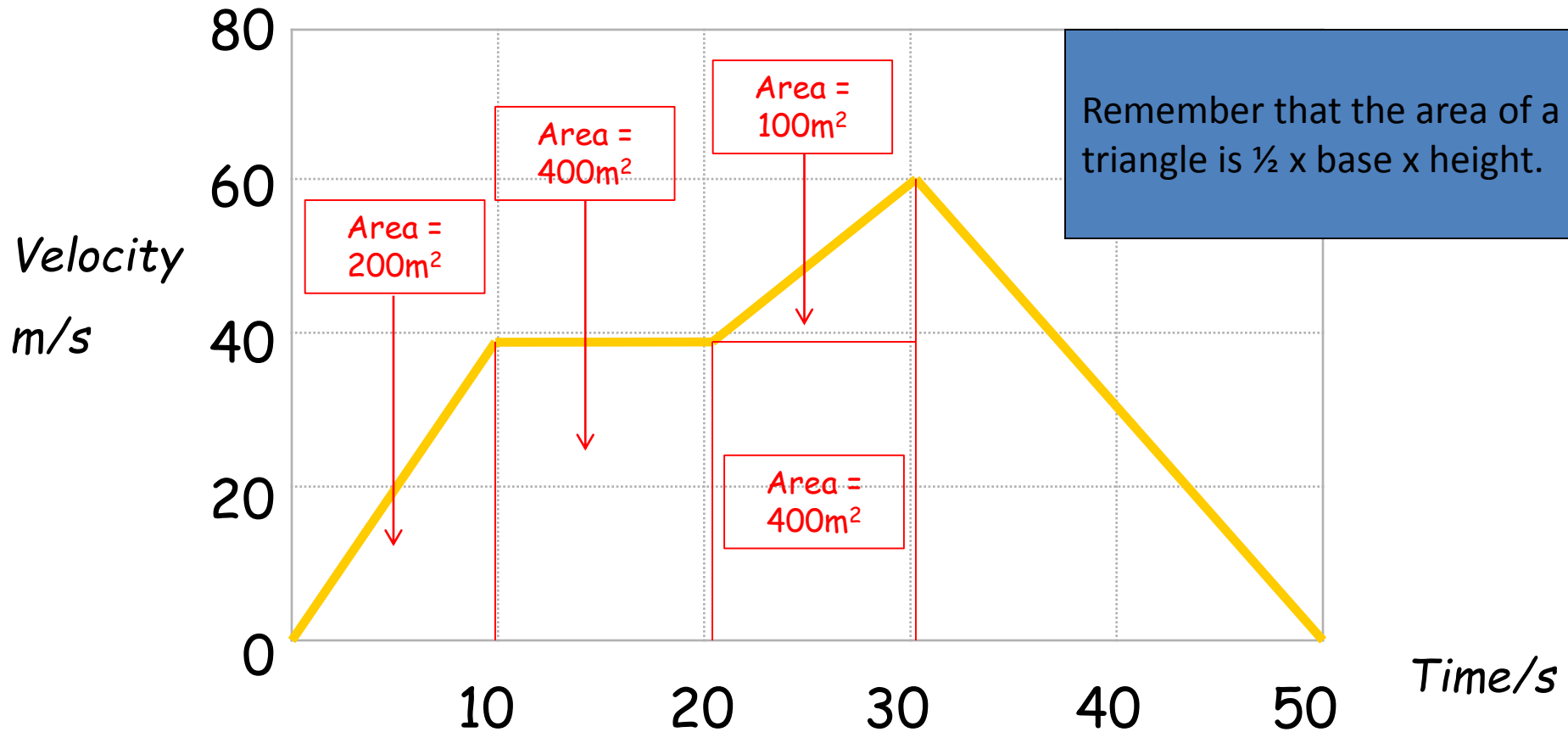
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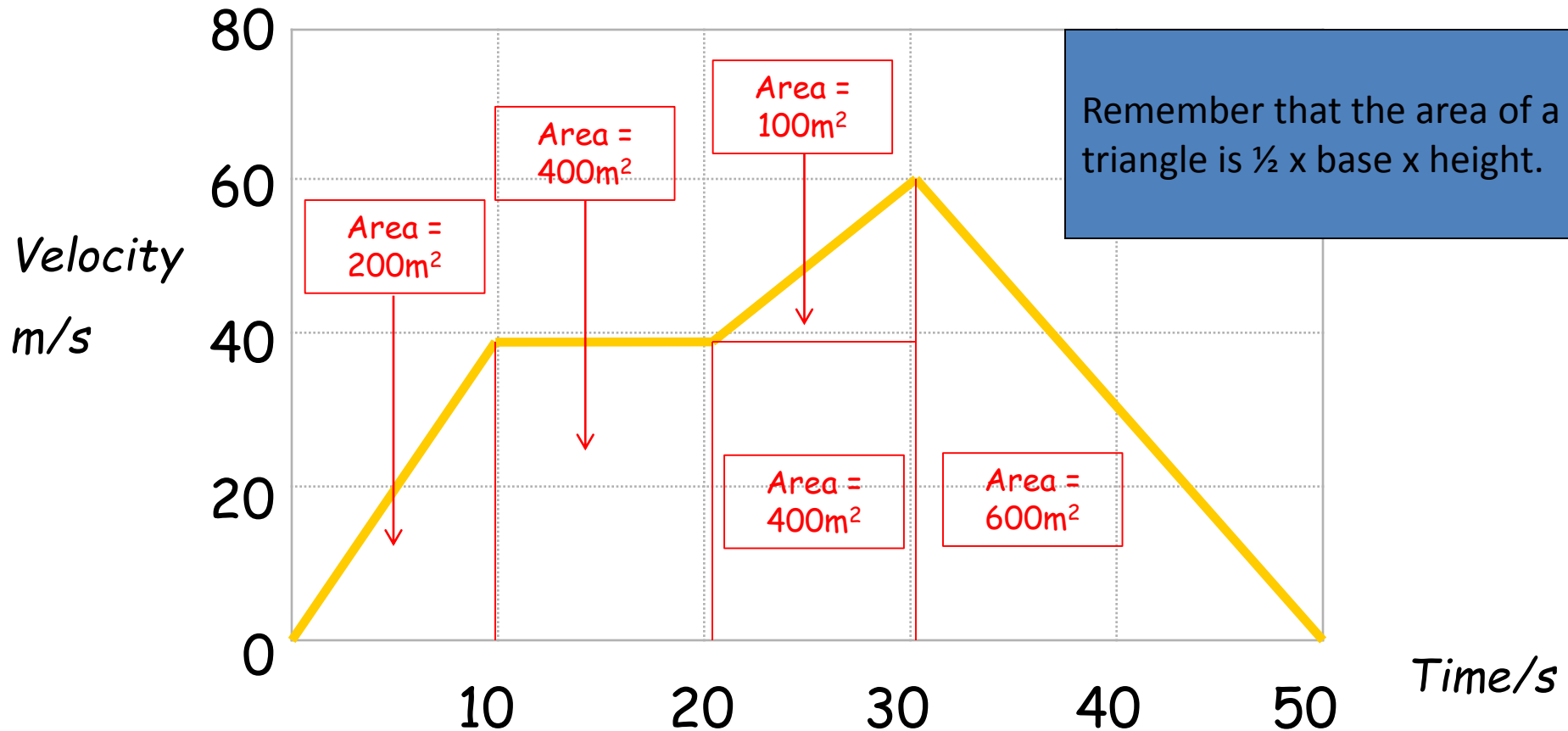
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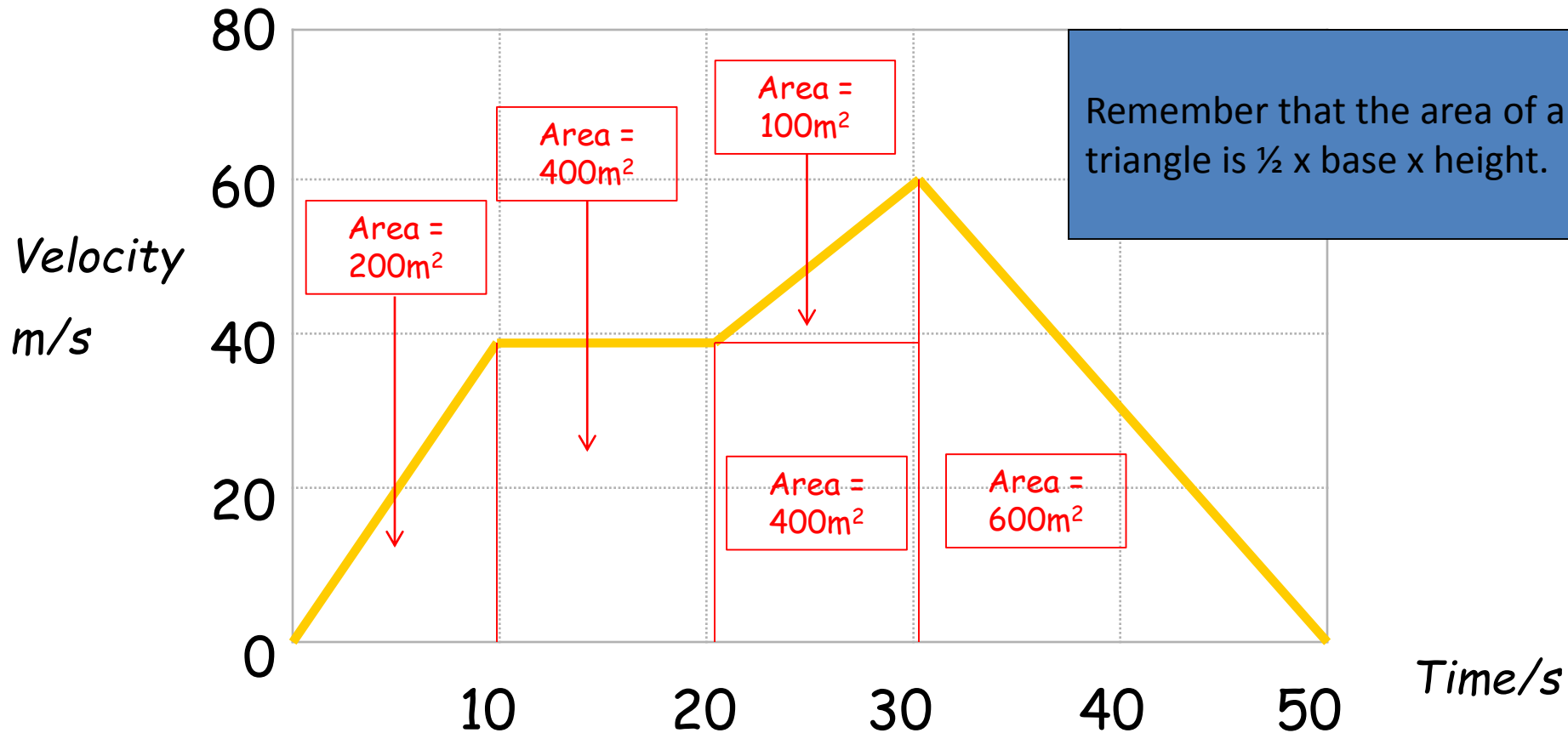
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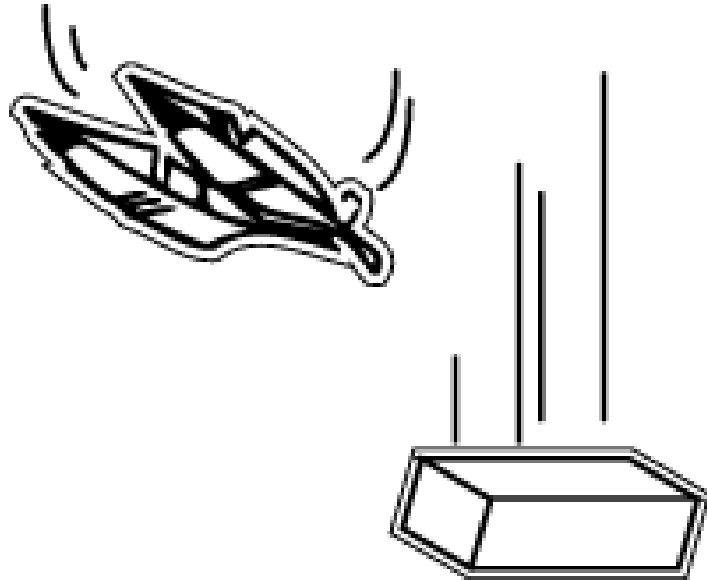
On a velocity – time (or speed – time) graph, the area under the line is numerically equal to the distance travelled.



The total distance travelled =  $200 + 400 + 400 + 100 + 600 = 1700\text{m}$

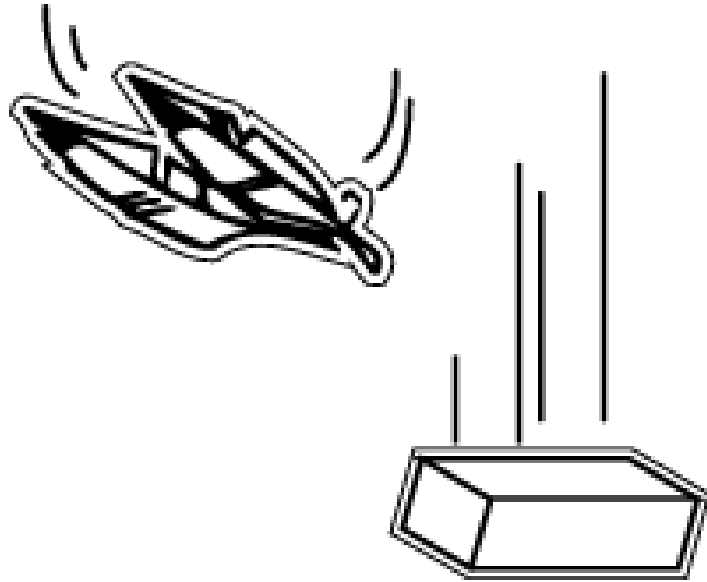
Free fall

## Acceleration of free fall ( $g$ )



Which object  
will hit the  
ground first?

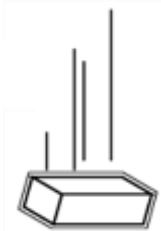
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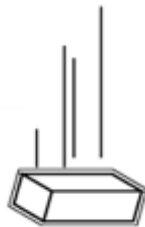
Which object  
will hit the  
ground first?

Obviously the  
brick (because the  
feather is slowed  
much more by the  
air)

## Acceleration of free fall ( $g$ )



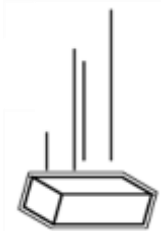
In air



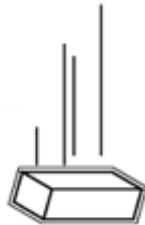
In a  
vacuum

No air  
resistance,  
objects both  
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## Acceleration of free fall (g)



In air



In a  
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Acceleration of  
free fall =  
 $9.8\text{m/s}^2$

Given the  
symbol 'g'

## Acceleration of free fall (g)



In air



In a  
vacuum

Often rounded to  
 $10\text{m/s}^2$

No air  
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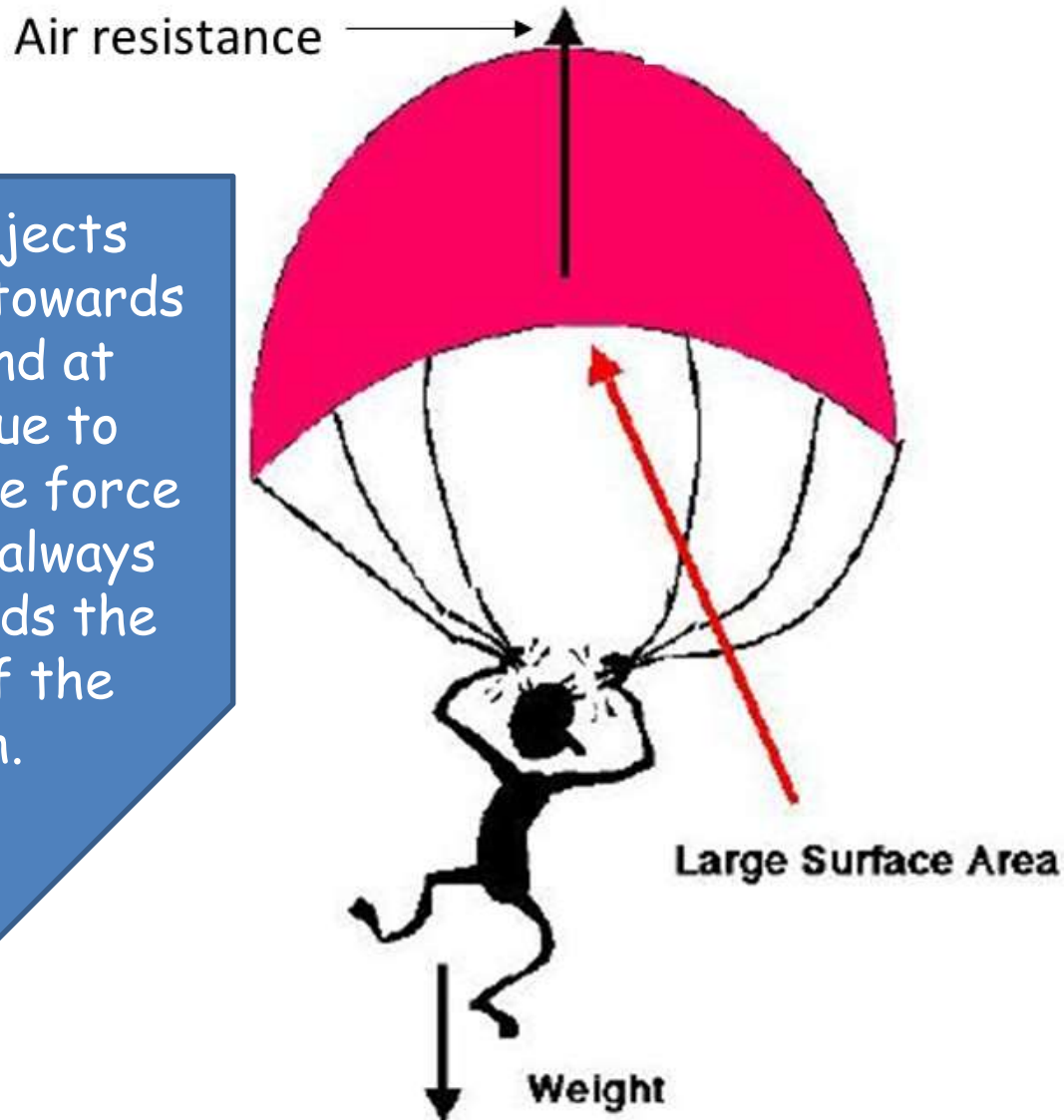


# Acceleration and gravity



## Acceleration and gravity

Falling objects accelerate towards the ground at  $10\text{m/s}^2$  due to gravity. The force of gravity always acts towards the centre of the Earth.



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Air resistance



Large Surface Area

Weight

The atmosphere creates an upward force that slows down falling objects. This is known as air resistance or drag.

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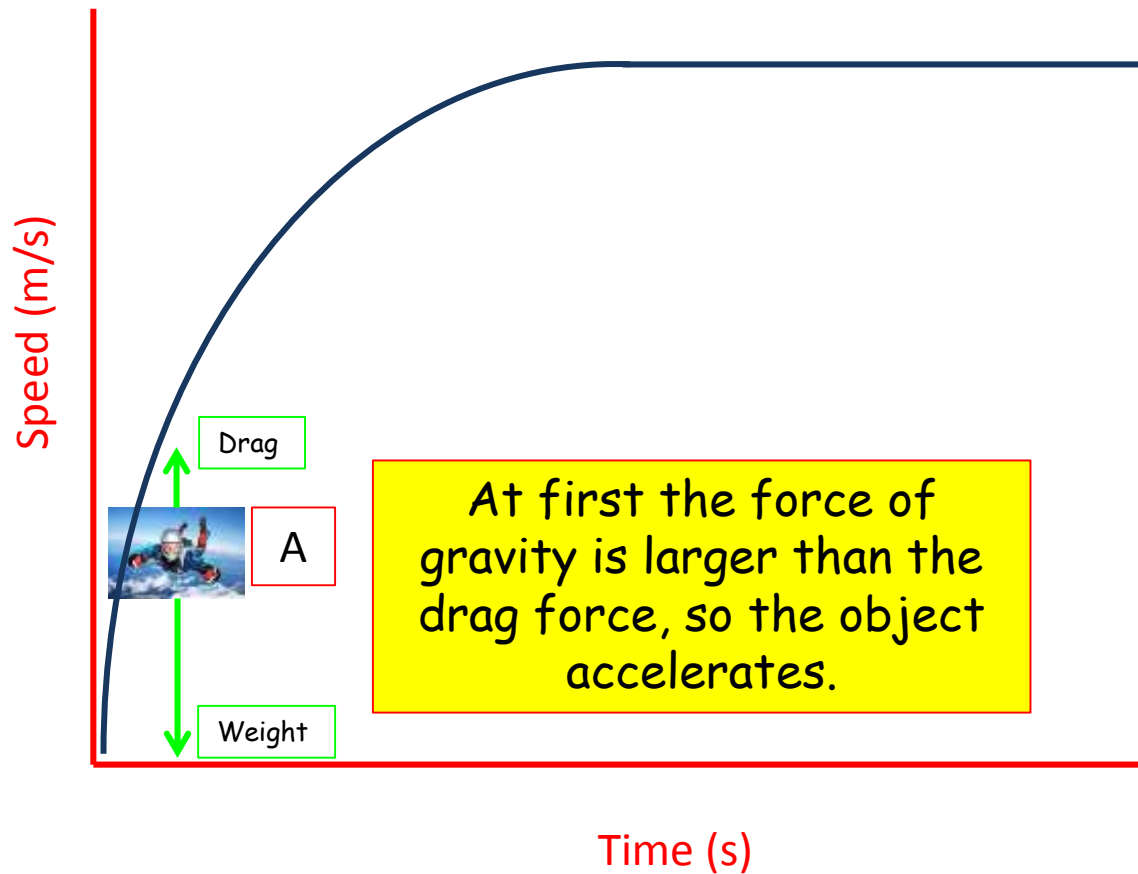


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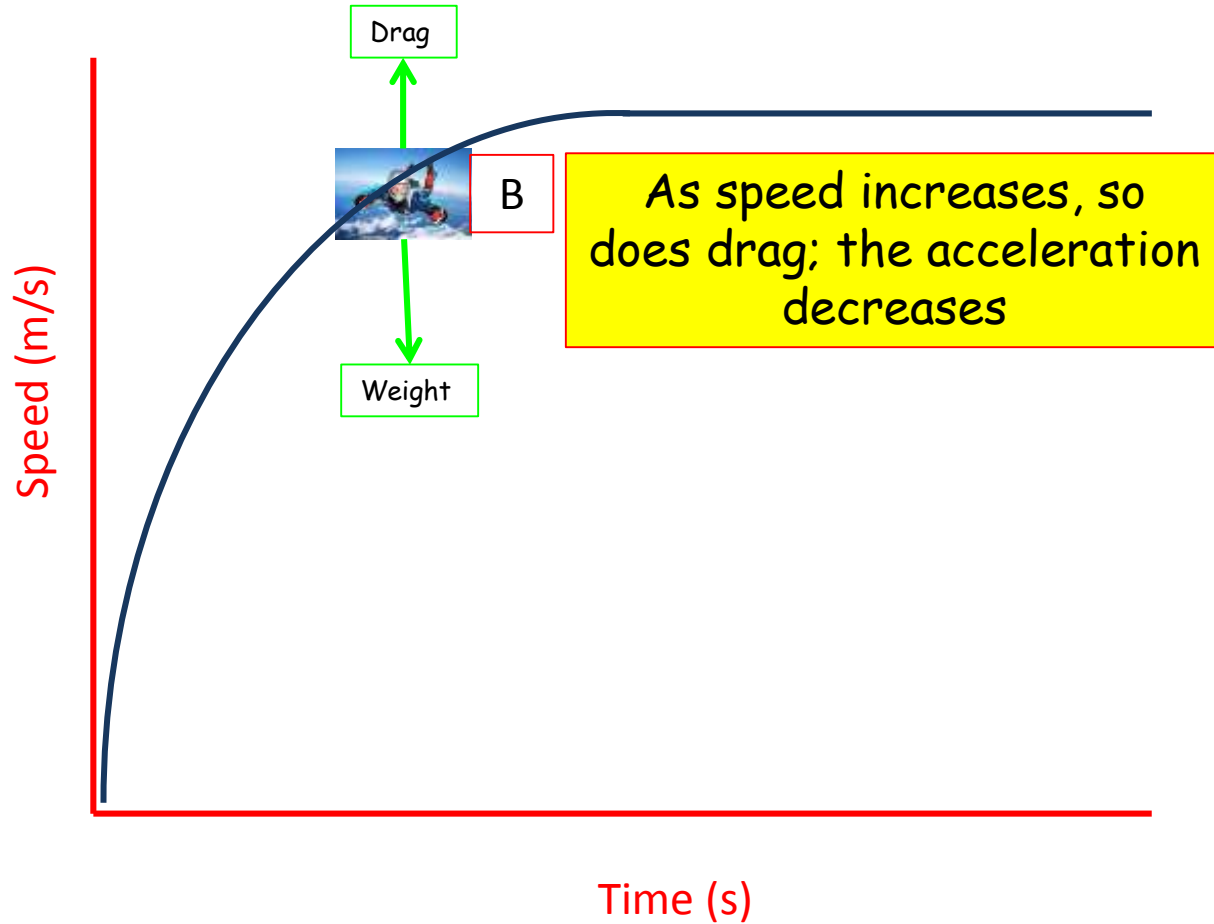
Large Surface Area

The larger the surface area of the object, the larger the drag force

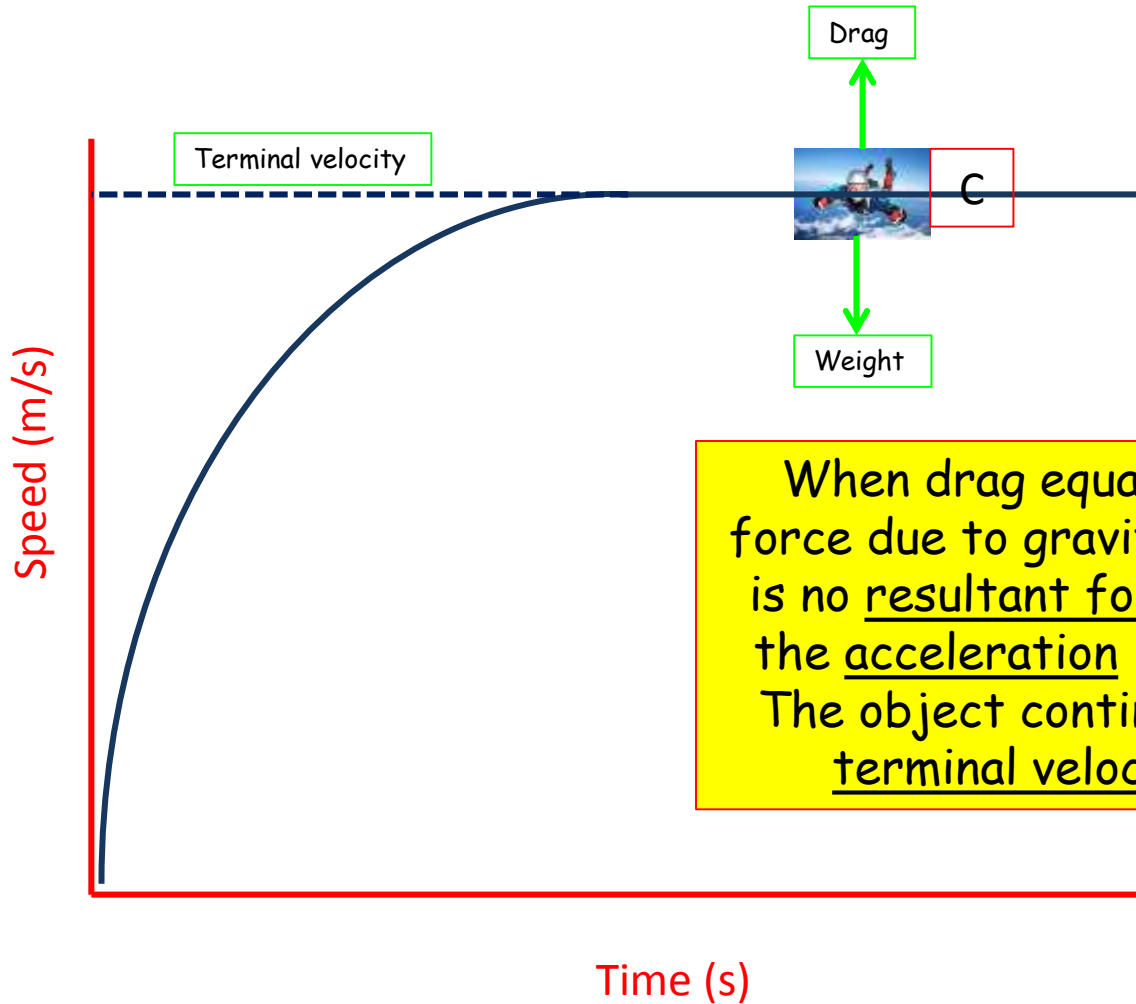
# Acceleration and gravity



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When drag equals the force due to gravity there is no resultant force and the acceleration is zero. The object continues at terminal velocity.

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PHYSICS - Speed, velocity and acceleration

