



Mechanics Identifying Forces

Intro	Brief intro to idea of forces acting on objects and the importance of drawing force diagrams.
Activity approx. 20 mins	<p>Give out sheets.</p> <p>The teacher picks one scenario for short discussion and solution on board.</p> <p>Students then work in small groups on the remaining scenarios.</p> <p>Students use mini whiteboards to draw force diagrams and gain agreement in their group. Transfer their agreed diagram to their sheet.</p> <p>Teacher to encourage discussion and questioning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Weight force■ Clarifying which forces are acting on each body.■ Many forces are a result of contact – interaction between objects.■ Better understanding of Newton's 3rd law - forces come in pairs.■ Thinking about modelling the contact between objects as a normal reaction and a friction force. <p>Look for typical confusions and misconceptions e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Direction of force is confused with the direction of motion.■ Incorrect direction of friction force.
Plenary approx. 10 mins	<p>Bring the group back together and discuss suggested force diagrams.</p> <p>Give students the opportunity to comment upon these and draw out conclusions.</p>

Drawing force diagrams

What are the forces acting on each object?

Draw a force diagram for each.

A book sitting on a table



A swimmer



An aeroplane



A car on the motorway



A skier on a slope



A ball after it is headed



A trailer being towed



A car driving uphill



A book on a sloping desk



Where there is more than one object, draw a force diagram for the other object too.

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