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23-24 Practice Test: Circles and Gravity

1. a. What does "uniform circular motion" mean?
b. When an object is in uniform circular motion, is it accelerating? Provide evidence to support your answer.
c. Theoretically, any object in the Universe can be made to move in uniform circular motion. For any object, what would you need to do to in order to make this happen?
2. How do we sense gravity?
3. Create some plans to produce a $0.4 \mathrm{~g}_{\text {Earth }}$ "artificial gravity" environment for explorers who are traveling to Mars. The goal is to create a sensation of weight similar to what the astronauts will experience on Mars -0.4 times their weight on Earth. Do the math and draw a diagram complete with numbers, measurements, units, and indications of motion. Draw at least one astronaut. The diagram should convey enough information so that a reader can confirm that the astronauts will feel like they are in a $0.4 \mathrm{~g}_{\text {Earth }}$ environment. There are an infinite number of possible solutions.
4. Explain briefly how your structure mimics a 0.4 g environment.
5. Find the minimum normal force $\left(F_{N}\right)$ felt by a 70 kg human riding a Ferris Wheel if the human is moving at $4 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{s}$ in a 4 m radius circle.

Helpful Information: $\quad G=6.67 \times 10^{-11} \mathrm{Nm}^{2} / \mathrm{kg}^{2} \quad M_{\text {Earth }}=5.97 \times 10^{24} \mathrm{~kg} \quad M_{\text {Moon }}=7.35 \times 10^{22} \mathrm{~kg}$ Earth Radius $=6.378 \times 10^{6} \mathrm{~m}$ Earth Orbital Radius $=1.50 \times 10^{11} \mathrm{~m}$
6. a. The Moon exerts a gravitational force on the Earth that is roughly $2 \times 10^{20} \mathrm{~N}$. What is the Moon's orbital radius?
b. What is the Moon's orbital velocity?
c. What is the Moon's orbital period, in seconds?
7. What is the value of $g$ on the Moon, in $m / s^{2}$ ?
8. A 65 kg student (weight $=637 \mathrm{~N}$ ) is running on an indoor "track" in a school gym. The student needs to make a circular turn with a radius of 15 m , but the maximum force of friction between the student's shoes and the floor is 450 N . What is the maximum speed at which the can the student make the turn without slipping?

