

THE PROBLEM

PART A

FORUM			
Talking technology			
Author	Subject	Message	Date
 Hi-Tech	Vibration	 Hi! My neighbour does aerobics three times a week in her apartment and my computer and CD player vibrate whenever she jumps. This is the third time I've had to repair them. Does anyone have a solution?	03-09
 007 Trek		 Hi Hi-Tech! There are sites that sell systems to reduce vibrations on a computer . . . Do some research!	05-09
 Hyperbar		 Hi Hi-Tech, I've come up with a little technological design concept to absorb shocks . . . But I haven't quite perfected it yet. I'm trying to identify the constraints placed on the materials I've chosen to finish my design plan. I'll let you know what happens.	07-09
 Hi-Tech		 To 007 Trek and Hyperbar I'd like to be able build something low-cost. Hyperbar, if you manage to build your support at a lower cost, would you be willing to put your technical diagram online?	10-09
 Hyperbar		 Sure! I'll construct a prototype and test its efficiency before sending it to you.	11-09
 			

In this simulation exercise, you are to assume the role of Hyperbar. To construct your prototype of an anti-vibration support, you must follow the specifications. To verify its efficiency, you must follow the proposed protocol.



THE PROBLEM *(continued)*

PART A

Specifications for the anti-vibration support prototype

Overall function

- The anti-vibration support must be able to support an electronic device such as a CD player, DVD player, computer, speaker, etc., and reduce the vibrations to which these devices are subjected.

Material constraints

- The support must be able to adapt to different types of electronic devices.
- The support must include one material or part that has elasticity as a mechanical property.
- The support will comprise of two systems to absorb vibrations. One of these systems must include a part that operates with pressurized air.
- The support should be made primarily of wood or metal.
- The support should be strong.

Human constraints

- The support should be easy to maintain.
- The support should be easy to move.

Safety constraints

- Handling the support should not pose any danger.
- The support should not contain any electrical components.

Financial constraints

- The cost of building the anti-vibration support must be low enough so that it is advantageous to build it oneself.

Environmental constraints

- Recycled or recyclable materials should be favoured.



THE PROBLEM *(continued)*

PART A

Procedure for testing the efficiency of the anti-vibration support prototype

1. Fill two identical containers with water to two-thirds of their capacity.
2. To simulate the presence of an electronic device, place a load on the anti-vibration support.
3. Place the first container on the load.
4. Place the second container on the counter near the support.
5. Hit the counter near the support.
6. Observe whether ripples form on the surface of the water in both containers.
7. Record your observations.
8. Repeat steps 5–8, varying the intensity or location of where you hit the counter.
9. Hit the floor near the counter.
10. Observe whether ripples form on the surface of the water in both containers.
11. Record your observations.
12. Repeat steps 9–11, varying the intensity of the blow to the floor or its location.

Group: _____

PART A

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Group: _____

PART A

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Name: _____

Group: _____

CREATING THE CONTEXT *(continued)*

PART A

I think

Design plan



Reflection

Does my design plan follow the specifications?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Do I fully understand the scientific and technological concepts involved in the problem?

☐☐

Name: _____

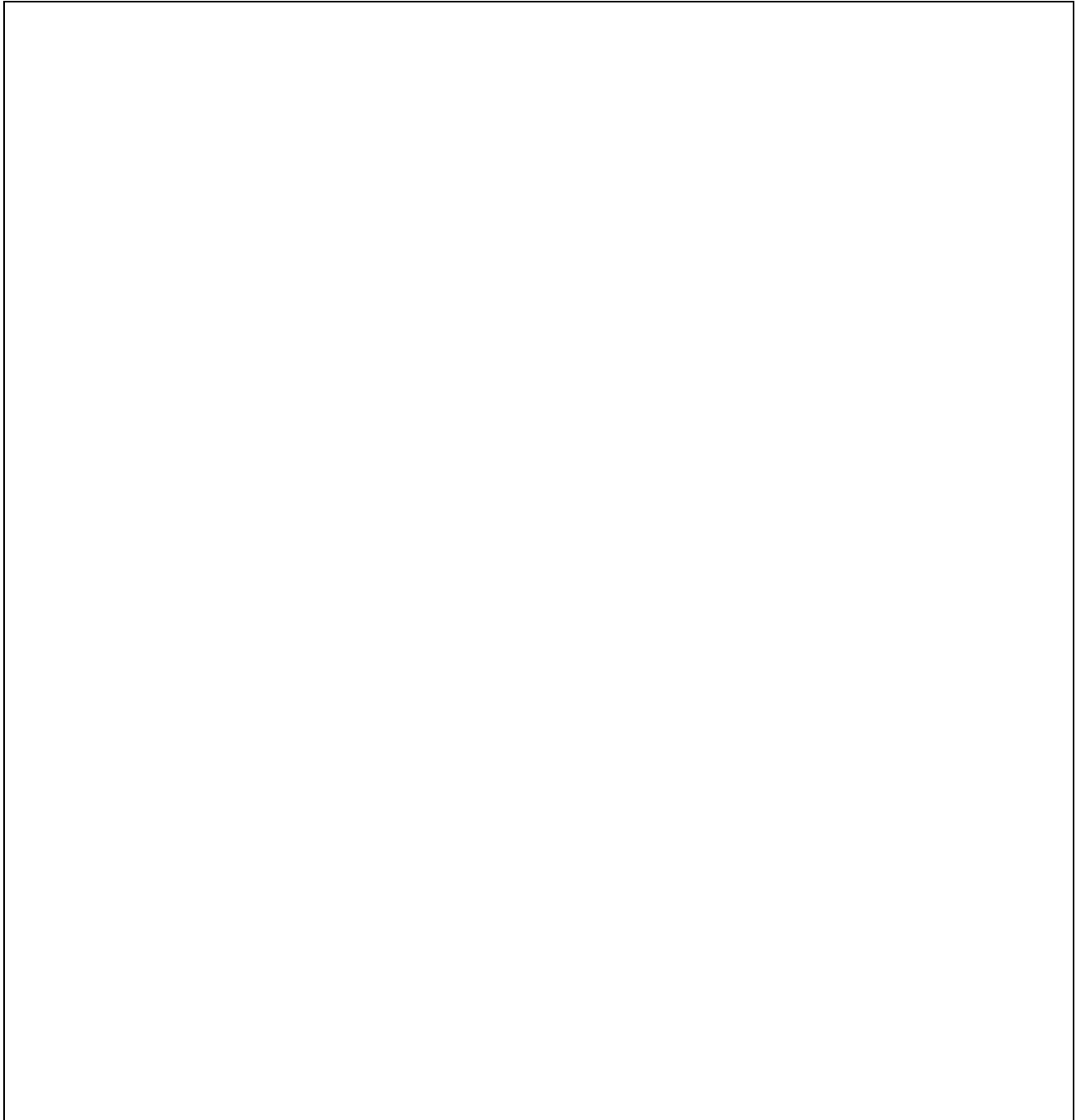
Group: _____

PLANNING THE PROBLEM SOLVING

PART A

I plan

Technical diagram



Name: _____

Group: _____

PLANNING THE PROBLEM SOLVING *(continued)*

PART A

I plan

Materials

Equipment

Reflection

Have I considered other possibilities for building the anti-vibration support?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Teacher's approval

Group: _____

PART A

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Yes No

9

Group: _____

PART A

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MY EVALUATION

PART A

Use the evaluation grid on page 22 to do a self-evaluation. Write A, B, C, D or E in the appropriate space.

SSC1 Seeks answers or solutions to scientific or technological problems				
Criteria*	Observable indicators	Me	Teacher	Comments
1	Creating the context		☐ With help	
	Definition of the goal and production of design plan			
2	Planning the problem solving		☐ With help	
	Relevance of elements in the plan of action: materials, equipment and a technical diagram			
3	Initiating the problem solving		☐ With help	
	Respect for the technical diagram and safety rules while building the prototype			
4	The final test		☐ With help	
	Verification of the prototype's performance			

* Evaluation criteria

- 1 Appropriate representation of the situation
- 2 Development of a suitable plan of action for the situation
- 3 Appropriate implementation of the plan of action
- 4 Development of relevant conclusions, explanations or solutions



THE CASE STUDY

PART B

FORUM			
Talking technology			
Author	Subject	Message	Date
 Hi-Tech	Vibration	 Hi Hyperbar! My cousin sent me a prototype that looks interesting. I'd like you to check its strengths and weaknesses before investing in building one for myself. Could I send it to you?	03-09
 Hyperbar		 Hi Hi-Tech! Sure. I can do a technological analysis of the prototype.	07-09
 Hi-Tech		 Thanks Hyperbar! Could you suggest improvements?	10-09
 Hyperbar		 Sure! I could even draw a design plan and technical diagram, if you want.	11-09
 Hi-Tech		 Great! The drawings will help me build an improved model. I'll send you the prototype. Thanks again!	12-09
 			

In this case study, you are to assume the role of Hyperbar and respond to Hi-Tech. The teacher will give you a prototype of an anti-vibration support to analyze. You must verify whether this prototype respects the specifications, and propose three improvements.

Name: _____

Group: _____

CREATING THE CONTEXT

PART B

I ask myself questions

I must

I think



Group: _____

PART B

What I know . . .	What I must find out . . .
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No

9

Name: _____

Group: _____

GATHERING INFORMATION

PART B

I do research

I analyze my results



Name: _____

Group: _____

GATHERING INFORMATION *(continued)*

PART B

I analyze my results *(continued)*

Design plan

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Name: _____

Group: _____

GATHERING INFORMATION *(continued)*

PART B

I analyze my results *(continued)*

Technical diagram



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Reflection

Yes No

Do I fully understand the scientific and technological concepts involved
in this case study?

☐☐

Group: _____

PART B

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No

1

Group: _____

PART B

[illegible]

MY EVALUATION

PART B

Use the evaluation grid on page 23 to do a self-evaluation. Write A, B, C, D or E in the appropriate space.

SSC2 Makes the most of his/her knowledge of science and technology				
Criteria*	Observable indicators	Me	Teacher	Comments
1	Creating the context		☐ With help	
	Definition of the goal and outline of the work steps			
2	Gathering information		☐ With help	
	Production of a design plan and technical diagram for the prototype under study			
3	Completing the case study		☐ With help	
	Formulation of improvements			
4	Validating the case study		☐ With help	
	Justification of proposed improvements			

* Evaluation criteria

- 1 Formulation of appropriate questions
- 2 Appropriate use of scientific and technological concepts, laws, models and theories
- 3 Relevant explanations or solutions
- 4 Suitable justification of explanations, solutions, decisions or opinions



MY EVALUATION *(continued)*

Use the evaluation grid on page 24 to do a self-evaluation. Write A, B, C, D or E in the appropriate space.

SSC3 Communicates in the languages used in science and technology				
Criteria*	Observable indicators	Me	Teacher	Comments
1	Gathering information		☐ With help	
	Verification of whether the specifications are respected			
2	Validating the case study		☐ With help	
	Formulation of justifications			
3	Gathering information		☐ With help	
	Use of symbols in the design plan and technical diagram			

* Evaluation criteria

- 1 Accurate interpretation of scientific and technological messages
- 2 Appropriate production or sharing of scientific and technological messages
- 3 Use of appropriate scientific and technological terminology, rules and conventions

EVALUATION GRIDS

SSC1 Seeks answers or solutions to scientific or technological problems

Criteria*	Observable indicators	A	B	C	D	E
1	CREATING THE CONTEXT Definition of the goal and production of a design plan	The goal is very clearly stated and linked to the problem to solve. The design plan is complete.	The goal is clearly stated and linked to the problem to solve. The design plan contains a few minor errors.	The goal is somewhat clearly stated or is not linked to the problem to solve OR the design plan contains several errors.	The goal is somewhat clearly stated or is not linked to the problem to solve AND the design plan contains major errors.	Work needs to be redone.
2	PLANNING THE PROBLEM SOLVING Relevance of elements in the plan of action: materials, equipment and a technical diagram	All the materials and equipment are appropriate and the technical diagram is complete.	The materials and equipment are appropriate. The technical diagram contains a few minor errors.	The materials and equipment are somewhat appropriate OR the technical diagram contains several errors.	Most of the materials and equipment are somewhat appropriate AND the technical diagram contains several errors.	Work needs to be redone.
3	INITIATING THE PROBLEM SOLVING Respect for the technical diagram and safety rules while building the prototype	The prototype complies with the technical diagram. The work is done in a safe manner.	A few elements of the prototype do not comply with the technical diagram. The work is done in a safe manner.	Several elements of the prototype do not comply with the technical diagram. The work is done in a safe manner.	The prototype does not comply with the technical diagram OR the work is not done in a safe manner.	Work needs to be redone.
4	THE FINAL TEST Verification of the prototype's performance	The prototype is operational and respects all the constraints in the specifications. The proposed improvements are relevant.	The prototype respects most of the constraints in the specifications. Most of the proposed improvements are relevant.	The prototype respects most of the constraints in the specifications, but the proposed improvements are somewhat relevant.	The prototype does not respect most of the constraints in the specifications.	Work needs to be redone.

* Evaluation criteria

- 1 Appropriate representation of the situation
- 2 Development of a suitable plan of action for the situation
- 3 Appropriate implementation of the plan of action
- 4 Development of relevant conclusions, explanations or solutions



Name: _____

Group: _____

EVALUATION GRIDS *(continued)*

SSC2 Makes the most of his/her knowledge of science and technology

Criteria*	Observable indicators	A	B	C	D	E
1	CREATING THE CONTEXT Definition of the goal and outline of the work steps	The goal of the case study is very clear and the planning steps are relevant.	The goal of the case study is clear and the planning steps are relevant.	The goal of the case study is somewhat clear or the planning steps are somewhat relevant.	The goal of the case study is somewhat clear and the planning steps are somewhat relevant.	Work needs to be redone.
2	GATHERING INFORMATION Production of a design plan and technical diagram for the prototype under study	The design plan and technical diagram are complete.	The design plan and technical diagram are complete, but contain a few minor errors.	The design plan and technical diagram are incomplete or contain several errors.	The design plan and technical diagram are incomplete and contain several errors.	Work needs to be redone.
3	COMPLETING THE CASE STUDY Formulation of improvements	More than three improvements are very clearly stated and relevant.	Three improvements are clearly stated and relevant.	One or two improvements are clearly stated and relevant.	The proposed improvements are somewhat clearly stated and somewhat relevant.	Work needs to be redone.
4	VALIDATING THE CASE STUDY Justification of proposed improvements	All the justifications are relevant.	Most of the justifications are relevant.	Some of the justifications are relevant.	The justifications are not relevant.	Work needs to be redone.

* Evaluation criteria

- 1 Formulation of appropriate questions
- 2 Appropriate use of scientific and technological concepts, laws, models and theories
- 3 Relevant explanations or solutions
- 4 Suitable justification of explanations, solutions, decisions or opinions



EVALUATION GRIDS *(continued)*

SSC3 Communicates in the languages used in science and technology

Criteria*	Observable indicators	A	B	C	D	E
1	GATHERING INFORMATION Verification of whether the specifications are respected	The technological analysis very clearly verifies whether the prototype respects the specifications.	The technological analysis clearly verifies whether the prototype respects the specifications.	The technological analysis somewhat verifies whether the prototype respects the specifications.	The technological analysis does not verify whether the prototype respects the specifications.	Work needs to be redone.
2	VALIDATING THE CASE STUDY Formulation of justifications	All the justifications are very clearly stated and refer to scientific and technological concepts.	All the justifications are clearly stated and refer to scientific and technological concepts.	All the justifications are somewhat clearly stated or do not refer to scientific and technological concepts.	All the justifications are somewhat clearly stated and do not refer to scientific and technological concepts.	Work needs to be redone.
3	GATHERING INFORMATION Use of symbols in the design plan and technical diagram	All the symbols are drawn correctly and used in the proper context.	Most of the symbols are drawn correctly and used in the proper context.	Some of the symbols are drawn correctly and used in the proper context.	The symbols are not used in the proper context.	Work needs to be redone.

* Evaluation criteria

- 1 Accurate interpretation of scientific and technological messages
- 2 Appropriate production or sharing of scientific and technological messages
- 3 Use of appropriate scientific and technological terminology, rules and conventions