Section 8.1 The Language of Motion Check Your Understanding



Checking Concepts

- 1. Define "scalar quantity."
- 2. Define "vector quantity."
- 3. What does "magnitude" mean?
- 4. Explain the difference between position and distance.
- 5. Classify each of the following as either vectors or scalars.
 - (a) distance
 - (b) time interval
 - (c) position
 - (d) displacement
- 6. Give the symbol used to represent each of the following.
 - (a) distance
 - (b) time interval
 - (c) position

(d) displacement

- 7. What is the mathematical difference between final and initial time called?
- 8. What Greek letter is used to represent the change in a quantity?
- 9. Define "displacement."
- 10. In terms of the final and initial position of an object, how would you calculate displacement?
- 11. An object has a displacement of 2 m forward during a 5 s time interval. If the object's motion were uniform, what would be its displacement during the next 5 s time interval?
- 12. When drawing a position-time graph, which data would you plot on
 - (a) the horizontal (x) axis?
 - (b) the vertical (y) axis?
- 13. What kind of a line represents uniform motion on a position-time graph?

Understanding Key Ideas

Use the graph below to answer questions 14 to 16.



- 14. For each of the time intervals below, describe the motion of the object. Be sure to include direction when necessary.
 - (a) 0 s–4 s
 - (b) 4 s-8 s
 - (c) 8 s–10 s
- 15. Calculate the displacement for each of the following time intervals.
 - (a) 0 s–4 s
 - (b) 4 s-8 s
 - (c) 8 s-10 s
 - (d) 0 s–10 s
- 16. What total distance did the object travel in the time interval 0 s to 10 s?
- 17. Under what conditions will the magnitude of the displacement be equal to the distance?



A horizontal line (zero slope) on a position-time graph indicates that the object is remaining stationary for that time interval. What type of graph line would represent impossible motion? Explain your answer.