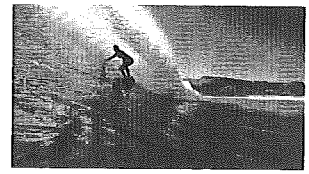


# Chapter 14 - Wave Notes



Name: Key Hr. \_\_\_\_\_

## A) Waves and the Types of Waves

**wave**- a transfer of energy from one point to another with no transfer of mass

**medium**- the material through which a wave travels

examples: air, water, metal

**transverse wave**- a wave whose particles vibrate perpendicular to the direction of motion of the wave

example: stadium wave, rope moving up & down

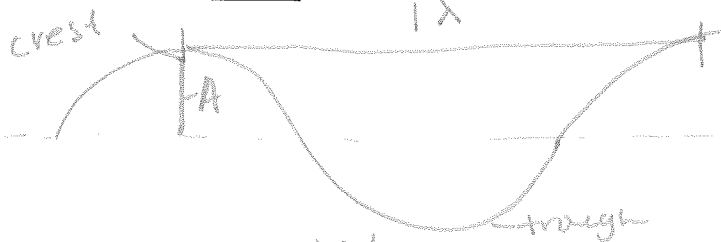
**longitudinal wave**- a wave whose particles vibrate parallel to the direction of motion of the wave

example: sound wave, spring

water waves have both

## B) Parts of Waves

### transverse



**crest**- the high point of a transverse wave

**trough**- the low point of a transverse wave

**wavelength**- the distance from one part of a wave until it repeats ex. crest to crest

variable for wavelength: λ (lambda)

**amplitude**- the measurement of the height of the wave

### longitudinal



**compression**- the area of higher concentration in a longitudinal wave

**rarefaction**- the area of lower concentration in a longitudinal wave

## C) Frequency, Period, and Wave Speed

**Frequency (f)**- the number of waves that pass a given point each second (waves per sec)

Unit: Hertz (Hz) = 1/sec (cycles per sec)

Heinrich Hertz - radar - 1st to prove existence of EM waves

\* The higher the frequency the higher the pitch of the sound.

\* Humans can hear 20-20,000 vibrations per second or 20-20,000 Hz

**Period (T)**- the time it takes for one wave to pass a given point, measured in sec

Equation for period and frequency:

$$f = \frac{1}{T}$$

or

$$T = \frac{1}{f}$$

Ex. What is the period of a 10-Hz sound? What does that mean?

$$T = \frac{1}{f} = \frac{1}{10} = .1 \text{ sec}$$

It takes 0.1 sec for 1 wave to pass

Derive the speed of a wave equation:

**YOU CAN USUALLY ASSUME THAT WAVES TRAVEL AT A CONSTANT SPEED!**

$$v = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} = \frac{\lambda}{T} = \frac{\lambda}{\frac{1}{f}} = \lambda f$$

$$v = \lambda f$$

$$v = \frac{\text{velocity}}{\text{frequency}} \text{ in } \frac{\text{m/s}}{\text{Hz}}$$

$$f = \frac{\text{frequency}}{\text{wavelength}} \text{ in } \frac{\text{Hz}}{\text{m}}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{\text{wavelength}}{\text{frequency}} \text{ in } \frac{\text{m}}{\text{Hz}}$$



**Example:** The piano string that is tuned to middle C vibrates with a frequency of 264 Hz and has a wavelength of 1.3 m.

a. What is the speed of the wave? (343.2 m/s)

$$v = f\lambda = (264 \text{ Hz})(1.3 \text{ m}) = \boxed{343 \text{ m/s}}$$

b. How long will it take the wave to travel the length of a football field, (91.4 m)? (0.27 sec.)

$$v = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} \quad 343 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} = \frac{91.4 \text{ m}}{\Delta t} \quad \boxed{\Delta t = 0.27 \text{ sec}}$$



c. What is the period of the wave? (0.004 sec.)

$$T = \frac{1}{f} = \frac{1}{264} = \boxed{0.004 \text{ sec}}$$

Review and Assess:

1. What is the difference between longitudinal and transverse waves?