

40. Referring to Fig. 5-10(c) is helpful. In this case, viewing the man-rope-sandbag as a system means that we should be careful to choose a consistent positive direction of motion (though there are other ways to proceed – say, starting with individual application of Newton’s law to each mass). We take *down* as positive for the man’s motion and *up* as positive for the sandbag’s motion and, without ambiguity, denote their acceleration as a . The net force on the system is the difference between the weight of the man and that of the sandbag. The system mass is $m_{\text{sys}} = 85 + 65 = 150$ kg. Thus, Eq. 5-1 leads to

$$(85)(9.8) - (65)(9.8) = m_{\text{sys}} a$$

which yields $a = 1.3$ m/s². Since the system starts from rest, Eq. 2-16 determines the speed (after traveling $\Delta y = 10$ m) as follows:

$$v = \sqrt{2a\Delta y} = \sqrt{2(1.3)(10)} = 5.1 \text{ m/s} .$$