

**Free Body Diagrams & Tension**

In the diagrams below, assume all pulleys and ropes are massless, and use the following variable definitions.

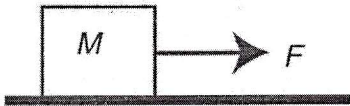
$F = 10\text{N}$

$M = 1\text{kg}$

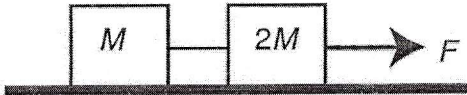
$\mu = 0.2$

Find the tension in each rope and the acceleration of the set of masses. (For a greater challenge, solve in terms of  $F$ ,  $M$  and  $\mu$  instead of plugging in values)

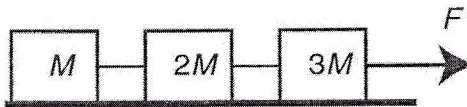
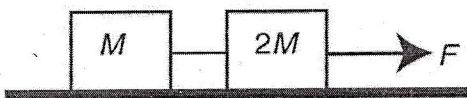
1. Frictionless



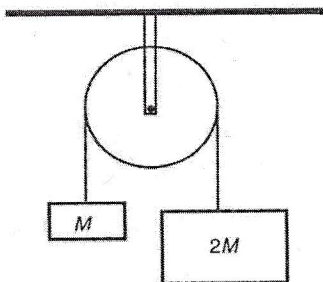
2. Frictionless



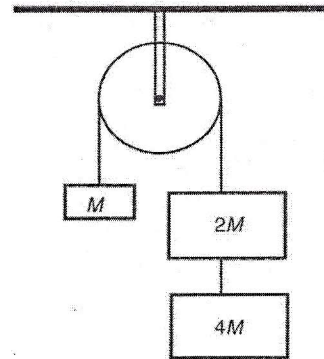
3. Frictionless

4. Coefficient of Friction  $\mu$ 

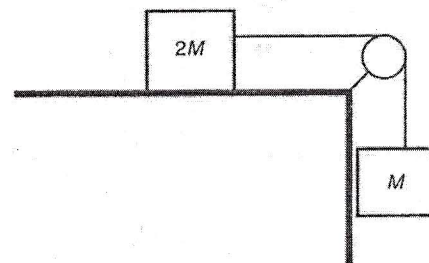
5.



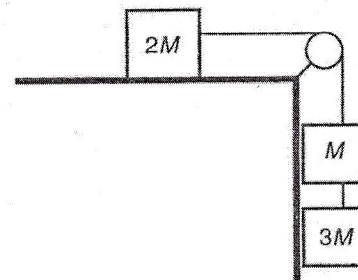
6.



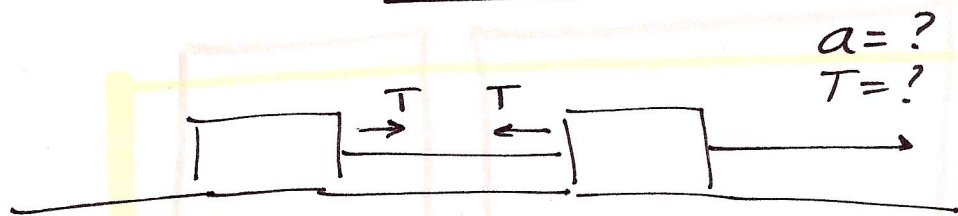
7. Frictionless



8. Frictionless



# Tension problems



STEP 1: System analysis [Tension will cancel out]

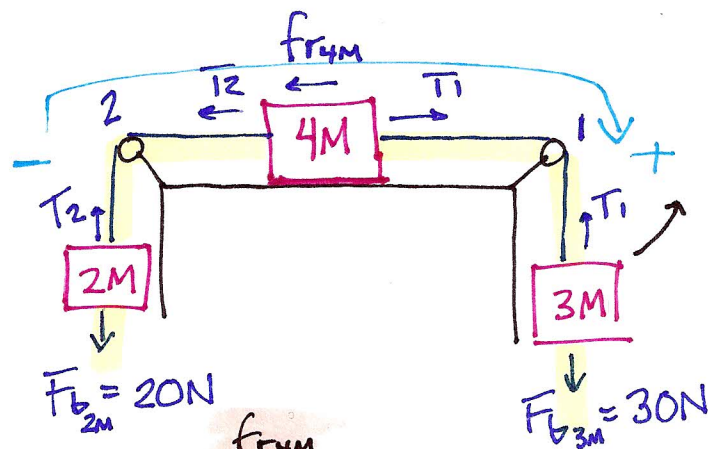
$$\Sigma F = m_T \cdot a$$

↑ TOTAL MASS  
↑ acceleration of the system

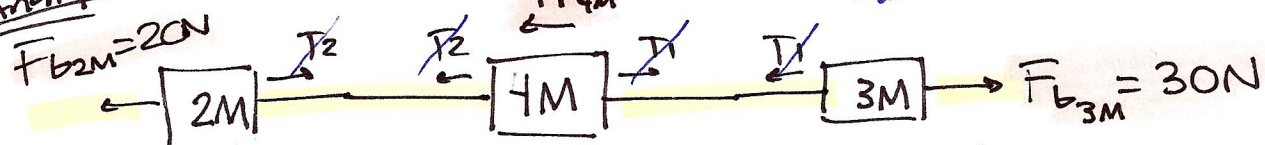
STEP 2: Individual BLOCK analysis → find Tension

(14)

$F = 10N$   
 $M = 1Kg$   
 $\mu = 0.2$



System Analysis



$$\Sigma F = m \cdot a$$

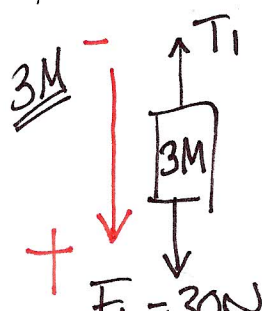
$$F_{b3M} - f_{rpm} - F_{b2M} = m_T \cdot a$$

$$30 - 8N - 20 = 9 \cdot a$$

$$a = \frac{2}{9} = 0.22 \text{ m/s}^2$$

To get friction...  
 $f_r = \mu_k \cdot F_N$  *same as weight*  
 $f_r = (0.2)(40N) = 8N$

To find Tension, we do individual block analysis

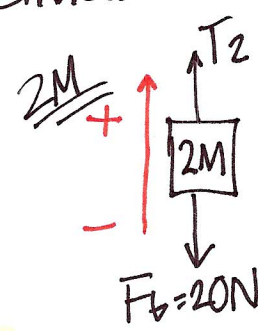


$$\Sigma F_y = m \cdot a$$

$$F_b - T_1 = m \cdot a$$

$$T_1 = F_b - m \cdot a$$

$$T_1 = 30 - 3(0.22) = 29.34N$$



$$\Sigma F_y = m \cdot a$$

$$T_2 - F_b = m \cdot a$$

$$T_2 - 20 = (2)(0.22)$$

$$T_2 = 20.44N$$