

GAM · Hydrostatics — Strategy & Tricks

The source pack hands you the formula and every number: pull them out with their units, cancel what cancels, and pick the option that survives one sanity check.

Contents: The rules the pack always hands you · Name the variant in five seconds · Numbers first, then the stem · Ratios, cancelled g, and 10 kPa per metre · Read the options before you compute · Where the wrong options come from · Worked examples: easy to hard · Recognition drills · Guided practice: one linked group · Progressive practice · Speed training · Exam application · Cheat sheet

The rules the pack always hands you

Hydrostatics in the GAM is not a physics test. It is a *reading-and-substitution* test that happens to be about liquids. Every pack states its own formula, density, g and often its atmospheric pressure — nothing is asked that the text did not supply. Your job, in ninety seconds: apply the stated relation without dropping a unit.

The format. About 60 questions in 90 minutes, roughly **90 seconds each**. Four options, exactly one correct, no calculator. Packs are shared: one passage feeds four or five linked questions. No negative marking — a blank scores like a wrong answer, so every item gets an answer.

$p = \rho gh$ — gauge pressure at depth h

$\Delta p = \rho g \Delta h$ — only vertical separation counts

$F = pA$ — pressure on a flat area

$F_B = \rho_{\text{fluid}} \cdot g \cdot V_{\text{displaced}}$ — weight of displaced fluid

Floating: $\rho_{\text{fluid}} \cdot V_{\text{sub}} = m$ — g cancels

Pascal: $F_{\text{out}} = F_{\text{in}} \cdot (A_{\text{out}}/A_{\text{in}})$

$p_{\text{abs}} = p_{\text{atm}} + p_{\text{gauge}}$ | $\rho = m/V$ | $W = mg$

Every item is one of these, or two chained.

Pressure at depth. $p = \rho gh$ grows with depth and density and nothing else — width, shape and volume appear in no formula. Since $1,000 \times 10 \times 1 = 10,000$ Pa, **water gives 10 kPa per metre** at $g = 10$. **Force needs an area:** $F = pA$, taking p at mid-depth on a vertical panel.

Buoyancy. The upward force equals the weight of the liquid pushed aside: $F_B = \rho_{\text{fluid}} g V_{\text{displaced}}$. Both symbols are bait: the density is the *fluid's*, never the object's; the volume is the *displaced* one, all of the object when held under, only the wet part when floating. Floating means buoyancy equals weight, so g cancels: $\rho_{\text{fluid}} V_{\text{sub}} = m$.

Pascal and the atmosphere. One pressure reaches both pistons of a confined fluid, so force scales with area. A gauge reads the pressure *above* atmospheric: $p_{\text{abs}} = p_{\text{atm}} + p_{\text{gauge}}$, and a pack that says 'absolute' always supplies p_{atm} , typically 100 kPa.

Units. Work in metres, cubic metres and kg/m^3 : $\text{cm} \div 100$, litres $\div 1,000$, $\text{g/cm}^3 \times 1,000$. Convert as you copy the number down, never mid-formula.

Use the pack's g, not yours If it says $g = 10 \text{ m/s}^2$, the options were built with 10. If it says 9.81, the 10-version is sitting there as a distractor.

Name the variant in five seconds

Before any arithmetic, name the variant — the nouns in the stem do it. *Depth* means substitution, *displaces* buoyancy, *floats* equilibrium, *piston* a ratio, *absolute* add the atmosphere. Naming it tells you which line to

reread and what single unknown you are chasing.

Stem says...	Variant	Reach for
a depth, 'pressure at'	Pressure at depth	$p = \rho gh$
'from 2 m to 5 m', 'by how much'	Change	$\Delta p = \rho g \Delta h$, on the 3 m
'reads 42 kPa — what depth?'	Inverse	$h = p/(\rho g)$; $p = \rho(gh)$
'the hatch', 'the panel', an area	Force on area	$F = pA$ at mid-depth
'displaces', 'floats', 'fraction'	Buoyancy, floating	$F_B = \rho_{\text{fluid}} g V$; fraction = $\rho_{\text{object}}/\rho_{\text{fluid}}$
two pistons, two areas	Hydraulic	$F_{\text{out}} = F_{\text{in}} \cdot (A_{\text{out}}/A_{\text{in}})$
'oil above water', 'absolute'	Layers, gauge vs absolute	add ρgh downward, then p_{atm}

Items arrive in **linked groups** — one pack, four or five questions, the later ones reusing earlier results, so each number goes into the margin once. About one per group is **conceptual** ('if the depth doubles...'): p is proportional to h , F_B to V , and a wider tank appears nowhere. Don't compute; read.

Numbers first, then the stem

Here is the habit that separates a 45-second item from a two-minute one: **extract the givens before you read the question**. Read the stem first and you go hunting back through the pack for a number, then substitute the wrong unit. Reversing the order removes the hunt and most of the errors.

1. **Scan the pack for every number**, each into the margin with its symbol and unit: $p = 1,150 \text{ kg/m}^3$, $g = 10 \text{ m/s}^2$, $h = 300 \text{ cm}$. Twenty seconds per group.
2. **Convert on the spot**. 300 cm becomes 3.0 m before it goes near a formula; 20 litres becomes 0.020 m^3 . Pick Pa or kPa and stay there.
3. **Tag the relation**. Underline the stated formula. Gauge or absolute? Which densities are given? If both, label them: one is bait.
4. **Now read the stem**, match its nouns to the variant, and write the unknown you need.
5. **Read the options, then substitute** — their spacing sets the precision required.
6. **Check direction, then say the unit**. Deeper is more pressure, denser fluid more buoyancy, the bigger piston more force.

Liquid	Density ρ (kg/m ³)	Freezing point (°C)
Petrol	750	−60
Water	1,000	0
Brine	1,150	−18

Mini-example. That table sits in the pack, which also states $g = 10 \text{ m/s}^2$ and $p = \rho gh$. The stem: *the gauge pressure 3.0 m below the surface of the brine?* Numbers first — brine row, $\rho = 1,150$, $h = 3.0 \text{ m}$; $p = 1,150 \times 10 \times 3.0 = 34,500 \text{ Pa} = \mathbf{34.5 \text{ kPa}}$. Read the row the stem names: petrol would give 22.5 kPa and water 30 kPa, and both wait in the options. The freezing-point column is there to slow you down.

What to avoid Never read the formula and then reach back into the pack mid-calculation. That is the moment 0.050 becomes 0.5 and 40 N becomes 400 N. Numbers first, formula second, question third.

Ratios, cancelled g, and 10 kPa per metre

The packs almost always hand you $\rho = 1,000 \text{ kg/m}^3$ and $g = 10 \text{ m/s}^2$. That product, 10,000 newtons per cubic metre, is the only thing worth knowing cold.

Water, $g = 10$	Reckoner	Example
Pressure at depth	10 kPa per metre	3.8 m $\rightarrow$ 38 kPa
Another liquid	$(\rho \div 100) \text{ kPa per metre}$	oil 800 $\rightarrow$ 16 kPa at 2 m
Buoyancy, weight	10 N per litre; 10 N per kg	0.026 m ³ $\rightarrow$ 260 N; 22 kg $\rightarrow$ 220 N
Force on a hatch	$\text{kPa} \times \text{m}^2 = \text{kN}$	30 kPa $\times$ 0.4 m ² = 12 kN

Compute the change, not the totals. 'The tap moves from 2 m to 5 m' is $3 \text{ m} \times 10 \text{ kPa per metre} = 30 \text{ kPa}$; 'density falls by 20%' means 80% of the old pressure. **And cancel g wherever it stands on both sides:** floating collapses to $V_{\text{sub}} = m/\rho_{\text{fluid}}$, the submerged fraction to $\rho_{\text{object}}/\rho_{\text{fluid}}$.

Layers add downward; panels average. Oil over water: the bottom pressure is the oil's ρgh plus the water's. A panel from 1.5 m to 3.5 m down averages at mid-depth 2.5 m, so $25 \text{ kPa} \times$ its area gives kilonewtons straight off.

Work in kPa and kN When the options are in kPa, do the whole item in kPa. '1,000 $\times$ 10 $\times$ 2.5' has three zeros to lose; '10 kPa per metre $\times$ 2.5 = 25 kPa' has none.

Read the options before you compute

Two rules carry the pace. First, **the pack's own definition answers every conceptual item.** If it says buoyancy equals the weight of displaced liquid, then 'what does the buoyant force depend on?' is that sentence — displaced volume and fluid density — and every other option is noise.

Second, **look at the options first.** Ten times apart (2.5 / 25 / 250) asks only 'how many zeros?' Twenty per cent apart (25 / 30 / 35 / 40) wants the exact product, and the pack keeps the numbers round so you can get it. A pair differing by exactly 100 kPa is not arithmetic at all: it is asking gauge or absolute.

- Substitution (ρgh , ρA , ρgV): **30–40 s.**
- Conceptual (doubles, unchanged): **15–20 s.**
- Inverse (depth or density): **40–50 s.**
- Chained: **50–70 s**, then **30 s** per reuse.
- Inference (two readings): **75–90 s.**

At 90 seconds a question, a five-item group is worth seven and a half minutes; numbers-first it takes four to five. The minutes you bank pay for the reading-heavy passages elsewhere in the module.

Where the wrong options come from

The wrong options are not random. Each is what one specific slip produces, so the four together map the mistakes the writers expect.

Trap	It looks like	Kill it by
cm read as m	250 cm; option 2,500 kPa	converting first: 2.5 m is 25 kPa
A length used as an area	0.5 m wide taken as 0.5 m ²	area = width $\times$ height
Object density in buoyancy	steel block; $F_B = 8,000\text{gV}$	F_B takes the liquid's ρ
Gauge and absolute swapped	'absolute' asked, ρgh offered	circling the word in the stem

Trap	It looks like	Kill it by
Panel height used as depth	top 1.5 m, bottom 3.5 m, 2.0 m used	depth runs from the surface
Ratio or verb inverted	output below input; 'by' given the total	big piston, big force; underline the verb
Fraction above vs below	0.40 offered for 0.60	reading the stem's last word

Two densities on the page means one is bait: weight uses the block's, buoyancy the liquid's, the fraction their ratio. Label them in the margin.

Say the unit before you mark The commonest wrong answer here is right digits, wrong prefix. Say the whole thing — 'twenty-five kilopascals' — and check the option matches.

Worked examples: easy to hard

Each item is a miniature source pack with one question. Cover the steps, run the clock, then compare; the last step names the wrong options.

Easy 1 — Depth, with a unit trap EASY · target 45s

What is the gauge pressure at the bottom of the tank?

A tank holds water, $\rho = 1,000 \text{ kg/m}^3$, $g = 10 \text{ m/s}^2$. The gauge pressure at depth h below the free surface is $p = \rho gh$. The tank is 250 cm deep and filled to the top.

- A. 2.5 kPa
- B. 25 kPa
- C. 250 kPa
- D. 2,500 kPa

Steps

- Numbers first: $\rho = 1,000$, $g = 10$, $h = 250 \text{ cm} = \mathbf{2.5 \text{ m}}$ — convert before the formula sees it.
- $p = 1,000 \times 10 \times 2.5 = 25,000 \text{ Pa} = \mathbf{25 \text{ kPa}}$, or 10 kPa per metre $\times 2.5$.
- D reads 250 cm as 250 m; A and C are ten-times slips.

Answer: B — 25 kPa

Easy 2 — Buoyancy, with a decoy density EASY · target 50s

What buoyant force acts on the cylinder?

The buoyant force equals the weight of the liquid displaced: $F_B = \rho_{\text{liquid}} g V_{\text{displaced}}$. A steel cylinder of volume 0.004 m^3 and density $8,000 \text{ kg/m}^3$ is held fully under water of density $1,000 \text{ kg/m}^3$; $g = 10 \text{ m/s}^2$.

- A. 4 N
- B. 40 N
- C. 320 N
- D. 400 N

Steps

1. Two densities: the formula says ρ_{liquid} , so the steel's 8,000 belongs to the weight, not here.
2. $F_B = 1,000 \times 10 \times 0.004 = \mathbf{40 \text{ N}}$, or 10 N per litre $\times$ 4 litres.
3. C uses the steel's density (320 N); A and D slip ten times.

Answer: B — 40 N

Medium 1 — Hydraulic press: skip the pressure MEDIUM · target 60s

What force does the output piston deliver?

In a hydraulic lift the fluid transmits pressure undiminished throughout; at each piston $p = F/A$. The input piston has area 0.005 m^2 , the output 0.20 m^2 , and 150 N is applied to the input.

- A. 3.75 N
- B. 600 N
- C. 6,000 N
- D. 30,000 N

Steps

1. One pressure, two pistons: $F_{\text{out}}/A_{\text{out}} = F_{\text{in}}/A_{\text{in}}$, so $F_{\text{out}} = F_{\text{in}} \times A_{\text{out}}/A_{\text{in}}$ and the pressure never gets computed.
2. $0.20 \div 0.005 = 40$, so $F_{\text{out}} = 150 \times 40 = \mathbf{6,000 \text{ N}}$.
3. The bigger piston takes the bigger force, so A is the inverted ratio; D is the pressure in pascals; B slips ten times.

Answer: C — 6,000 N

Medium 2 — Floating fraction: cancel g MEDIUM · target 60s

What fraction of the block's volume sits below the waterline?

A body floats when buoyancy equals its weight: $\rho_{\text{liquid}} g V_{\text{sub}} = mg$, with V_{sub} the submerged volume. A wooden block of volume 0.060 m^3 and mass 36 kg floats in water of density $1,000 \text{ kg/m}^3$; $g = 10 \text{ m/s}^2$.

- A. 0.36
- B. 0.40
- C. 0.60
- D. 1.67

Steps

1. g stands on both sides, so cancel it: $V_{\text{sub}} = m \div \rho_{\text{water}} = 36 \div 1,000 = 0.036 \text{ m}^3$.
2. Fraction = $0.036 \div 0.060 = \mathbf{0.60}$, which is also $\rho_{\text{block}}/\rho_{\text{water}} = 600 \div 1,000$.
3. A fraction cannot exceed 1, so D dies; B is the fraction *above* the line, and A is 0.036 misplaced.

Answer: C — 0.60

Hard 1 — Stacked layers, then the atmosphere HARD · target 75s

What is the absolute pressure at the bottom of the vessel?

An open vessel holds 2.5 m of oil (density 800 kg/m^3) on 2.0 m of water (density $1,000 \text{ kg/m}^3$); $g = 10 \text{ m/s}^2$, atmospheric pressure 100 kPa . Gauge pressure is the sum of ρgh for every layer above the point, and $p_{\text{abs}} = p_{\text{atm}} + p_{\text{gauge}}$.

- A. 40 kPa
- B. 120 kPa
- C. 140 kPa
- D. 145 kPa

Steps

1. Circle 'absolute', then work down in kPa: oil $8 \text{ per metre} \times 2.5 = 20 \text{ kPa}$, water $10 \times 2.0 = 20 \text{ kPa}$, so 40 kPa gauge at the bottom.
2. Absolute = $100 + 40 = \mathbf{140 \text{ kPa}}$.
3. A is the gauge answer; D treats all 4.5 m as water; B forgets the oil.

Answer: C — 140 kPa

Hard 2 — Density from two readings, drifting zero HARD · target 80s

What is the density of the liquid?

A probe is lowered through an unknown liquid in an open tank; gauge pressure follows $p = \rho gh$ with $g = 10 \text{ m/s}^2$. It reads 14 kPa at one point and 35 kPa 3.0 m directly below. Its zero has drifted, so every reading carries the same unknown offset.

- A. 467 kg/m³
- B. 700 kg/m³
- C. 1,167 kg/m³
- D. 2,100 kg/m³

Steps

1. The offset ruins single readings but leaves differences intact: $\Delta p = 35 - 14 = 21 \text{ kPa}$ across $\Delta h = 3.0 \text{ m}$.
2. $\rho = \Delta p \div (g\Delta h) = 21,000 \div 30 = \mathbf{700 \text{ kg/m}^3}$ — lighter than water, plausible for an oil.
3. A and C treat one reading as a depth of 3.0 m, which the pack never states; D forgets Δh .

Answer: B — 700 kg/m³

Recognition drills

Speed comes from recognition, not faster multiplication. Run these aloud, against the seconds shown.

Name the formula

Say the formula, the unknown and the number. Water and $g = 10$ unless stated.

1. A tap 3 m below the water surface. (8s)
Answer: $p = \rho gh = 30 \text{ kPa}$
2. Panel 0.8 m wide, top 1.5 m, bottom 3.5 m down; force? (12s)
Answer: mid-depth 2.5 m $\rightarrow 25 \text{ kPa}$; $A = 1.6 \text{ m}^2$; $F = 40 \text{ kN}$
3. A block of mass 18 kg floats; water displaced? (8s)
Answer: $\rho V_{\text{sub}} = m$; 0.018 m^3
4. Pistons 0.01 m² and 0.30 m²; 80 N on the small one. (10s)
Answer: $\times 30 \rightarrow 2,400 \text{ N}$
5. 0.020 m³ submerged feels 170 N of buoyancy. (10s)
Answer: $\rho = F_B / (gV) = 850 \text{ kg/m}^3$
6. Same object, same displaced volume, taken deeper. (5s)
Answer: F_B unchanged — no h in the formula

Ready reckoner

One-figure answers, no writing. Water and $g = 10$ unless stated.

1. 3.8 m down in water (5s)
Answer: 38 kPa
2. 0.026 m³ displaced in water (5s)
Answer: 260 N

3. Weight of 22 kg (4s)
Answer: 220 N
4. 2 m down in oil of 850 kg/m^3 (6s)
Answer: 17 kPa
5. 27 kPa at 3 m — density? (7s)
Answer: 900 kg/m^3
6. 30 kPa on a 0.4 m^2 hatch (5s)
Answer: 12 kN
7. Gauge 47 kPa, atmosphere 100 kPa (4s)
Answer: 147 kPa absolute
8. Two taps in water differ by 18 kPa (5s)
Answer: 1.8 m apart vertically

Name the trap

A stem and one wrong option. Name the slip, then the right value.

1. 250 cm of water; option 2,500 kPa (8s)
Answer: cm read as m; 25 kPa
2. Steel, 0.004 m^3 , under water; option 320 N (10s)
Answer: Object density used; 40 N
3. 150 N on the small piston; option 3.75 N (10s)
Answer: Ratio inverted; 6,000 N
4. Floating block; option 1.67 submerged (8s)
Answer: Fraction inverted; 0.60
5. Absolute asked; option 40 kPa is ρgh alone (8s)
Answer: Gauge answer; add p_{atm} for 140 kPa
6. Panel top 1.5 m, bottom 3.5 m; option averages 20 kPa (10s)
Answer: Height used as depth; mid-depth 2.5 m $\rightarrow$ 25 kPa

Guided practice: one linked group

This is how the module serves hydrostatics: one pack, five questions, each leaning on the last. Work it against a watch, then tick the checklist.

An open research tank holds water of density $1,000 \text{ kg/m}^3$; $g = 10 \text{ m/s}^2$, atmospheric pressure 100 kPa. A sensor at depth h reports gauge pressure $p = \rho gh$. A block of volume 0.016 m^3 and mass 14 kg is held fully submerged beside it, 4 m down. Buoyancy is $F_B = \rho g V_{\text{displaced}}$ and weight is $W = mg$.

1. **Extract (20 s).** $\rho = 1,000$, $g = 10$, $p_{\text{atm}} = 100 \text{ kPa}$, $h = 4 \text{ m}$, $V = 0.016 \text{ m}^3$, $m = 14 \text{ kg}$.
2. **Gauge pressure at the sensor (25 s).** $4 \text{ m} \times 10 \text{ kPa per metre} = 40 \text{ kPa}$ — say the prefix, since 4 and 400 kPa are both offered.
3. **Absolute pressure there (20 s).** The word is in the stem: $100 + 40 = 140 \text{ kPa}$.
4. **Weight and buoyancy (40 s).** $W = 14 \times 10 = 140 \text{ N}$; $F_B = 10,000 \times 0.016 = 160 \text{ N}$. Both into the margin.

5. **Net force, then a move to 6 m (45 s).** 160 N up against 140 N down leaves 20 N upward, so the block rises. At 6 m the sensor reads 60 kPa, but F_B is still 160 N — the formula has no h in it.

- Numbers in the margin, with units, before the first stem.
- cm and litres converted before substituting.
- 'Gauge' or 'absolute' circled wherever the stem says either.
- Fluid density for buoyancy, object density for weight.
- Shared numbers computed once, then reused.

Progressive practice

Untimed, one tier at a time. After each item, name the variant and the slip behind each wrong option; move up only when you can do that for all six unaided.

Easy: one formula, numbers straight from the pack, options ten times apart. Units and zeros are the job.

Live drill online: Easy — direct substitution and definitions —

<https://dmatprepguide.com/?try=drill&cat;=gam&tier;=easy&n;=6&timed;=0>

Medium: two steps chained — weight then buoyancy, oil then water — or a ratio. Options sit closer, so the product must be exact.

Live drill online: Medium — linked groups, ratios and stacked layers —

<https://dmatprepguide.com/?try=drill&cat;=gam&tier;=medium&n;=6&timed;=0>

Hard: the unknown is a density or a depth, the readings may carry an offset, or the question is whether the block floats at all. Work from differences.

Live drill online: Hard — inference, thresholds and pressure matching —

<https://dmatprepguide.com/?try=drill&cat;=gam&tier;=hard&n;=6&timed;=0>

Speed training

Now the watch. Targets: **35 s** easy, **55 s** medium, **80 s** hard — under the module's 90-second average, because you want this family to *bank* time.

1. **Rung 1 — accuracy, no clock.** Six items with the method written out; repeat until six of six are right.
2. **Rung 2 — target pace.** The same tier against the targets above. For every item over target, name the step that ate the seconds — extraction, conversion, arithmetic, options — and drill it alone.
3. **Rung 3 — mixed and tight.** Tiers shuffled at 45 seconds flat.

Live drill online: Easy sprint — 35 s per item —

<https://dmatprepguide.com/?try=drill&cat;=gam&tier;=easy&n;=6&timed;=1>

Live drill online: Medium sprint — 55 s per item —

<https://dmatprepguide.com/?try=drill&cat;=gam&tier;=medium&n;=6&timed;=1>

Live drill online: Hard sprint — 80 s per item —

<https://dmatprepguide.com/?try=drill&cat;=gam&tier;=hard&n;=6&timed;=1>

When you stall At 90 seconds with no answer, stop computing. Pick the option whose order of magnitude matches the reckoner and move on.

Exam application

Hydrostatics arrives as one or two packs inside the 60-question paper, alongside research methods, vectors and inventory models — the most formulaic family there, and the one where a routine buys both marks and minutes.

1. **Read the pack once, pen moving (20 s).** Every number to the margin with its unit; underline the formula; note gauge or absolute and which densities you were given.
2. **Glance at all the stems (10 s).** Spot the chain, and take the conceptual item first — it is free.
3. **Answer in order, options first (25–70 s each).** Let their spacing set your precision, compute once, say the unit, mark. Naming one wrong option — 'that is the cm-as-m answer' — confirms your own choice.
4. **Last thirty seconds:** stop solving and sweep for blanks. With no negative marking, a reckoner-sized guess beats an empty box.

The passage is the authority Its formula, its densities, its g , its atmospheric pressure. If your memory says 9.81 and the pack says 10, the pack wins.

Live drill online: Exam simulation — medium, 60 s per item —

<https://dmatprepguide.com/?try=drill&cat=gam&tier=medium&n=6&timed=1>

Live drill online: Exam simulation — hard, 75 s per item —

<https://dmatprepguide.com/?try=drill&cat=gam&tier=hard&n=6&timed=1>

Cheat sheet

$p = \rho gh$ | $\Delta p = \rho g \Delta h$ (vertical separation only)

$F = pA$ | vertical panel: p at mid-depth $\times$ area

$F_B = \rho_{\text{fluid}} \cdot g \cdot V_{\text{displaced}}$ (fluid density, displaced volume)

Floating: $\rho_{\text{fluid}} \cdot V_{\text{sub}} = m$ | fraction = $\rho_{\text{object}} / \rho_{\text{fluid}}$

Net force = $F_B - W$ | $W_{\text{app}} = W - F_B$ | $W = mg$

Hydraulic: $F_{\text{out}} = F_{\text{in}} \cdot (A_{\text{out}} / A_{\text{in}})$ | layers: add ρgh downward

$p_{\text{abs}} = p_{\text{atm}} + p_{\text{gauge}}$ (differences equal in both)

Inverse: $h = p / (\rho g)$ | $\rho = p / (gh)$ | $\rho = \Delta p / (g \Delta h)$

Water, $g = 10$: 10 kPa/m | 10 N/kg | 10 N per litre | $\text{kPa} \times \text{m}^2 = \text{kN}$

Units: $\text{cm} \div 100$ | litres $\div 1,000$ | $\text{g/cm}^3 \times 1,000$

Everything else comes from the pack.

- Numbers first, with units, before the stem
- Options first — ten times apart means count zeros; 100 kPa apart means gauge versus absolute
- Fluid density for buoyancy; object density for weight
- 'By' is the difference, 'becomes' is the total, 'below' is not 'above'
- Unit and prefix said aloud, then marked — never blank

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