

grade 12 2014 physical science exemplar memorandum Updated Version

Grade 12 2014 Physical Science Exemplar Memorandum

Understanding the Grade 12 2014 Physical Science Exemplar Memorandum is essential for both learners and educators aiming to grasp the core concepts tested in that examination. This memorandum serves as a comprehensive guide that not only provides the correct answers but also explains the reasoning behind each solution, fostering a deeper understanding of physical science principles. In this article, we delve into the key topics covered, the structure of the memorandum, and effective strategies to utilize it for optimal learning.

Overview of the Grade 12 2014 Physical Science Exemplar Memorandum

The 2014 exemplar memorandum for physical science is designed to assist learners in reviewing their answers and understanding the evaluation criteria used by examiners. It covers various topics such as mechanics, electricity, atomic structure, and chemical reactions, reflecting the core content of the Grade 12 physical science curriculum.

This memorandum is structured to mirror the exam paper, with section-specific solutions that include detailed explanations, calculations, and diagrams where necessary. Such a structure helps learners to connect theoretical concepts with practical applications, enhancing their problem-solving skills.

Major Topics Covered in the Memorandum

The memorandum addresses several fundamental areas in physical science. Here are the key topics and what learners can expect to find within each:

1. Mechanics

- Newton's Laws of Motion
- Forces and Equilibrium
- Projectile Motion
- Work, Power, and Energy
- Momentum and Collisions

2. Electricity and Magnetism

- Ohm's Law
- Series and Parallel Circuits
- Electromagnetism
- Electrostatics

3. Atomic Structure and Periodic Table

- Models of the Atom
- Electron Configuration
- Periodic Trends
- Radioactivity

4. Chemical Reactions and Solutions

- Chemical Bonding
- Balancing Equations
- Acids, Bases, and pH
- Reactions in Solutions

Understanding the Structure of the Memorandum

The exemplar memorandum is organized to facilitate easy navigation and effective revision. Each question from the exam paper is addressed in sequence, with solutions elaborated step-by-step.

1. Question Breakdown

- Restates the question to clarify what is being asked.
- Provides the relevant theory or formulae needed to solve the problem.
- Outlines the calculations or reasoning process step-by-step.
- Includes final answers with units and, where applicable, diagrams or sketches.

2. Marking Guidelines

- The memorandum indicates the marks allocated to each part of the question.

- It highlights key points that examiners look for, guiding learners on how to structure their answers.
- Emphasizes common errors to avoid.

How to Use the Memorandum Effectively

Using the exemplar memorandum efficiently can significantly enhance learners' understanding and performance. Here are strategies to maximize its benefits:

1. Active Learning

- Attempt the questions independently before consulting the memorandum.
- Compare your answers with the solutions provided.
- Identify any gaps or mistakes and understand the correct approach.

2. Focus on Explanations

- Pay close attention to the explanations accompanying each solution.
- Understand the reasoning behind each step, not just the final answer.
- Use the explanations to clarify concepts that are challenging.

3. Practice with Variations

- Attempt similar questions or modify the problems to test your understanding.
- Use past papers and the exemplar memorandum to simulate exam conditions.

4. Clarify Difficult Concepts

- Identify topics where the solutions involve complex calculations or reasoning.
- Seek additional resources or tutoring if necessary.
- Revisit foundational theories to strengthen understanding.

Sample Analysis of a Typical Question

To illustrate how the memorandum functions, let's consider a typical question related to mechanics:

Question: Calculate the magnitude of the force needed to keep a 10 kg mass in

equilibrium when placed on an inclined plane at an angle of 30° .

Solution Breakdown:

- Step 1: Identify the forces acting on the mass.
- Gravitational force: $(F_g = mg = 10 \times 9.8 = 98, \text{N})$
- Components of gravity:
 - Parallel to incline: $(F_{\text{parallel}} = F_g \sin \theta = 98 \times \sin 30^\circ = 98 \times 0.5 = 49, \text{N})$
 - Perpendicular to incline: $(F_{\text{perpendicular}} = F_g \cos \theta = 98 \times \cos 30^\circ \approx 98 \times 0.866 = 84.87, \text{N})$
- Step 2: Determine the force required to maintain equilibrium.
- The force applied parallel to the incline must counteract (F_{parallel}) .
- Answer: The force needed is approximately 49 N directed up the incline.

This detailed step-by-step solution demonstrates how the memorandum guides learners through physics problem-solving, emphasizing the importance of understanding forces, components, and equilibrium.

Benefits of Consulting the Memorandum

Utilizing the exemplar memorandum offers numerous advantages:

- **Enhanced Understanding:** Clarifies complex concepts and problem-solving techniques.
- **Assessment Preparation:** Familiarizes students with exam formats and marking criteria.
- **Confidence Building:** Reduces exam anxiety through practiced solutions.
- **Identifying Weak Areas:** Highlights topics that require further revision.

Conclusion

The Grade 12 2014 Physical Science Exemplar Memorandum is an invaluable resource for learners seeking to excel in their physical science examinations. By providing detailed solutions, explanations, and marking guidelines, it bridges the gap between understanding and application. To make the most of this resource, students should approach it actively, analyze solutions critically, and integrate the insights gained into their study routines. Mastery of the concepts and problem-solving skills reflected in the memorandum will undoubtedly contribute to academic success and a solid foundation in physical science.

Grade 12 2014 Physical Science Exemplar Memorandum: An In-Depth Analysis

The Grade 12 2014 Physical Science exemplar memorandum serves as a crucial guide for both educators and students navigating the complexities of the curriculum. It offers detailed solutions, explanations, and marking guidelines for the physical science examinations, ensuring consistency and fairness in assessment. As the final year of high school, Grade 12 Physical Science plays a pivotal role in shaping students' understanding of fundamental concepts spanning physics and chemistry. This article explores the significance of the exemplar memorandum, its structure, key topics covered, and how it aids in effective teaching and learning.

The Significance of the Exemplar Memorandum in Physical Science Education

The exemplar memorandum acts as an essential resource within the South African education system, particularly for the Physical Science subject. It functions as a blueprint for examiners and teachers, providing:

- Standardized Marking Guidelines: Ensuring uniform assessment across different examination centers.
- Model Answers: Offering detailed solutions that clarify expectations for students.
- Diagnostic Tool: Helping educators identify common misconceptions and gaps in understanding.
- Resource for Revision: Assisting students in self-study by understanding how to approach questions.

In the context of Grade 12, where students prepare for university or tertiary institutions, mastery of these exemplars enhances their confidence and competence in tackling complex scientific problems.

Structure and Content of the 2014 Exemplar Memorandum

The 2014 exemplar memorandum covers a wide array of topics aligned with the curriculum, which is divided into physics and chemistry sections. Each section includes multiple-choice questions, calculations, theoretical explanations, and practical applications.

Key features include:

- Clear Step-by-Step Solutions: Breaking down complex problems into manageable steps.
- Annotated Diagrams: Visual aids that clarify concepts like atomic structures, circuit diagrams, and molecular shapes.

- Detailed Explanations: Clarifying scientific principles underpinning each solution.
- Marking Allocation: Indicating how marks are distributed, emphasizing the importance of each component in a question.

This structure not only guides students on how to approach questions but also highlights the depth of understanding expected at this level.

Deep Dive into Core Topics Covered in the 2014 Memorandum

Physics: Mechanics, Electricity, and Waves

- Mechanics

The memorandum addresses problems involving motion, forces, energy, and momentum. Typical questions include calculating acceleration, analyzing free fall, and understanding Newton's laws.

- Example: Calculating the velocity of an object after a specific time considering initial velocity and acceleration.
- Key Concepts: Kinematic equations, force diagrams, and conservation of energy.

- Electricity

Questions often relate to Ohm's Law, circuit analysis, and electrical power calculations.

- Example: Determining resistance, current, or voltage in a circuit with resistors connected in series or parallel.
- Key Concepts: Series and parallel circuits, power ratings, and the relationship between voltage, current, and resistance.

- Waves and Sound

Understanding wave properties such as frequency, wavelength, and speed is crucial. The memorandum includes questions on wave interference, reflection, and the Doppler effect.

- Example: Calculating the speed of a wave based on its frequency and wavelength.

Chemistry: Atoms, Molecules, and Chemical Reactions

- Atomic Structure and Periodicity

Questions focus on electron configurations, isotopes, and periodic trends such as atomic radius and ionization energy.

- Example: Explaining how the atomic number influences chemical behavior.

- Chemical Bonding and Molecular Geometry

The memorandum covers ionic, covalent, and metallic bonds, including the VSEPR model for predicting molecular shapes.

- Example: Determining the shape of a molecule based on Lewis structures.

- Chemical Reactions and Stoichiometry

Problems involve balancing equations, mole calculations, and reaction energetics.

- Example: Calculating the amount of reactant needed to produce a certain amount of product.

- Acids, Bases, and pH

Questions assess understanding of pH calculations, titrations, and acid-base theories.

How the Memorandum Facilitates Effective Teaching and Learning

The exemplar memorandum serves as a pedagogical tool by:

- Providing Clear Explanations: Making complex concepts accessible.

- Highlighting Common Pitfalls: Alerting teachers and students to areas where mistakes frequently occur.

- Encouraging Critical Thinking: Promoting deeper understanding through detailed solutions.
- Supporting Assessment Preparation: Allowing students to practice with authentic exam-style questions.

Teachers utilize the memorandum to develop lesson plans, design supplementary exercises, and conduct formative assessments. Students benefit from understanding the rationale behind solutions, enabling them to develop problem-solving skills that transcend rote memorization.

Practical Tips for Students Using the 2014 Memorandum

- Practice Extensively: Use the exemplar solutions to simulate exam conditions.
- Understand the Process: Focus on how each solution is derived rather than just memorizing answers.
- Identify Weak Areas: Review questions you find challenging and revisit related topics.
- Use Diagrams Effectively: Practice drawing accurate diagrams as they often carry significant marks.
- Apply Concepts Broadly: Use the solutions as a foundation to approach unfamiliar questions creatively.

The Broader Impact of the 2014 Physical Science Exemplar Memorandum

The publication and dissemination of exemplar memoranda like that of 2014 contribute significantly to maintaining high standards in science education. They foster consistency across examination centers and uphold the integrity of the assessment process.

Moreover, they promote transparency and trust in the evaluation system, reassuring students, educators, and stakeholders that assessments are fair and aligned with curriculum expectations. Beyond assessments, these memoranda act as references for scientific literacy, encouraging a culture of inquiry and critical thinking vital for future scientists and informed citizens.

Conclusion

The Grade 12 2014 Physical Science exemplar memorandum remains a valuable resource for understanding the depth and breadth of scientific knowledge expected at the end of high school. Its detailed solutions and marking guidelines serve as a cornerstone for effective teaching, targeted revision, and competent assessment. As students and educators continue to navigate the challenges of physical science, such exemplars will remain essential tools in fostering excellence and fostering a deep appreciation for the sciences.

By engaging thoroughly with these memoranda, learners can build confidence, develop critical

thinking skills, and lay a solid foundation for further scientific pursuits. The 2014 exemplar memorandum exemplifies the commitment to quality education and the pursuit of scientific literacy in South Africa's schools.

QuestionAnswer What are the key topics covered in the Grade 12 2014 Physical Science exemplar memorandum? The key topics include mechanics, electricity and magnetism, waves, and atomic structure, providing comprehensive guidance on the concepts assessed in the exam. How does the 2014 exemplar memorandum assist students in preparing for their physical science exams? It offers detailed solutions and marking guidelines, helping students understand the correct approach to questions and improving their problem-solving skills. Are the concepts in the 2014 physical science exemplar relevant for current Grade 12 exams? Yes, the fundamental principles and concepts remain relevant, and reviewing the 2014 memorandum can help students grasp core topics that are still part of the curriculum. Where can I find the official Grade 12 2014 physical science exemplar memorandum? The official memorandum is available on the Department of Basic Education's website or through your school's learning resources and educational portals. What is the importance of studying the memorandum alongside the exemplar question papers? Studying the memorandum helps students understand how to structure their answers, interpret marking schemes, and improve their examination techniques for better performance.

Related keywords: grade 12 physical science, 2014 exam memorandum, physical science exemplar, grade 12 memoranda, physical science solutions, grade 12 past papers, physical science grade 12, 2014 physical science exam, physical science marking guide, grade 12 physical science answers

isaac asimov great science writers

Isaac Asimov Great Science Writers: A Legacy of Scientific Literacy and Imagination

Isaac Asimov is widely recognized as one of the most influential and prolific science writers of the 20th century. His contributions to popular science, science fiction, and education have left an indelible mark on both the scientific community and the general public. As a towering figure among great science writers, Asimov's ability to communicate complex scientific ideas with clarity, enthusiasm, and wit has inspired countless readers and shaped public understanding of science. This article explores the life, works, and enduring legacy of Isaac Asimov as a great science writer, highlighting his influence on science communication and his contributions to science literature.

Early Life and Background

Born on January 2, 1920, in Petrovichi, Russia, Isaac Asimov emigrated with his family to the United States at a young age. Settling in Brooklyn, New York, Asimov developed an early fascination with reading and learning. His passion for science and literature grew rapidly, leading him to pursue biochemistry at Columbia University, where he earned his Ph.D. in 1948. This scientific background provided the foundation for his later writings, allowing him to interpret and communicate scientific principles with authority and insight.

Isaac Asimov as a Great Science Writer

Bridging Science and the Public

One of Asimov's greatest strengths was his ability to bridge the gap between complex scientific research and everyday understanding. He believed that science should be accessible and enjoyable, and he dedicated much of his career to making science comprehensible to the general public. His writing style combined clarity with enthusiasm, often infusing humor and storytelling to captivate readers.

Prolific Output and Range of Topics

Isaac Asimov authored over 500 books and numerous essays, covering a vast array of subjects beyond science, including history, religion, literature, and philosophy. His extensive bibliography demonstrates his versatility and commitment to education. Among his most notable works are science books such as *The Intelligent Man's Guide to Science*, *Asimov's New Guide to Science*, and *Understanding Physics*.

Key Qualities of Asimov's Science Writing

- **Clarity:** Simplifying complex ideas without losing essential details.
- **Engagement:** Using storytelling, anecdotes, and humor to draw readers in.
- **Accuracy:** Maintaining scientific integrity and rigor in explanations.
- **Inspiration:** Encouraging curiosity and critical thinking about science.

Major Works and Contributions

Popular Science Books

Isaac Asimov's popular science books are considered classics in science communication. Some of his most influential titles include:

- **The Intelligent Man's Guide to Science (1960):** An extensive overview of scientific principles and discoveries, designed for the layperson.
- **Asimov's New Guide to Science (1984):** An updated, comprehensive survey of scientific knowledge spanning physics, chemistry, biology, and astronomy.
- **Understanding Physics (1966):** An accessible introduction to the fundamental principles of physics, written in a clear and engaging style.
- **Understanding Chemistry (1977):** Simplifies complex chemical concepts for general readers.

Science Fiction and Its Role in Science Communication

While best known for his science fiction, Asimov's stories often reflected his scientific knowledge and curiosity. His Foundation series and Robot series not only entertained but also explored themes like robotics, artificial intelligence, and societal evolution?topics that continue to be relevant today. His fiction served as a vehicle to stimulate interest in science and technology among readers worldwide.

Educational and Reference Works

In addition to books for general audiences, Asimov authored textbooks and reference materials used in academic settings. His clear explanations and systematic approach have made his works valuable educational resources.

Impact and Legacy

Influence on Science Communication

Isaac Asimov revolutionized the way science is communicated. His ability to translate scientific jargon into engaging narratives inspired future generations of science writers, educators, and communicators. His works helped foster scientific literacy and skepticism, encouraging society to value evidence-based reasoning.

Inspiration for Future Writers

Many contemporary science writers cite Asimov as a primary influence. His success demonstrated that scientific topics could be made accessible and fascinating, paving the way for authors like Carl Sagan, Stephen Jay Gould, and Bill Bryson.

Recognition and Honors

Throughout his life, Asimov received numerous awards, including the Hugo, Nebula, and Bram Stoker Awards, as well as the Presidential Award for Science Writing. His prolific output and

dedication to education have cemented his reputation as a great science writer.

Why Isaac Asimov Remains a Model for Science Writers Today

- **Passion for Science:** His genuine curiosity and enthusiasm are contagious.
- **Clarity of Explanation:** His ability to break down complex ideas remains a benchmark.
- **Versatility:** His writings span many disciplines, demonstrating the interconnectedness of knowledge.
- **Humor and Storytelling:** Making learning enjoyable and memorable.

Conclusion

Isaac Asimov's legacy as a great science writer endures because of his exceptional talent for communicating science in a way that is accessible, engaging, and inspiring. His works continue to educate and entertain, fostering curiosity and understanding about the universe we live in. As we look to the future of science communication, Asimov's example serves as a reminder that effective storytelling, clarity, and passion are essential tools for making science accessible to all. His contributions have not only shaped scientific literacy but also ignited the imaginations of countless readers, ensuring his place among the greatest science writers of all time.

Isaac Asimov: Great Science Writers and the Legacy of a Scientific Luminary

When contemplating the pantheon of science writers who have profoundly influenced both scientific literacy and popular understanding of complex concepts, Isaac Asimov stands out as a towering figure. His prolific output, clarity of explanation, and ability to intertwine scientific rigor with engaging storytelling cement his place among the greatest science writers of all time. Asimov's work not only demystified the intricacies of science but also inspired countless individuals to pursue scientific inquiry, making him an enduring figure in both literature and science communication.

Early Life and Intellectual Foundations

Understanding Asimov's contributions begins with an appreciation of his background. Born in 1920 in Russia and emigrating to the United States as a child, Asimov grew up in Brooklyn, New York. His early fascination with science and reading, fostered by a childhood immersed in science fiction magazines and books, laid the groundwork for his later pursuits. Self-educated through voracious reading, he developed a broad knowledge base that would underpin his extensive writing career.

His academic pursuits culminated in a Ph.D. in biochemistry from Columbia University. This scientific training provided him with a solid foundation in the scientific method, critical thinking, and the ability to communicate complex ideas with precision and clarity—traits that defined his writing.

style.

Asimov's Approach to Science Communication

Clarity and Accessibility

One of Asimov's defining characteristics as a science writer was his unparalleled ability to explain complex scientific concepts in simple, accessible language. Unlike technical journals or dense textbooks, his writings aimed to reach the general reader without sacrificing accuracy. This approach made science appealing and comprehensible, fostering curiosity among a broad audience.

He believed that science literacy was crucial for an informed society and dedicated much of his career to this cause. His explanations often employed analogies, step-by-step logical progression, and engaging narratives that bridged the gap between specialists and laypeople.

Scientific Accuracy and Rigor

While striving for accessibility, Asimov maintained rigorous scientific accuracy. His background in biochemistry and extensive research ensured that his writings reflected the current state of scientific knowledge. He was meticulous in citing sources and grounding his explanations in established science, which earned him respect from both scientists and readers.

Engagement Through Storytelling

Asimov's talent extended beyond mere explanation; he was a master storyteller. His use of anecdotes, historical context, and hypothetical scenarios made his science writing lively and memorable. This narrative style not only clarified concepts but also kept readers engaged, turning abstract ideas into compelling stories.

Major Works and Contributions

Popular Science Books

Asimov authored numerous books aimed at general audiences, making science approachable and enjoyable. Some of his most notable titles include:

- "The Intelligent Man's Guide to Science" (1960): A comprehensive overview of scientific principles, history, and developments, serving as a foundational text for general science enthusiasts.
- "Asimov's New Guide to Science" (1984): An updated and expanded version that covers

advancements in physics, biology, astronomy, and more.

- "The Universe: From Flat Earth to Quasar" (1966): An accessible exploration of astronomy and cosmology, illustrating the evolution of our understanding of the universe.

These works exemplify his ability to synthesize vast amounts of scientific knowledge into coherent narratives that educate and inspire.

Science Fiction and Its Influence

While primarily celebrated as a science communicator, Asimov's science fiction writing also contributed heavily to his status as a great science writer. His stories, especially the "Foundation" series and "Robot" series, explored themes of robotics, artificial intelligence, and societal evolution. These narratives not only entertained but also prompted philosophical and scientific debates about the future of technology.

His fiction often incorporated scientific principles, making complex ideas about robotics, ethics, and space exploration accessible and thought-provoking. This blending of storytelling with scientific speculation enhanced public interest in science and technology.

Histories and Essays

Asimov's essays and historical writings further showcase his depth as a science communicator. His series of essays covered topics like the history of science, mathematics, and medicine, highlighting the human stories behind scientific discoveries. His historical analyses, such as "The Human Brain," provided insights into how scientific understanding has evolved over centuries.

Impact and Legacy in Science Communication

Influence on Public Understanding of Science

Asimov's writings significantly contributed to the democratization of scientific knowledge. His ability to translate complex ideas into engaging narratives helped demystify science for millions. Many readers credit him with sparking their interest in science, leading some to pursue careers in the field.

His books have remained in print for decades, testament to their enduring relevance and popularity. Educational institutions often cite his works as supplementary materials for teaching science concepts.

Mentorship and Inspiration

Beyond his writings, Asimov served as a mentor and role model for aspiring science writers. His

prolific output demonstrated that scientific communication could be both intellectually rigorous and widely accessible. He set a standard for clarity, enthusiasm, and integrity in science writing.

Recognition and Honors

Throughout his career, Asimov received numerous awards, including the Hugo, Nebula, and Bram Stoker Awards for his fiction, as well as accolades recognizing his contributions to science education and literature. His influence extends beyond the literary realm into science policy and education.

Critical Evaluation of Asimov's Style and Methodology

Strengths

- Clarity and Simplicity: His straightforward language made science understandable.
- Breadth of Knowledge: His multidisciplinary background allowed him to cover diverse scientific fields.
- Engagement: His storytelling kept readers invested in scientific concepts.
- Humility and Honesty: He acknowledged the limits of current knowledge and avoided sensationalism.

Limitations and Criticisms

- Some critics argue that Asimov's explanations, while clear, occasionally oversimplified nuanced scientific debates.
- His focus on established science sometimes limited his exploration of speculative or controversial ideas.
- Asimov's style, while accessible, was sometimes viewed as dry or lacking in emotional depth compared to other writers.

Despite these criticisms, his overall contribution remains monumental, and his impact on science communication is undeniable.

Conclusion: The Enduring Legacy of Isaac Asimov as a Great Science Writer

Isaac Asimov's towering legacy as a great science writer stems from his unparalleled ability to communicate scientific ideas with clarity, enthusiasm, and integrity. His writings have educated generations, inspired scientific curiosity, and bridged the gap between the scientific community and the public. Asimov demonstrated that science is not solely the domain of specialists but a vital part

of human culture and understanding.

In an era where misinformation can spread rapidly, Asimov's model of clear, honest, and engaging science communication remains a guiding light. His work not only enriched our knowledge of the universe but also exemplified the importance of science literacy in building a better, more informed society. As science continues to advance at an unprecedented pace, the influence of Isaac Asimov as a pioneer of science writing endures, inspiring new generations to explore, question, and understand the world through the lens of science.

QuestionAnswer Who was Isaac Asimov and why is he considered a great science writer? Isaac Asimov was a prolific American science fiction writer and biochemist known for his clear, engaging writing style and influential works that popularized science concepts. His ability to explain complex ideas to the general public has cemented his reputation as a great science communicator. What are some of Isaac Asimov's most famous science books? Some of Isaac Asimov's most famous science books include 'The Intelligent Man's Guide to Science,' 'Asimov's New Guide to Science,' and his numerous essays and popular science articles that cover a wide range of scientific topics. How did Isaac Asimov influence science education and popular science writing? Isaac Asimov revolutionized science education by making complex scientific ideas accessible and engaging to a broad audience through his clear explanations, humor, and storytelling, inspiring countless readers and aspiring scientists. What distinguishes Isaac Asimov's science writing from other science writers? Asimov's writing is distinguished by its clarity, logical structure, and ability to simplify complex topics without sacrificing accuracy, making science approachable and enjoyable for readers of all backgrounds. In what ways did Isaac Asimov contribute to science fiction and science fact? While renowned for his science fiction, Asimov also contributed significantly to science fact through his essays, books, and articles that explained real scientific principles, bridging the gap between science fiction imagination and scientific reality. What awards and recognitions did Isaac Asimov receive for his science writing? Isaac Asimov received numerous awards including the Hugo, Nebula, and Bram Stoker Awards, as well as the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science and Engineering Communication, recognizing his outstanding contributions to science literature. Why is Isaac Asimov still relevant in the field of science writing today? Asimov's ability to communicate science clearly and engagingly remains influential, inspiring modern science writers and educators, and his works continue to serve as foundational texts for science enthusiasts and students worldwide.

Related keywords: Isaac Asimov, science fiction, science writer, futurism, robotics, astrophysics, popular science, science literature, science essays, visionary authors

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