

**Falling and Air Resistance**

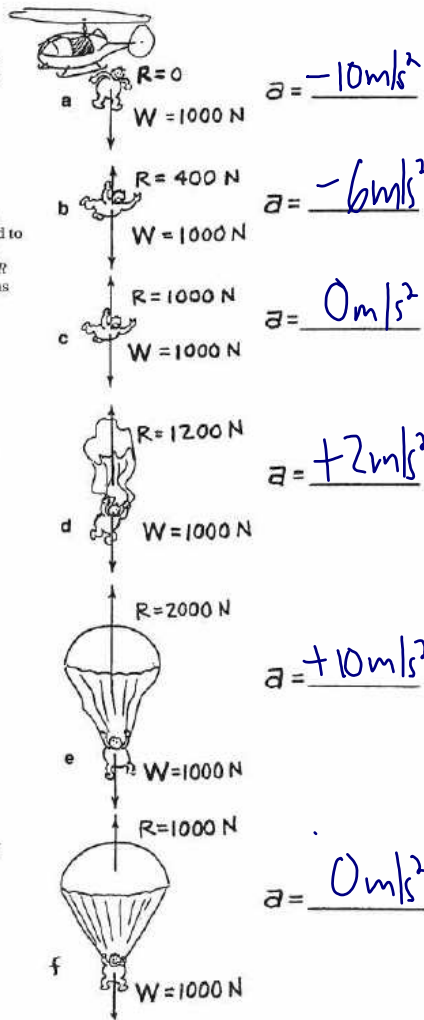
Bronco skydives and parachutes from a stationary helicopter. Various stages of fall are shown in positions a through f. Using Newton's 2nd law,

$$a = \frac{F_{NET}}{m} = \frac{W - R}{m}$$

find Bronco's acceleration at each position (answer in the blanks to the right). You need to know that Bronco's mass  $m$  is 100 kg so his weight is a constant 1000 N. Air resistance  $R$  varies with speed and cross-sectional area as shown.

Circle the correct answers.

- When Bronco's speed is least, his acceleration is (least) (most).
- In which position(s) does Bronco experience a downward acceleration? (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f)
- In which position(s) does Bronco experience an upward acceleration? (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f)
- When Bronco experiences an upward acceleration, his velocity is (still downward) (upward also).
- In which position(s) is Bronco's velocity constant? (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f)
- In which position(s) does Bronco experience terminal velocity? (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f)
- In which position(s) is terminal velocity greatest? (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f)
- If Bronco were heavier, his terminal velocity would be (greater) (less) (the same).



$$\frac{-1000 \text{ N} + 0}{100 \text{ kg}} = -10 \text{ m/s}^2$$

$$\frac{-1000 \text{ N} + 400}{100 \text{ kg}} = -6 \text{ m/s}^2$$

$$\frac{-1000 \text{ N} + 1000 \text{ N}}{100 \text{ kg}} = 0 \text{ m/s}^2$$

$$\frac{-1000 \text{ N} + 1200}{100 \text{ kg}} = +2 \text{ m/s}^2$$

$$\frac{-1000 \text{ N} + 2000 \text{ N}}{100 \text{ kg}} = +10 \text{ m/s}^2$$

$$\frac{-1000 \text{ N} + 1000 \text{ N}}{100 \text{ kg}} = 0 \text{ m/s}^2$$