

Quiz Solutions

1. (a) First find γ : $\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(2/3)^2}} = 1.342$ -- Now let $T = T_{\text{Francis}}$ and $T_o = T_{\text{Maria}}$

So $T = \gamma T_o$ and we want $T - T_o = (\gamma-1)T_o = 1$ s and we are looking to find T (not T_o !!!)

This gives us $T_o = 2.93$ s so $T = \gamma T_o = 3.93$ s

(b) You should all have gotten this - Maria sees Francis moving (relative to herself at rest) and therefore she sees his clocks running slow.

(c) Francis will see Maria to be 1.8 m tall because lengths perpendicular to relative motion are not affected by relativity. The spacecraft will appear contracted by the factor γ , so that its length will be $50/1.342 = 37.3$ m long.

2. (a) $E = 200 E_o$, so $\gamma = 200$. Then $K = (\gamma - 1)E_o = 199 (0.511 \text{ MeV}) = 101.7 \text{ MeV}$;
Also, since $\gamma = 200$, we find $\beta = 0.9999875$, so $v = 0.9999875 c$. Finally, $p = \gamma m v = 200 (0.511 \text{ MeV}/c^2)(0.9999875 c) = 102.2 \text{ MeV}/c$. [Note: this can also be found from $E^2 = E_o^2 + p^2 c^2$, so that $p^2 c^2 = (E^2 - E_o^2) = (200E_o)^2 - E_o^2 = 39999 (0.511 \text{ MeV})^2 = 10444 \text{ MeV}^2$, giving $pc =$ same value]

(b) New v must be $0.99999375 c$, so that the new $\gamma = 282.8$. Therefore the final $E = 282.8 E_o$ and the additional energy is $82.8 E_o = 42.3 \text{ MeV}$.