Movement and speed

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

INTERMEDIATE | B1-B2

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1 Match each movement term with its meaning.

1 accelerate	____	a leave a place
2 decelerate	____	b turn around a central point or axis
3 overtake	____	c move closer to something
4 approach	____	d pass a slower person or vehicle
5 depart	____	e increase speed
6 rotate	____	f distance travelled divided by time taken
7 steady speed	____	g reduce speed
8 average speed	____	h speed that remains unchanged

2 Complete the movement collocations.

constant | **gain** | **gradually** | **maintain** | **motion** | **rapidly** | **reduce** | **top**

1 _____ speed

2 a _____ velocity

3 in _____

4 accelerate _____

5 _____ momentum

6 reach _____ speed

7 decelerate _____

8 _____ your pace

3 Correct one mistake in each sentence.

1 The car accelerated its speed rapidly. _____

2 The train departed from at noon. _____

3 The wheel rotates around of its axis. _____

4 She overtook past the slower cyclist. _____

5 Average speed is time divided by distance. _____

6 He approached to the finish line. _____

7 The vehicle moved at a steadily speed. _____

8 Decelerate means to increase speed. _____

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4 Complete the journey report with words from the box.

accelerated | **approached** | **average** | **constant** | **decelerated** | **departed** | **overtook** | **rotated**

The train **1** _____ at 9.00 and soon **2** _____ to 100 km/h. It then maintained a **3** _____ speed. Its wheels **4** _____ continuously. On a parallel track, it **5** _____ a slower service. The train's **6** _____ speed was 82 km/h. As it **7** _____ the station, it **8** _____ smoothly.

5 Read the text and answer the questions briefly.

Speed and velocity

Speed describes how fast an object moves, while velocity includes both speed and direction. A car travelling around a circular track at constant speed is still changing velocity because its direction changes continuously. Acceleration means any change in velocity, so turning, speeding up and slowing down are all forms of acceleration.

1 What does speed describe? _____

2 What does velocity include? _____

3 Why does velocity change on a circular track? _____

4 What does acceleration mean? _____

5 Is turning a form of acceleration? _____

6 Which other two changes are mentioned? _____

6 Rewrite using the word in capitals.

1 The vehicle increased its speed. **ACCELERATED** _____

2 The runner passed her opponent. **OVERTOOK** _____

3 The train moved more slowly near the station. **DECELERATED** _

4 The fan turned around its axis. **ROTATED** _____

OVER TO YOU

Write a **100-120 word** report describing changes in the speed and direction of a journey or race.

[ ] Use at least ten target expressions. [ ] Distinguish speed from velocity. [ ] Describe acceleration accurately.

Movement and speed

ANSWER KEY

1 Movement terms

1 **e** 2 **g** 3 **d** 4 **c** 5 **a** 6 **b** 7 **h** 8 **f**

2 Movement collocations

1 **maintain** 2 **constant** 3 **motion** 4 **rapidly** 5 **gain** 6 **top** 7 **gradually** 8 **reduce**

3 Corrections

1 car **accelerated** rapidly 2 departed at noon 3 rotates **around** its axis 4 **overtook** the cyclist
5 distance divided by time 6 **approached** the finish 7 a **steady** speed 8 means to **reduce** speed

4 Journey report

1 **departed** 2 **accelerated** 3 **constant** 4 **rotated** 5 **overtook** 6 **average** 7 **approached** 8 **decelerated**

5 Reading - suggested answers

1 How fast an object moves. 2 Speed and direction. 3 Its direction changes. 4 Any change in velocity.
5 Yes. 6 Speeding up and slowing down.

6 Rewriting - possible answers

1 The vehicle **accelerated**. 2 The runner **overtook** her opponent. 3 The train **decelerated**. 4 The fan **rotated**.

Over to you: Answers will vary. Check motion vocabulary, direction and rate of change.