

10 (a) Define specific acoustic impedance.

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(b) Explain how ultrasound waves are detected by a piezoelectric crystal.

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(c) Table 10.1 shows the specific acoustic impedance Z for body tissue, water and steel.

Table 10.1

material	$Z/\text{kg m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$
body tissue	1.38×10^6
water	1.48×10^6
steel	4.04×10^7

(i) Calculate the intensity reflection coefficient for ultrasound incident on a water–steel boundary.

intensity reflection coefficient = [2]

(ii) Explain, without calculation, what is likely to happen when ultrasound is incident on a body tissue–water boundary.

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