

BATMAN BEGINS

1. Read the article and come up with a relevant title.

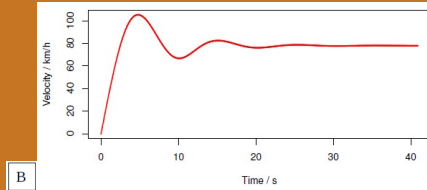
A2_9 Trajectory of a falling Batman

2. Put the missing figures back where they belong in the article.



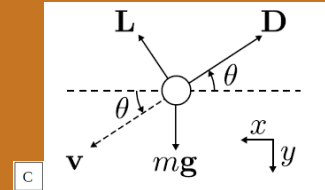
A

Figure 2



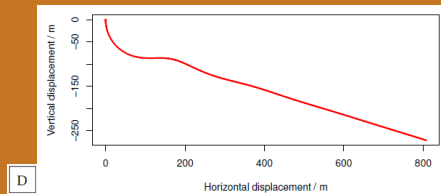
B

Figure 5



C

Figure 1



D

Figure 4



E

Figure 3

3. Right or Wrong?

- A batcape is safer than a parachute. **Wrong**
- Batman's cape is as tall as he is. **Wrong**
- Batman could glide for 350 metres from a 150-metre high jump site. **Right**
- Batman glides too slowly so he can easily be killed. **Wrong**
- The wingspan of Batman's cape is too short to be able to fly well. **Right**
- The danger for Batman comes from hitting a car. **Wrong**

4. Find in the text, and in that particular order, the words corresponding to the following definitions.

- Fly without power: **to glide**
- Upward force exerted by the air on an aerofoil or other structure, counteracting gravity: **lift**
- The longitudinal retarding force exerted by air or other fluid surrounding a moving object: **drag**
- The extent or measurement of a surface: **area**
- A graph showing the relation between two variables: **plot**

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5. Write, in a couple of sentences, the perfect abstract for the article.

Abstract

The film *Batman Begins* shows the character of Batman gliding using a rigid form of his cape. This paper assesses the feasibility of such a glide and finds that while a reasonable distance could be travelled if gliding from a tall building, the speed at which Batman would be travelling would be too dangerous to stop without some method of slowing down.

8. Grammar exercise.

Let's pay attention to the expression of movement in English.

Ex.: "A current is passed through it." (> traverser)

"Batman can glide to a distance of about 350m." (> parcourir en vol plané)

Traduction du mouvement

La tendance de l'anglais à concrétiser et à clarifier ce que le français décrit de façon plus abstraite a pour conséquence un très large choix de verbes exprimant une façon de se déplacer. L'anglais dispose par ailleurs de particules adverbiales qui permettent de renforcer ou de préciser le mouvement décrit par le verbe. Il est donc essentiel en thème de :

– choisir le **verbe exact** qui convient ;

Il remua l'index en ma direction. *He wiggled his finger at me.*

– penser à **ajouter un verbe de mouvement / position** dans certaines phrases ;

Elle attendait à l'arrêt de bus. *She stood waiting at the bus stop.*

Il descendit la route en courant. *He came running down the road.*

Les femmes tricotaient au salon. *The women sat knitting in the sitting room.*

– penser à utiliser des **particules adverbiales**, qui sont essentielles en anglais pour décrire un mouvement.

Lorsqu'on traduit, il est alors nécessaire, dans la plupart des cas, d'effectuer un chassé-croisé c'est-à-dire une double transposition.

Il sortit du pub en titubant.

He staggered out of the pub.

She shuffled along, leaning on her walking stick.

Elle avançait d'un pas traînant, appuyée sur sa canne.

Adapté depuis In So Many Words de Françoise Grellet

Translate the following sentences paying particular attention to the choice of the verb.

1. Il but d'un trait le café brûlant. *He gulped down the scalding coffee.*
2. Elle jaillit de derrière l'armoire pour me faire peur. *She jumped out from behind the wardrobe to frighten me.*
3. Les danseurs tourbillonnaient (= to whirl). *The dancers were whirling round.*
4. Il se baissa et attrapa le journal. *He bent down and picked up the newspaper.*