Work and Kinetic Energy: Exercise 1


Under the action of force $\boldsymbol{P}$, the cart moves from initial position $x_{1}=-6$ in to the final position $x_{2}=3$ in.

Determine the work done on the cart by (a) the spring and (b) the weight.
(a)

$$
\begin{aligned}
v_{1-2} & =\frac{1}{2} k\left(x_{1}^{2}-x_{2}^{2}\right) \\
& =\frac{1}{2}(3)(12)\left[\left(\frac{6}{12}\right)^{2}-\left(\frac{3}{12}\right)^{2}\right]=3.38 \mathrm{ft}-16
\end{aligned}
$$

(b)

$$
\begin{aligned}
V_{1-2} & =-m g h=-14\left(\frac{9}{12}\right) \sin 15^{\circ} \\
& =-2.72 \mathrm{ft}-16
\end{aligned}
$$

