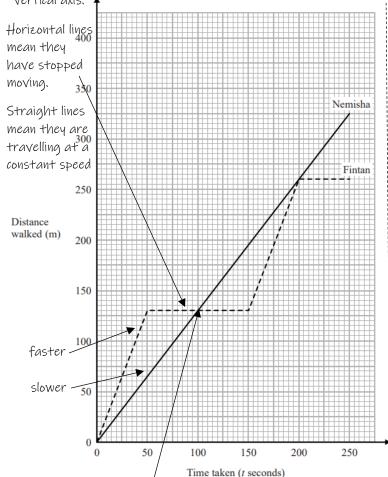
49 Maths Knowledge Organiser Topic 6: Distance-Time Graphs

What must I be able to do? Key vocabulary You may need to revise the following: Distance-time A graph where time is Year 8 Topic 9: Rates of Change plotted against graph distance from a fixed New content: point. Time will Interpret distance-time graphs and speed-time graphs always be the Understand that the gradient of a distance-time graph represents speed horizontal axis. Find speed and distance from information on a travel graph All Mathswatch 6b, 143 (GCSE)

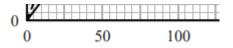
Key Features of a Distance-Time graph

The **gradient** of the line represents the **speed** they are travelling. Time is on the horizontal axis and distance on the vertical axis. ightharpoonup

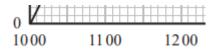


Where the graphs meet they are at the same place at the same time

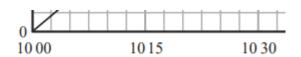
Always check the scales used before answering a question



This scale is 50 seconds in 10 small squares. Each small square is $50 \div 10 = 5$ seconds.



This scale is 60 minutes in 10 small squares. Each small square is $60 \div 10 = 6$ minutes.



This scale is 15 minutes in φ small squares. Each small square is 15 ÷ φ = 2.5 minutes.

A better way to think of this is it represents 5 minutes for every 2 small squares

Speed-Time graphs

Time is on the horizontal axis, speed on the vertical axis.

The gradient of the line represents the acceleration or deceleration of the object (how quickly it is speeding up or slowing down). A straight line means they have constant acceleration/deceleration.

Where the graphs intersect the objects are travelling at the same speed, they may not be in the same place.

