Pre-Activity Worksheet Answer Key

A robot called Nemo has 2.5-inch wheels and a robot named Wall-E has 3.5-inch wheels. The motors of both robots have the same RPM (revolutions per minute). Both robots drive forward for 1 minute.

1. Which of the following is true?

(a.) Wall-E will go farther than Nemo.

- b. Nemo will go farther than Wall-E.
- c. Both travel the same distance.
- 2. Which robot will have a greater linear velocity?
 - (a.) Wall-E
 - b. Nemo
 - c. Both have the same linear velocity.
- 3. Which robot will have a greater angular velocity?
 - a. Wall-E
 - b. Nemo

c.) Both have the same angular velocity.

For the following questions, the robots have the same wheel diameter as above (2.5-in for Nemo and 3.5-in for Wall-E).

4. Wall-E is driving with an angular velocity of 20 radians/sec. Calculate Wall-E's linear velocity.

$$\mathbf{v} = \boldsymbol{\omega}\mathbf{r}$$
 $\boldsymbol{\omega} = \frac{20 \text{ rad}}{\text{sec}}$ $\mathbf{r} = \frac{3.5}{2} \text{ in}$
 $\mathbf{v} = \frac{20 \text{ rad}}{1 \text{ sec}} \cdot \mathbf{1.75 \text{ in}} = \frac{35 \text{ in}}{\text{sec}}$

5. Nemo is driving with an angular velocity of 20 radians/sec. Calculate Nemo's linear velocity.

$$\mathbf{v} = \boldsymbol{\omega}\mathbf{r}$$
 $\boldsymbol{\omega} = \frac{20 \text{ rad}}{\text{sec}}$ $\mathbf{r} = \frac{2.5}{2} \text{ in}$
 $\mathbf{v} = \frac{20 \text{ rad}}{1 \text{ sec}} \cdot \mathbf{1}.25 \text{ in} = \frac{25 \text{ in}}{\text{sec}}$

6. You want Wall-E and Nemo to end up at the same location. Given their respective wheel sizes, describe how Wall-E and Nemo can drive to end up at the same location. Wall-E could drive for a shorter time than Nemo drives. Wall-E will get there first, but they will end up in the same location. -OR- If Wall-E drives with fewer RPM (or a smaller angular velocity) than NEMO does, then they arrive at the same location and at the same time.