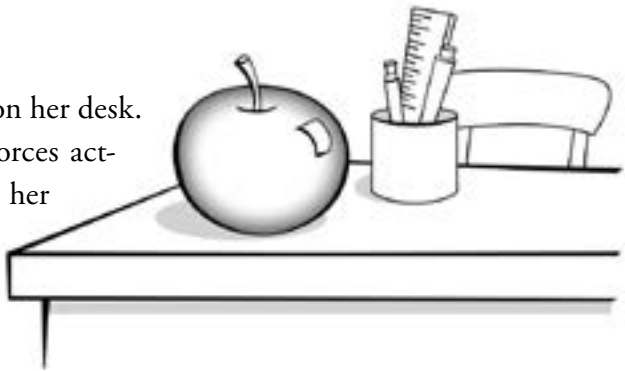


Apple on a Desk

Mrs. Canales pointed to an apple sitting on her desk. She asked her students to describe any forces acting on the apple. This is what some of her students said.



Archie: “The only force acting on the apple is air pressure.”

Sam: “There is one force acting on the apple. Gravity is the force that pulls on the apple.”

Soledad: “There are two forces: the desk pushes up on the apple and gravity pulls downward on the apple.”

Misha: “There are many forces acting on the apple; but, it is the holding force in the apple that keeps it on the desk.”

Tess: “There are no forces acting on the apple because the desk stops any forces from acting on it.”

Which student do you most agree with? _____

Explain your thinking. What rule or reasoning did you use to decide if there were any forces acting on the apple?
