## Kinematics-A Description of How Objects Move. Reference Frames and Displacement

1. All measurements need to be made from a frame of reference.

2. A coordinate system is useful in specifying an objects motion since magnitude and direction can be indicated.



3. For one dimension the x-axis is used, for two the x and y-axis and for three the x, y and z-axis are used.



4. Displacement versus distance: Distance is a measure of the total distance traveled. Displacement is a measure of the straight line distance from the starting point as well as an indicated direction. Displacement is a quantity that has both magnitude and direction.



Distance traveled = 100m Displacement = 40m East

5. To calculate the displacement in one dimension use the following formula:

$$\Delta X = X_2 - X_1$$

Where X₁ is the initial position and X₂ is the final position and ∆X literally means, "change in". Notice that both position and displacement are vectors and the symbols should have an arrow— above it.

Examples on board