

Question 34506

The average speed is given by $v_{average} = \frac{S}{t}$, where S is the distance covered, and t is the time needed to cover this distance.

Sally travels three different distances at different speeds. Each of the distance is $l=v \cdot t$, where v is the speed on particular part of the road and t is the time she moved with that speed. Hence, total distance is $S=v_1t_1+v_2t_2+v_3t_3=\frac{28}{60}h \cdot 79\frac{km}{h}+\frac{49}{60}h \cdot 31\frac{km}{h}+\frac{49}{60}h \cdot 70\frac{km}{h}=119.35\frac{km}{h}$. Total time of the trip is $t_1+t_2+t_3+T=\frac{28+49+49}{60}+\frac{10}{60} \approx 2.267h$ (Three time intervals needed to cover three corresponding distances plus 10 minutes for eating lunch and buying gas).

Thus, average speed is $v_{average} = \frac{119.35\frac{km}{h}}{2.267h} \approx 52.65\frac{km}{h}$.