5. The acceleration is defined as the change in velocity divided by the elapsed time or

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{a}=\Delta \mathrm{v} / \mathrm{t} \\
& \mathrm{a}=\left(\mathrm{v}_{2}-\mathrm{v}_{1}\right) / \mathrm{t} \\
& \mathrm{a}=(12.0 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{s}-25.0 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{s}) / 4.2 \mathrm{~s} \\
& \mathrm{a}=-3.1 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{s}^{2}
\end{aligned}
$$

