Polymerisation

A-Level Chemistry · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
addition polymerisation /əˈdɪʃn ˌpɒlɪməraɪˈzeɪʃn/	Ethene molecules join by **addition polymerisation**.
monomer /ˈmɒnəʊmə/	Ethene is the **monomer** of poly(ethene).
polymer /ˈpɒlɪmə/	Poly(ethene) is a **polymer**.
repeat unit /rɪˈpiːt ˈjuːnɪt/	The **repeat unit** of poly(ethene) is –CH2–CH2–. –CH2–CH2–
poly(ethene) /ˈpɒlɪ/	Plastic bags are made of **poly(ethene)**.
poly(chloroethene) /ˈpɒlɪ/	Water pipes are made of **poly(chloroethene)**, or PVC. PVC
non-biodegradable /nɒn ˌbaɪəʊdɪˈgreɪdəbl/	Most plastics are **non-biodegradable**: they stay in the ground for years.
combustion /kəmˈbʌstʃn/	**Combustion** of petrol powers a car.

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