Temperature

A-Level Physics · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
thermal equilibrium /ˈθɜːml ˌiːkwɪˈlɪbrɪəm/	The tea and the cup reach **thermal equilibrium** at the same temperature.
heat /hiːt/	**Heat** flows from hot tea to the cold cup.
thermal energy /ˈθɜːml ˈenədʒi/	Rubbing your hands turns work into **thermal energy**.
energy /ˈenədʒi/	Food gives your body the **energy** it needs to move.
temperature /ˈtemprɪtʃə/	The thermometer shows the water's **temperature**.
thermometer /θɜːˈmɒmɪtə/	Put the **thermometer** in the water.
volume /ˈvɒljuːm/	The **volume** of the box is 2 m × 1 m × 1 m = 2 m^3. 2 m × 1 m × 1 m = 2 m^3
capillary /kəˈpɪləri/	The liquid rises up the thin **capillary** tube.
absolute temperature /ˈæbsəluːt ˈtemprɪtʃə/	**Absolute temperature** is measured in kelvin.
resistance /rɪˈzɪstəns/	A thin wire has a high **resistance**.
thermocouple /ˈθɜːməkʌpl/	A **thermocouple** measures the temperature of a flame.
electromotive force /ɪˌlektrəʊˈməʊtɪv fɔːs/	The battery has an **electromotive force** of 9 V. 9 V
calibration /ˌkælɪˈbreɪʃn/	**Calibration** checks a thermometer against known temperatures.

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fixed points /fɪkst pɔɪnts/	Ice and boiling water give two **fixed points**.
thermodynamic temperature /ˌθɜːməʊdaɪˈnæmɪk ˈtemprɪtʃə/	**Thermodynamic temperature** starts at absolute zero.
mass /mæs/	The **mass** of this bag of rice is 5 kg. 5 kg
kelvin /ˈkelvɪn/	Water freezes at 273 **kelvin**. 273
absolute zero /ˈæbsəluːt ˈzɪərəʊ/	Nothing can be colder than **absolute zero**.
internal energy /ɪnˈtɜːnl ˈenədʒi/	Heating the gas raises its **internal energy**.
Celsius /ˈselsɪəs/	Water boils at 100 degrees **Celsius**. 100
triple point /ˈtrɪpl pɔɪnt/	At the **triple point**, ice, water and steam are all present.
specific heat capacity /spəˈsɪfɪk hiːt kəˈpæsɪti/	Water has a high **specific heat capacity**, so it warms up slowly.
power /ˈpaʊə/	A 60 W lamp has a **power** of 60 watts. 60 W 60
insulation /ˌɪnsjuːˈleɪʃn/	**Insulation** keeps the heat in the house.
specific latent heat /spəˈsɪfɪk ˈleɪtənt hiːt/	The **specific latent heat** is the energy to melt or boil 1 kg. 1 kg
latent heat /ˈleɪtənt hiːt/	Ice takes in **latent heat** as it melts.
fusion /ˈfjuːʒn/	**Fusion** is another word for melting.

Word	Example
vaporisation /ˌveɪpəraɪˈzeɪʃn/	**Vaporisation** turns water into steam.
specific latent heat of fusion /spəˈsɪfɪk ˈleɪtənt hiːt ɒv ˈfjuːʒn/	The **specific latent heat of fusion** of ice is 334 kJ/kg. 334 kJ/kg
specific latent heat of vaporisation /spəˈsɪfɪk ˈleɪtənt hiːt ɒv ˌveɪpəraɪˈzeɪʃn/	The **specific latent heat of vaporisation** of water is 2260 kJ/kg. 2260 kJ/kg
atmospheric pressure /ˌætməsˈferɪk ˈpreʃə/	**Atmospheric pressure** is the push of the air around us.
phase change /feɪz tʃeɪndʒ/	Melting is a **phase change**.
intermolecular /ˌɪntəməˈlekjʊlə/	**Intermolecular** forces hold the water molecules together.

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