7 · Organic chemistry

AQA · GCSE · Chemistry · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
crude oil /kruːd ɔɪl/	Petrol and diesel come from **crude oil**.
hydrocarbon /ˈhaɪdrəkɑːbən/	Methane is the simplest **hydrocarbon**: it has only carbon and hydrogen.
alkane /ˈælkeɪn/	Methane and ethane are each an **alkane**.
fractional distillation /ˈfrækʃənl dɪstɪˈleɪʃn/	**Fractional distillation** separates crude oil into fractions.
fraction /ˈfrækʃn/	Petrol is one **fraction** of crude oil.
viscosity /vɪˈskɒsɪti/	Oil has a higher **viscosity** than water.
flammability /ˌflæməˈbɪlɪti/	Small hydrocarbons have high **flammability**: they catch fire easily.
feedstock /ˈfiːdstɒk/	Crude oil is a **feedstock** for making plastics.
cracking /ˈkrækɪŋ/	**Cracking** breaks long hydrocarbons into shorter, more useful ones.
alkene /ˈælkiːn/	Ethene is an **alkene**.
unsaturated /ʌnˈsætʃəreɪtɪd/	Alkenes are **unsaturated**: they have a double bond.
functional group /ˈfʌŋkʃənl gruːp/	The –OH **functional group** makes a compound an alcohol. –OH
addition /əˈdɪʃn/	Bromine joins ethene in an **addition** reaction.

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alcohol /ˈælkəhɒl/	Ethanol is an **alcohol**.
fermentation /fɜːmənˈteɪʃn/	Yeast makes alcohol by **fermentation** when there is no oxygen.
carboxylic acid /ˌkɑːbəkˈsɪlɪk ˈæsɪd/	Ethanoic acid is a **carboxylic acid**.
ester /ˈestə/	Fruity smells often come from an **ester**.
ethyl ethanoate /ˈiːθaɪl ˈeθənəʊt/	**Ethyl ethanoate** is the ester made from ethanol and ethanoic acid.
monomer /ˈmɒnəʊmə/	Ethene is the **monomer** of poly(ethene).
addition polymerisation /əˈdɪʃn ˌpɒlɪməraɪˈzeɪʃn/	Ethene molecules join by **addition polymerisation**.
repeating unit /rɪˈpiːtɪŋ ˈjuːnɪt/	A **repeating unit** appears again and again along a polymer chain.
condensation polymerisation /kɒndenˈseɪʃn ˌpɒlɪməraɪˈzeɪʃn/	In **condensation polymerisation**, water is given off each time two monomers join.
polyester /ˌpɒlɪˈestə/	Polyester is used to make clothes; each **polyester** chain has many ester links.
amino acid /əˈmiːnəʊ ˈæsɪd/	Glycine is the simplest **amino acid**.
polypeptide /ˌpɒlɪˈpeptaɪd/	A **polypeptide** is a long chain of amino acids.

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Word	Example
double helix /ˈdʌbl ˈhiːlɪks/	DNA is shaped like a **double helix**: a twisted ladder. DNA
nucleotide /ˈnjuːklɪɒtaɪd/	A **nucleotide** is made of a sugar, a phosphate and a base.

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