1 · Energy

AQA · GCSE · Physics · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
energy /'enədʒi/	Food gives your body the **energy** it needs to move.
Physics Equations Sheet /'fɪzɪks ɪ'kweɪʒnz ʃi:t/	Use the **Physics Equations Sheet** in the exam.
system /'sɪstəm/	A pond is a **system** with water, plants and animals.
energy stores /'enədʒi stɔ:z/	Kinetic, thermal and chemical are three kinds of **energy stores**.
heating /'hi:tɪŋ/	**Heating** transfers energy from a hot object to a cold one.
work done by forces /wɜ:k dʌn baɪ 'fɔ:sɪz/	**Work done by forces** moves energy between stores.
work done when a current flows /wɜ:k dʌn wen ə 'kʌrənt fləʊz/	**Work done when a current flows** transfers energy in a circuit.
Sankey diagram /'sæŋki 'daɪəgræm/	A **Sankey diagram** shows where the energy goes.
kinetic energy /kɪ'netɪk 'enədʒi/	A fast car has a lot of **kinetic energy**.
gravitational potential energy /ˌgrævɪ'teɪʃənl pə'tenʃl 'enədʒi/	A book on a high shelf has more **gravitational potential energy**.
gravitational field strength /ˌgrævɪ'teɪʃənl fi:ld streŋθ/	The **gravitational field strength** on Earth is 9.81 N/kg. 9.81 N/kg

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elastic potential energy /ɪ'læstɪk pə'tenʃl 'enədʒi/	A stretched spring stores **elastic potential energy**.
spring constant /sprɪŋ 'kɒnstənt/	A stiff spring has a large **spring constant**.
extension /ek'stenʃn/	The **extension** of the spring is 4 cm. 4 cm
limit of proportionality /'lɪmɪt ɒv prəˌpɔ:ʃə'nælɪti/	After the **limit of proportionality**, the graph is no longer straight.
specific heat capacity /spə'sɪfɪk hi:t kə'pæsɪti/	Water has a high **specific heat capacity**, so it warms up slowly.
power /'paʊə/	A 60 W lamp has a **power** of 60 watts. 60 W 60
powerful /'paʊəfl/	A more **powerful** motor does the same job faster.
work done /wɜ:k dʌn/	The **work done** is force times distance.
watt /wɒt/	One **watt** means one joule every second.
dissipated /'dɪsɪpeɪtɪd/	Energy is **dissipated** as heat in the resistor.
closed system /kləʊzd 'sɪstəm/	In a **closed system**, no energy goes in or out.
Lubrication /ˌlu:brɪ'keɪʃn/	**Lubrication** with oil reduces friction.
Thermal insulation /'θɜ:ml ˌɪnsju:'leɪʃn/	**Thermal insulation** slows down heat loss.
thermal conductivity /'θɜ:ml kɒndək'tɪvɪti/	Copper has a high **thermal conductivity**.

Word	Example
efficiency /ɪˈfɪʃənsi/	A lamp with 20% **efficiency** turns only a fifth of its energy into light.
fossil fuels /ˈfɒsl ˈfjuːəlz/	Coal and oil are **fossil fuels**.
nuclear fuel /ˈnjuːklɪə ˈfjuːəl/	Uranium is a **nuclear fuel**.
renewable /rɪˈnjuːəbl/	Wood is a **renewable** resource if we plant new trees.
non-renewable /nɒn rɪˈnjuːəbl/	Coal is **non-renewable**: it will run out.

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