



2016 specification
first exams in 2018

End-of-Topic A4 Quick-Mark Homeworks

for GCSE AQA Combined Science

Physics Topics 1–4

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Teacher's Introduction

These End-of-Topic Quick-Mark Homeworks are designed to test and consolidate students' knowledge of the **AQA GCSE (9–1) Combined Science** course, **Physics Topics 1–4**.

The first half of the course is split into nine topics, eight of which are covered by at least 40 questions, with one shorter 20-question test for a total of over 410 questions.

Remember!

Always check the exam board website for new information, including changes to the specification and sample assessment material.

The questions increase in difficulty across each homework, with an extension section at the bottom of each homework. The **Fundamentals** section on each homework is targeted at students aiming for grade 4–5. The **Challenge** section is targeted at students aiming for grade 6. The **Extension** section is targeted at students aiming for grade 7 and above. All Higher-tier-only content is in the extension section, so the main body of the homework is suitable for students completing Foundation-tier exams.

All of the topics are in the same order as in the specification.

Maths questions and some shorter-answer questions may contain working or explanation that is not required in the answer so that students can more easily understand and follow difficult answers.

The homeworks are intended to be used at the end of each topic, but they can also be used at the end of the course to aid revision. Alternatively, you may choose to use them as tests in class or for students to work through by themselves or in pairs to test their understanding of the course material.

The first set of fundamentals questions for each homework are presented in the second section for use with weaker students who may struggle with the full homework. These can be cut down the middle to use one test at a time or test two topics at a time.

Answers are presented at the back of the resource, enabling students to check their answers, or teachers to mark students' work, quickly and easily.

I hope you find this resource useful in your teaching.

April 2025

Specification Reference Table

Homework	Title	Specification Reference
1	Energy Changes in a System	6.1.1
2	Transfers, Efficiency and Energy Resources	6.1.2–6.1.3
3	Current, Potential Difference and Resistance	6.2.1
4	Series, Parallel Circuits and Mains Electricity	6.2.2–6.2.3
5	Power and the National Grid	6.2.4
6	Changes of State	6.3.1–6.3.3
7	The Particle Model of a Gas	6.3.3
8	Atoms and Isotopes	6.4.1
9	Atoms and Nuclear Radiation	6.4.2

Topic 1 — Energy Changes in a System

Fundamentals

1. The mass of an object is 12.5 g. What is the object's mass in kg?
2. How is energy stored in a battery?
3. What is the standard unit of energy?
4. What type of energy do we say an object has if it is travelling at a constant velocity?
5. State how energy is stored before and after an electric motor powered boat starts to move.
6. The temperature of a cup of tea drops from 80 °C to 35 °C. What is the temperature change?
7. Calculate the gravitational potential energy of a 5 kg weight raised 1.6 km above the ground.
8. State the equation used to calculate the gravitational potential energy of an object.
9. How much gravitational potential energy does a 25 g bouncy ball gain if it is raised by 3 m?
10. What piece of apparatus could be used to measure the temperature change of a copper block?
11. Given that $\Delta E = m c \Delta\theta$, where $m = 1.2$ kg, $c = 185$ J / kg °C and $\Delta\theta = 35$ °C, calculate ΔE .
12. Define the watt, W, the unit of power.
13. Describe how you could measure the change in temperature of a material.
14. Describe the energy transfer that occurs when a kettle is used to boil water.
15. Explain what is meant by elastic potential energy.
16. How many times should you repeat a temperature measurement of an insulated material?
17. Why does a more powerful microwave heat up food faster than a less powerful microwave?

1. What happens to the kinetic energy if the speed is halved?
2. How is energy stored in a battery?
3. What is the kinetic energy of a 2 kg object travelling at a constant velocity of 3 m/s?
4. Given that $E_e = \frac{1}{2} k x^2$ and $x = 3.2$ cm, calculate E_e .
5. What are the units of power?
6. A 450 g block is heated. Its temperature increases by 17 °C. Calculate the specific heat capacity of the block.
7. How much kinetic energy does a 2 kg boat have if it is travelling at 3 m/s?
8. A plane has a mass of 2000 kg and is travelling at 240 m/s. What is its kinetic energy?
9. How long will an electric motor take to lift a 100 kg load and has a power rating of 100 W?
10. How much energy is transferred to a kettle in half a minute if it is rated at 2 kW?
11. If it takes 30 s for a 100 W heater to heat a 1 kg block of metal, what is the specific heat capacity of the metal?
12. Why does the amount of thermal energy transferred to a material depend on its mass?
13. Describe how you could measure the change in thermal energy of a material.
14. Describe how energy is transferred when a piano is pushed out of a room.
15. Why do the tyres of a car get hot after it has been driven? Explain the energy transfer.
16. Why is a 2 kW kettle faster than a 1 kW kettle at boiling a litre of water?
17. Explain what is meant by the term 'specific heat capacity'.

Extension

1. How high will a projectile go if it travels vertically from the ground starting at 30 km/s?
2. A javelin of mass 2 kg is thrown vertically to a height of 43.6 m. What is its maximum kinetic energy?
3. What is the kinetic energy in kJ of a skydiver weighing 70 kg falling at a terminal velocity of 50 m/s?
4. A skydiver jumps out of a plane. Assuming no air resistance, how fast is the skydiver falling after 10 s?
5. If a ball falls from a height of 2.0 m from rest, how fast will it be going before it hits the ground?
6. If the extension of a spring is doubled, by what factor does its elastic potential energy increase?
7. What is the dependent variable when measuring the specific heat capacity of a material?
8. What do we call an object or a group of objects when dealing with energy changes?
9. Given that $\Delta E = m c \Delta\theta$, where $m = 22$ mg, $c = 840$ J / kg °C and $\Delta\theta = 37.5$ °C, calculate ΔE .
10. 500 J of thermal energy is used to heat 20 g of copper ($c = 385$ J / kg °C). What is the temperature change?
11. How fast can a remote-controlled car travel if its power rating is 8 W, its mass is 600 g, and it is moving on a horizontal surface with no resistive forces?
12. A 2 kW motor runs for 3 minutes, and a 1.5 kW motor runs for 5 minutes. Which motor does more work?
13. Two kettles are filled with 1.2 l and 1.8 l of water. Explain why the 1.2 l kettle takes less time to boil than the 1.8 l kettle.
14. Why does the kinetic energy equation not allow negative values for kinetic energy?
15. Describe how energy is stored before and after the explosion of a firework.
16. When a current flows down a wire, the wire heats up. Explain why this happens in terms of energy transfer.
17. What happens to the energy of a system when it is heated, and why?
18. If a rocket with its engines off in space has kinetic energy, why will it not slow down?

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Topic 2 — Transfers, Efficiency and Energy

Fundamentals

- State the change in energy stores when a ball is dropped from rest.
- Are the following objects good insulators or good conductors? Oven gloves. Metal tongs.
- Name one way in which a coal-powered power station wastes energy.
- Why does a TV become warm after being on for a long time?
- How much energy is wasted by a jackhammer on a construction site?
- State the equation for efficiency in terms of energy transfer.
- What piece of apparatus would you use to measure the temperature of a rod of material?
- State the energy transfer in a tennis ball being hit by a racquet.
- Name two types of non-renewable energy resource.
- What is the efficiency of a transformer with a power input of 100 kW and power output of 80 kW?
- What is a renewable energy resource?
- Why is housing insulation lined with a silver veneer?
- Describe the energy transfer occurring for a bullet when a gun is fired.
- Why is oil used to surround moving parts in a car engine?
- What is meant by 'dissipated energy'?
- Why is using renewable energy resources more favourable than non-renewable energy resources?

- Name one type of energy resource that is currently suitable for use. Which is more the better – a plastic rod?
- Name one way by which energy losses can be reduced for a power station.
- Name one factor that affects the efficiency of a material, such as a conductor.
- What is the main way in which energy is wasted in a power station?
- If a computer has a power input of 100 W and an efficiency of 70%, what is its useful power output?
- What is the efficiency of a power station if its output power is 240 MW and its input power is 300 MW?
- Which is the more efficient – nuclear or solar?
- How is energy wasted in a power station?
- Name two renewable energy resources that can be used to directly produce electricity.
- Explain what happens to the energy in a power station when an energy resource is used.
- You are building a house. How can you make it as efficient as possible?
- Why can't geothermal energy be used as a resource worldwide?
- What advantage do fossil fuels have?
- Why is coal a non-renewable energy resource?
- Why is efficiency important in an electronic device?

Extension

- Name one advantage of wind energy as an energy resource.
- A campfire has a total input energy of 2.7 kJ and a useful energy output of 850 J. What is its efficiency?
- A radiator is made out of unpainted copper; name one thing that can be done to improve its efficiency.
- Which is the better insulator – a sheet of housing insulation or a vacuum?
- A TV has a power input of 900 W and an efficiency of 70%. What is its useful power output?
- The air at the top of a room is colder than the air at the bottom of the room – true or false?
- How can a sailing boat be improved so it catches the wind more efficiently?
- Which is a more reliable energy resource – wind, tidal or solar?
- A robot has a total input energy of 1.4 kJ and a useful energy output of 780 J. What is its efficiency?
- At what time of day is the demand for electricity at its lowest?
- Name two renewable energy resources that could be used on Mars.
- Explain why a balloon will pop when a vacuum pump is directed at it for some time.
- Why is burning fossil fuels bad for the environment?
- If a light bulb is connected to a solar panel, will it stay on indefinitely?
- Describe how energy is wasted in an operating fridge.
- Why do scientists continue to develop new energy resources?
- Where in the world is it best to build a solar farm, and why?
- Why can't scientists and engineers just start using only renewable energy resources?

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Topic 3 — Current, Potential Difference

Fundamentals

1. What is the standard unit of charge?
2. An LED emits light when supplied with a current – true or false?
3. How much charge passes through a filament lamp if it is left on for 90 s and the current is 1.5 A?
4. What is the word equation that relates current in terms of charge and time?
5. What does the resistance of a thermistor depend on?
6. State Ohm's law in any form.
7. What is the potential difference of a component with a resistance of $250\ \Omega$ and a current of 100 mA?
8. A charge of 80 C flows through a circuit in 20 s. Calculate the current in the circuit.
9. A 1.2 mA current is applied through a $330\ \Omega$ resistor. What is the potential difference across the resistor?
10. What is the current in a $200\ \Omega$ resistor if 80 C of charge passes through it in one minute?
11. Describe the current–potential difference graph for a filament lamp.
12. What is the independent variable in an experiment measuring the resistance of wires with different diameters?
13. Why must a circuit be closed for the component in it to work?
14. Explain what is meant by an electrical component.
15. Explain how an LDR can be used to solve a real-world problem.
16. Describe a current–potential difference graph for a diode.
17. Would the resistance of a wire increase or decrease if its diameter was increased, and why?

1. Which is the bigger current, 1 mA or 1 A?
2. A current varies between 0.5 A and 1.5 A. What is the range of the current?
3. The circuit symbol for a diode is shown. Is it true or false?
4. The current at a point in a circuit is 2.3 A. After 3 s, how much charge has passed through the point?
5. The potential difference across a component stays constant. What happens to the resistance if the current is increased?
6. What is the resistance of a component if the potential difference is 2.7 V and the current is 0.05 A?
7. What is the current in a circuit if a component with a resistance of $5\ \Omega$ has a potential difference of 10 V across it?
8. How much time elapses if a charge of 12 C passes through a $2.0\ \text{k}\Omega$ resistor with a potential difference of 12 V?
9. What is the dependent variable when measuring the resistance of a component by measuring the potential difference across it and the current through it?
10. How much charge passes through a component after 45 s if the potential difference across it is 12 V and the current through it is 0.2 A?
11. How does a higher potential difference affect the resistance of a thermistor?
12. How does an increase in current affect the resistance of a thermistor?
13. Describe the circuit symbol for a diode.
14. Describe how you can use a diode in a circuit to protect a component.
15. Explain what is meant by a variable resistor.
16. Why must there be a closed loop in a circuit for a current to flow?
17. Describe a circuit that can be used to measure the resistance of a component.

Extension

1. A diode is connected the wrong way round in a circuit. What is the current flowing through it?
2. What is the potential difference across a $220\ \Omega$ resistor if 0.8 C of charge pass through it in 2 s?
3. How much charge has passed through a $400\ \Omega$ resistor after 30 s if the potential difference across it is 12 V?
4. The potential difference across an LED with a resistance of $100\ \Omega$ is 4.5 V. If it runs for 10 s, how much charge has passed through it?
5. What is the potential difference across a $150\ \Omega$ resistor if 2.5 C of charge passes through it in 10 s?
6. What circuit component could you use to detect when water is boiling in a kettle?
7. For a filament bulb, does a higher potential difference mean the bulb is dimmer or brighter?
8. Describe the resistance of a diode connected in the reverse direction.
9. What is the resistance of a resistor if the potential difference across it is 2.7 V and 1.8 A of current flows through it?
10. Name a variable that must be kept constant when investigating the I–V characteristics of a component.
11. What is the potential difference of a battery if a 30 mA current flows when it is connected to a resistor with a resistance of $100\ \Omega$?
12. Suggest a reason why the resistance of a wire starts to increase after the wire has been heated.
13. Why do the current–potential difference graphs for a filament lamp flatten for high potential differences?
14. Why is it useful to know the I–V graph of an electrical component?
15. Logic circuits output either a 1 (+5 V) or a 0 (0 V). Why are diodes useful in logic circuits?
16. Why does the resistance of a wire increase when the length of wire increases?

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Topic 4 — Series, Parallel Circuits and M

Fundamentals

1. The potential difference across each component in a series circuit is the same – true or false?
2. What equation would you use to find the total resistance of two resistors connected in series?
3. For components connected in parallel, how does the potential difference across each component compare?
4. Is an ammeter connected in series or in parallel to a component when used to measure its current?
5. The potential difference across a $100\ \Omega$ resistor is 4 V . What is the potential difference across a $200\ \Omega$ resistor connected in parallel with it?
6. What is the frequency of the domestic electric supply in the UK?
7. Two $450\ \Omega$ resistors are connected in series to a 9 V battery. What is the potential difference across one resistor?
8. What colour is the live wire in a three-core cable?
9. Is the mains electricity supply direct or alternating?
10. What colour is the earth wire in a three-pin plug?
11. Two $300\ \Omega$ resistors are connected in series to a 9 V battery. What is the current in the circuit?
12. Describe what a direct potential difference is.
13. Why is an exposed live wire dangerous if an appliance is plugged into the mains?
14. How would you test an LED to make sure it works correctly?
15. Why are resistors connected using a parallel circuit?
16. Describe the circuit diagram of a parallel circuit.
17. Why does the total resistance increase when you add more resistors in series with each other?

1. Describe the total resistance of two resistors connected in parallel.
2. A 4 V battery and a $200\ \Omega$ resistor are connected in series. What is the current?
3. What is the total resistance of a $1\text{ k}\Omega$ resistor and a $1\text{ k}\Omega$ resistor connected in series?
4. Two $100\ \Omega$ filament bulbs are connected in series to a 9 V battery. What is the current out of the battery?
5. Three $1\text{ k}\Omega$ resistors are connected in series. What is the current in one resistor?
6. What colour is the live wire in a three-core cable?
7. What is the potential difference between the live and neutral wire?
8. An AC power supply is connected to a 1.5 V battery. What is its potential difference?
9. What happens if the live wire touches the neutral wire in an electrical appliance?
10. What is the potential difference between the live and neutral wire in the UK?
11. Three $400\ \Omega$ resistors are connected in series to a 9 V battery. What is the current in the circuit?
12. Why is there an earth wire in a three-core cable?
13. A variable resistor is connected in series to a 9 V battery and a lamp. What is the resistance of the variable resistor?
14. Describe what an electrical plug is.
15. Explain why all the wires in a three-core cable are insulated.
16. Why must a voltmeter be connected in parallel to measure the potential difference across a component?
17. Explain what is meant by a series circuit.

Extension

1. Three wires, each carrying 0.1 A , join together in parallel to form a new wire. What is the current in the new wire?
2. What is the resistance of a lamp connected to a 7 V battery if a resistor connected in series with it has a resistance of $3\ \Omega$ and a current of 70 mA ?
3. A $100\ \Omega$ resistor and a $330\ \Omega$ resistor are connected in series to a 9 V battery. What is the current in the circuit?
4. The total resistance of two resistors connected in parallel is less than the resistance of either resistor. Why?
5. What is the potential difference across a $200\ \Omega$ resistor if it is connected in series with a $100\ \Omega$ resistor and a 9 V battery?
6. A 70 mA current flows through two $100\ \Omega$ resistors connected in series. What is the potential difference across one resistor?
7. The total current through two $30\ \Omega$ resistors connected in parallel is 75 mA . What is the current through each resistor?
8. A light bulb plugged into the mains has a resistance of $250\ \Omega$. How much current passes through the bulb?
9. The total current through two $100\ \Omega$ resistors connected in parallel is 90 mA . What is the current through each resistor?
10. What is the purpose of the earth wire?
11. An electrical plug plugged into the mains has a resistance of $720\ \Omega$. How much current passes through the plug?
12. What happens if the neutral wire becomes loose?
13. Why does adding more resistors in parallel to each other reduce the total resistance?
14. Why are wires colour-coded, and why is the earth wire striped in colour?
15. Why does current split at an intersection of a parallel circuit?
16. When testing lots of filament bulbs in one go, which type of circuit would you use?

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Topic 5 — Power and the Nation

Fundamentals

1. State the equation for power in terms of potential difference and current.
2. What is the power rating of a thermistor if a potential difference of 3 V is measured when 0.3 A passes through it?
3. What is the potential difference across a 0.7 W LED if the current through it is 0.15 A?
4. If a 100 W device is switched on for 45 s, how much energy does it use?
5. What is the power rating of a microwave if it is plugged into the mains (230 V) and the current is 3.3 A?
6. If a 3 W bulb and a 2 W bulb are switched on, how much energy in total do they use in two minutes?
7. How much energy does a 700 W microwave use in 100 s? Give your answer in kJ.
8. How much energy does a 9.0 V battery lose if it discharges 200 C?
9. What do step-down transformers do?
10. Describe the national grid.
11. Why is the power of an electrical appliance dependent on the current flowing through it?
12. Describe the change in energy store when a phone battery is charged using the mains.
13. Why is the power of an electrical appliance dependent on the potential difference?
14. What are step-up transformers used for, and why?

1. What is the potential difference across a resistor that takes 36 kJ of energy in 10 minutes?
2. What is the resistance of a resistor that has a power rating of 4 W and a current of 0.2 A?
3. A 1200 W hairdryer is switched on for one minute. How much energy does it use?
4. How much work is done by a battery of 2.3 V if it supplies 100 C of charge?
5. What is the current through a resistor with a potential difference across it of 12 V and a power rating of 3 W?
6. What is the power rating of a resistor with a resistance of 80 Ω and a current of 0.5 A?
7. A transistor has a power rating of 5 W. How long does it take for it to dissipate 100 J of energy?
8. How much charge is transferred by a battery plugged into the mains if it supplies 1000 J of energy?
9. What is the resistance of a resistor with a power rating of 10 W and a current of 0.5 A?
10. How much energy is supplied by a battery with a potential difference of 0.5 V if it supplies 100 C of charge?
11. A 600 W microwave is switched on for 10 minutes. How much energy does it use?
12. Each km of cable has a resistance of 0.1 Ω . How much energy is lost in 20 km of cable if a current of 10 A flows through it?
13. Describe the energy stores in a battery connected to the mains.

Extension

1. 1 kWh = 3.6 MJ. How much work, in kWh, is done by a transformer to transfer 90 kJ of energy from 20 kV to 10 kV? (Assume 100 % efficiency.)
2. Given that 1 mAh = 3.6 C, how long (in hours) does a 2000 mAh battery take to discharge?
3. 10 V is produced in a generator on a bike when a cyclist does 3 kJ of work on it. How much energy is transferred?
4. If the potential difference between two charged objects is kept at 17 kV and a spark of 100 C of charge is transferred, how much energy is transferred?
5. How much work is done to transfer 200 mC of charge through a 330 Ω resistor in 14 s?
6. The charge capacity of modern-day batteries is measured in mAh. What is 1 mAh in terms of C?
7. Compare the decrease in potential difference by step-down transformers to the increase in potential difference by step-up transformers.
8. 50 C of charge passes through a 3 W bulb. What is the potential difference across the bulb?
9. How long does a 3000 mAh phone battery, with a potential difference of 5 V, take to supply 10 W of power?
10. 14 V is produced in a generator on a bike when a cyclist does 950 J of work. How much energy is transferred?
11. By substituting $E = P t$ into $E = P t$ and using a previously learnt equation, derive the equation $P = I V$.
12. Why is the national grid an efficient way to transfer energy?
13. Assume that the National Grid has 7000 km of transmission cables that each have a resistance of 0.1 Ω per km. Consider two-way transmission, so the total cable length is 14,000 km. Also assume the grid is 30 GW. If the average current transmitted across the grid is 1 kA, approximately how much energy is lost as heat in the transmission cables?

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Topic 6 — Changes of State

Fundamentals

- What is the density of a 2.3 m^3 box if its mass is 650 g?
- What is the density of a cube with sides 2 m if its mass is 4 kg?
- Name the change of state when an indoor ice rink is made from liquid water.
- The particles in a gas are *more* (tight) packed than those in a solid. True or false?
- What is the volume of a 2.5 kg tube of copper with a density of 8940 kg / m^3 ?
- Name a piece of apparatus suitable for measuring the diameter of a water bottle.
- Condensation is another name for boiling – true or false?
- Given that $\Delta E = m c \Delta \theta$, what is $\Delta \theta$ when $m = 2 \text{ kg}$, $c = 1.5 \text{ J / kg } ^\circ\text{C}$ and $\Delta E = 20 \text{ J}$?
- Given that $E = m L$, what is the latent heat of lead if 220 kg of lead changes state after being heated with 191.6 MJ?
- Given that $\Delta E = m c \Delta \theta$, what is $\Delta \theta$ when $m = 3.1 \text{ kg}$, $c = 340 \text{ J / kg } ^\circ\text{C}$ and $\Delta E = 24.9 \text{ kJ}$?
- What is the effect of latent heat of fusion?
- What happens to the temperature when a change of state occurs?
- Explain what is meant by the particle model.
- Describe how you would measure the volume of an irregularly shaped object.
- Explain what is meant by the conservation of mass for a system of particles.
- Explain what latent heat is.
- Explain the difference between evaporation and boiling.
- Explain the difference between melting and sublimation.

Challenges

- What is the density of a cube if its mass is 1.9 kg?
- When water is boiled, the temperature is reduced – true or false?
- If the total kinetic energy of a system is 0.7 kJ, what is the potential energy?
- Name the two changes of state that occur if a solid is placed into a hot frying pan.
- Water is frozen and melted in a closed system. What happens to the temperature?
- When a gas is heated, describe what happens to the particles.
- What is the specific heat capacity if the temperature increases by 10°C and the energy added is 20 kJ?
- An 850 g bar of gold is melted by 10 kJ of thermal energy. What is the latent heat of fusion?
- In an experiment measuring the latent heat of fusion, what would you use to determine the mass of the ice?
- What is the temperature of a substance heated with 11.2 kJ of energy if its mass is 2 kg?
- What is the mass of a substance if it takes 350 kJ to melt it and the latent heat of fusion is 1200 kJ / kg ?
- Name a variable you need to measure the latent heat of water.
- Explain how changes of state are related to chemical changes.
- Explain what internal energy is.
- Describe the temperature changes during the melting and boiling processes.
- Why does snow take a long time to melt?
- Describe what happens when a gas is heated.
- Explain how the higher kinetic energy affects the structure of a gas.

Extension

- What is the density of a sphere with a mass of 2.2 g and a radius of 2.3 cm?
- What is the mass of a sphere with a density of 375 kg / m^3 and a radius of 1.8 cm?
- Name the two changes of state when a kettle is on and droplets appear on a nearby surface.
- Calculate the mass of an ice cube if it melts in a glass of water and releases 33 kJ of energy.
- Compare the motion of particles in a gas and in a liquid.
- The mass of Earth is $6.0 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}$ and its radius is 6400 km. What is its density?
- At the temperature when a change of state occurs, added energy is stored as kinetic energy – true or false?
- Calculate the energy transfer when an 80 g ice cube melts in a glass of 0°C water.
- A lead ball with a radius of 8.0 mm is heated with 10 kJ. What is its temperature change? ($c_{\text{lead}} = 129 \text{ J / kg } ^\circ\text{C}$, $\rho_{\text{lead}} = 11340 \text{ kg / m}^3$)
- A 60 g ice cube at 0°C is heated with 10 kJ of energy. What is the final temperature? ($c_{\text{water}} = 4180 \text{ J / kg } ^\circ\text{C}$)
- Name one advantage of using a data logger instead of a thermometer to measure temperature.
- The latent heat of vaporisation is greater than the latent heat of fusion. Suggest a reason for this.
- Give an equation describing internal energy.
- Why do droplets appear on the outside of a cold glass of water?
- In terms of particles, give a reason why a hovercraft experiences less friction than a boat.
- Explain why using steam to heat something is better than using hot water.
- Explain the cooling effect of evaporation.
- Describe how you could measure the density of a gold ring.

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Topic 7 — The Particle Model of Matter

Fundamentals

1. The arrangement of molecules in a gas is very ordered – true or false?
2. Describe the effect on the average speed of particles when the temperature of a gas increases.
3. What happens to the pressure of a gas when it is heated in a sealed box?
4. The temperature of a gas is proportional to the potential energy of each particle – true or false?
5. Explain how the temperature of a gas is related to the motion of its particles.
6. Explain how a gas exerts a pressure on a container wall.
7. Why would heating a sealed balloon cause it to expand?
8. The temperature of a gas is related to the maximum kinetic energy of its particles – true or false?

1. What property of a gas is the temperature a measure of?
2. A low-temperature gas has a lower average speed than a high-temperature gas – true or false?
3. Denser gases exert a higher pressure than less dense gases – true or false?
4. If the temperature of a gas increases, what effect does this have on the pressure?
5. A pressure gauge is attached to a sealed container. Describe and explain the effect on the pressure if the temperature of the gas increases.
6. If the kinetic energy of the particles in a gas increases, how does the temperature change?
7. The larger the volume of a gas, the lower the pressure – true or false?

Extension

1. The particles of a gas collide more if the pressure of the gas is high – true or false?
2. If two gases at the same temperature are made up of particles with different masses, which gas has a higher pressure?
3. If the volume and mass of a gas are kept constant, how does the pressure change if the temperature is doubled?
4. Explain the change in pressure for a sealed gas of constant volume when the temperature is doubled.
5. Balloons A and B contain the same gas at the same pressure, but balloon B has twice the volume of balloon A. Explain how the temperature of the gas in balloon A compares to the temperature of the gas in balloon B.

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Topic 8 — Atoms and Isotopes

Fundamentals

1. The radius of a nucleus is 1×10^{-14} m. Write this in femtometres, fm.
2. What is the approximate radius of an atom?
3. Where would you find the protons in an atom?
4. If the number of electrons and protons in an atom is equal, there is no net charge. True or false?
5. What particles are found in charge in the atom?
6. A sulphur atom has 16 protons and 16 neutrons; how many electrons does it have?
7. An atom of carbon has a mass number of 12 and an atomic number of 6. How many neutrons does it have?
8. An isotope of uranium has a mass number of 235 and an atomic number of 92. How many neutrons does it have?
9. A magnesium atom has 12 protons and 12 neutrons. What is its mass number?
10. What metal was used for the thin film in the Geiger–Marsden scattering experiment?
11. What are atoms of the same element but which have a different number of neutrons called?
12. Describe the previously accepted plum pudding model.
13. Explain what is meant by an ion.
14. Why did the Geiger–Marsden experiment and Rutherford's model disprove the plum pudding model?
15. Describe what happens when an electron emits electromagnetic radiation.

1. The radius of a carbon atom is 70 pm. Write this in nm.
2. The radius of the nucleus is 10 fm. Write the radius of the atom in nm.
3. If the radius of an atom is 100 pm, what is the radius of the nucleus in fm?
4. An isotope of carbon has 6 protons and 7 neutrons. How many more neutrons than protons does it have?
5. An ion of chromium has 24 protons and 24 neutrons. How many electrons does it have?
6. Plutonium has 150 protons and 150 neutrons. What is its mass number?
7. Copper has 35 neutrons and a mass number of 63. How many protons does it have?
8. The discovery of the neutron was the discovery of the nucleus. True or false?
9. What is different about an isotope from the original element?
10. The number of protons in an atom is the element of the atom. True or false?
11. An electron drops from the 3rd energy level to the 2nd. What type of radiation is emitted?
12. Explain why isotopes of an element have the same chemical properties but different physical properties.
13. Describe how electrons are arranged in an atom.
14. Describe the nuclear model of the atom.
15. In the Geiger–Marsden experiment, what did some of the alpha particles do?
16. Explain why Rutherford's model replaced the plum pudding model.

Extension

1. What must be absorbed/emitted for the arrangement of electrons in an atom to change?
2. Most of the volume of an atom is empty space – true or false?
3. Tritium is an isotope of hydrogen with a mass number of 3. How many neutrons does it have?
4. A nucleus contains 2 protons and is an isotope with one fewer neutron than the element. What is its mass number?
5. What did James Chadwick's experiments prove the existence of?
6. What does the atomic number represent?
7. The energy levels Bohr suggested were only a theory. Why were they accepted as a model?
8. The larger the drop in energy level of an electron, the higher the energy of the emitted radiation. True or false?
9. Name the components of the plum pudding model.
10. How many subatomic particles are there in the nuclear model of the atom?
11. When Geiger and Marsden published their results, the scientific community will have been sceptical. Why is this important?
12. Describe the changes Niels Bohr made to Rutherford's atomic model.
13. Describe what happens when an atom absorbs electromagnetic radiation.
14. Why was the proton introduced into the nuclear model of the atom?
15. Explain why a hydrogen atom (one proton and no neutrons) would cause the least deflection in the Geiger–Marsden experiment.

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Topic 9 — Atoms and Nuclear Radiation

Fundamentals

- What is the relative charge of an α -particle?
- What is the relative charge of a β -particle?
- Approximately what is the range of a β -particle in the air?
- What is the range of a γ -particle in the air?
- What is the standard unit for activity?
- What property of α -particles makes them the most dangerous form of nuclear radiation to ingest?
- For the nuclear reaction equation $^{19}_8\text{O} \rightarrow ^{19}_X\text{F} + ^0_{-1}\beta$, what is X?
- Other than α , β and γ radiation, name a type of nuclear radiation.
- α -particles have the greatest ionising power compared to other forms of nuclear radiation – true or false?
- For the nuclear reaction equation $^{24}_{11}\text{Na} \rightarrow ^X_{12}\text{Mg} + ^0_{-1}\beta$, what is X?
- Give a word to describe the nature of radioactive decay of a single atom.
- The emission of β radiation causes a change in the mass of the nucleus involved – true or false?
- What is γ radiation?
- Explain what is meant by radioactive contamination.
- Explain what is meant by 'activity'.
- Explain what happens to the count rate of a radioactive substance after one half-life, and why.
- Explain why α -particles wouldn't be very good for monitoring the thickness of metal sheets in a factory.

Extension

- If the half-life of californium-251 is 900 years, how much of 1 g is left after 4500 years?
- If the half-life of uranium-235 is 700 million years, how much of 1 kg is left after 2.1×10^9 years?
- When an α -particle is emitted during a decay process, how many protons are lost in the nucleus?
- For the nuclear reaction equation $^{244}_{94}\text{Pu} \rightarrow ^{236}_{90}\text{Th} + X^4_2\alpha$, what is X?
- Name a type of nuclear radiation that would be suitable for detecting small holes in metal.
- For the nuclear reaction equation $^{244}_{94}\text{Pu} \rightarrow ^{240}_{94}\text{Pu} + X^4_2\alpha$, what is X?
- The activity of a radioactive substance decreases as time goes on – true or false?
- What is a β -particle?
- Name a type of radiation used for sterilising food or killing harmful bacteria.
- When a β -particle is emitted, what does the nucleus change into?
- If an α -particle is emitted, how many neutrons are lost in the nucleus?
- Why are radioactive isotopes used for dating?
- Explain why isotopes with long half-lives are used for dating.
- Explain why the half-life of a radioactive substance is constant even though radioactive decay is a random process.
- Why is it important to have research on radioactive substances?
- Describe how the emission of α , β and γ radiation affects the mass and charge of the nucleus.

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Fundamentals Tests

Topic 1 — Energy Changes in a System

- 1 The mass of an object is 12.5 g. What is the object's mass in kg?
- 2 How is energy stored in a battery?
- 3 What is the standard unit of energy?
- 4 What type of energy does an object have if it is travelling at a constant speed?
- 5 State how energy is stored before and after an electric remote-controlled car starts.
- 6 The temperature of a cup of tea drops from 80 °C to 35 °C. What is the temperature change?
- 7 Calculate the gravitational potential energy of a 5 kg weight raised 1.6 km.
- 8 State the equation used to calculate the gravitational potential energy of an object.
- 9 How much gravitational potential energy does a 25 g bouncy ball gain if it falls 1.2 m?
- 10 What piece of apparatus could be used to measure the temperature change of a liquid?
- 11 Given that $\Delta E = m c \Delta\theta$, where $m = 1.2 \text{ kg}$, $c = 185 \text{ J / kg } ^\circ\text{C}$ and $\Delta\theta = 35 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$, calculate ΔE .
- 12 Define the watt, W, the unit of power.
- 13 Describe how you could measure the change in temperature of a material.
- 14 Describe the energy transfer that occurs when a kettle is used to boil water.
- 15 Explain what is meant by elastic potential energy.
- 16 How many times should you repeat a temperature measurement of an insulator?
- 17 Why does a more powerful microwave heat your food faster than a less powerful one?

Topic 2 — Transfers, Efficiency and Energy Resources

- 1 State the change in energy stores when a ball is dropped from rest.
- 2 Are the following objects good insulators or good conductors? Oven gloves, metal, wood, plastic, air.
- 3 Name one way in which a coal-powered furnace wastes energy.
- 4 Why does a TV become warm after being on for a long time?
- 5 How is energy wasted by a jackhammer on a construction site?
- 6 State the equation for efficiency in terms of energy transfer.
- 7 What piece of apparatus would you use to measure the temperature of a liquid?
- 8 State the energy transfer in a tennis ball being hit by a racquet.
- 9 Name two types of non-renewable energy resource.
- 10 What is the efficiency of a transformer with a power input of 100 kW and a power output of 90 kW?
- 11 What is a renewable energy resource?
- 12 Why is housing insulation lined with silver foil?
- 13 Describe the energy transfer occurring for a bullet when a gun is fired.
- 14 Why is oil used to lubricate moving parts in a car engine?
- 15 What is meant by 'dissipated energy'?
- 16 Why is using renewable energy resources more favourable than using non-renewable resources?

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Topic 3 — Current, Potential Difference and Resistance

- 1 What is the standard unit of charge?
- 2 An LED emits light when supplied with a current – true or false?
- 3 How much charge passes through a filament lamp if it is left on for 90 s and the current is 0.2 A?
- 4 What is the word equation that defines current in terms of charge and time?
- 5 What does the resistance of a thermistor depend on?
- 6 State Ohm's law in any form.
- 7 What is the potential difference of a component with a resistance of $250\ \Omega$ and a current of 0.04 A?
- 8 A charge of 80 C flows through a circuit in 20 s. Calculate the current in the circuit.
- 9 A 1.2 mA current is applied through a $500\ \Omega$ resistor. What is the potential difference across the resistor?
- 10 What is the current in a $200\ \Omega$ resistor if 80 C of charge passes through it in one minute?
- 11 Describe the potential difference graph for a filament lamp.
- 12 What is the independent variable in an experiment measuring the resistance of wires of different diameters?
- 13 Why must a circuit be closed for the components in it to work?
- 14 Explain what is meant by an ohmic component.
- 15 Explain how an LDR can be used to solve a real-world problem.
- 16 Describe the current–potential difference graph for a diode.
- 17 Would the resistance of a wire increase or decrease if its diameter was increased, and why?

Topic 4 — Series and Parallel Circuits and Mains Electricity

- 1 The potential difference across each component in a series circuit is the same – true or false?
- 2 What equation would you use to find the total resistance of two resistors connected in series?
- 3 For components connected in parallel, how does the potential difference across each component compare?
- 4 Is an ammeter connected in series or in parallel to a component when used to measure the current through it?
- 5 The potential difference across a $100\ \Omega$ resistor is 4 V. What is the potential difference across a $200\ \Omega$ resistor connected in parallel with it?
- 6 What is the frequency of the domestic electric supply in the UK?
- 7 Two $450\ \Omega$ resistors are connected in series to a 9 V battery. What is the potential difference across one resistor?
- 8 What colour is the live wire in a three-core cable?
- 9 Is the mains electricity supply direct or alternating?
- 10 What colour is the earth wire in a three-pin plug?
- 11 Two $300\ \Omega$ resistors are connected in series to a 9 V battery. What is the current in the circuit?
- 12 Describe what a direct potential difference is.
- 13 Why is an exposed live wire dangerous if an appliance is plugged into the mains?
- 14 How would you test an LED to find out which way it works correctly?
- 15 Why are house lights connected using a parallel circuit?
- 16 Describe the circuit diagram for a parallel circuit.
- 17 Why does the total resistance increase when you add more resistors in series with each other?

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Topic 5 — Power and the National Grid

- 1 State the equation for power in terms of potential difference and current.
- 2 What is the power rating of a thermistor if a potential difference of 3 V is across it and the current through it is 0.01 A?
- 3 What is the potential difference across a 0.7 W LED if the current through it is 0.01 A?
- 4 If a 100 W device is switched on for 45 s, how much energy does it use?
- 5 What is the power rating of a hair dryer if it is plugged into the mains (230 V) and the current through it is 10 A?
- 6 If a 3 W bulb and a 100 W bulb are switched on, how much energy in total do they use in 1 hour?
- 7 How much energy does a 700 W microwave use in 100 s? Give your answer in kJ.
- 8 How much energy does a 9.0 V battery lose if it discharges 200 C?
- 9 What do step-down transformers do?
- 10 Describe the national grid.
- 11 Why is the power of an electrical appliance dependent on the current flowing through it?
- 12 Describe the change in energy store when a phone battery is charged using a charger.
- 13 Why is the power of an electrical appliance dependent on the potential difference across it?
- 14 What are step-up transformers used for, and why?

Topic 6 — Changes of State

- 1 What is the density of a 2.3 m³ box if its mass is 56 kg?
- 2 What is the density of a cube with side 2 m if its mass is 4 kg?
- 3 Name the change of state when an indoor ice rink is made from liquid water.
- 4 The particles in a gas are more tightly packed than those in a solid – true or false?
- 5 What is the volume of a 2.5 kg tube of copper with a density of 8940 kg / m³?
- 6 Name a piece of apparatus suitable for measuring the diameter of a water droplet.
- 7 Condensation is another name for boiling – true or false?
- 8 Given that $\Delta E = m c \Delta\theta$, what is $\Delta\theta$ when $m = 2$ kg, $c = 1.5$ J / kg °C and $\Delta E = 6$ J?
- 9 Given that $E = m L$, what is the latent heat of lead if 220 kg of lead changes from solid to liquid and 191.6 MJ is used?
- 10 Given that $\Delta E = m c \Delta\theta$, what is $\Delta\theta$ when $m = 3.1$ kg, $c = 340$ J / kg °C and $\Delta E = 1058$ J?
- 11 What is the effect of latent heat of fusion?
- 12 What happens to the temperature when a change of state occurs?
- 13 Explain what is meant by the particle model.
- 14 Describe how you would measure the volume of an irregularly shaped object.
- 15 Explain what is meant by the conservation of mass for a system of particles.
- 16 Explain what latent heat is.
- 17 Explain the difference between evaporation and boiling.
- 18 Explain the difference between melting and sublimation.

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Topic 7 — The Particle Model of a Gas

- 1 The arrangement of molecules in a gas is very ordered – true or false?
- 2 Describe the effect on the average speed of particles when the temperature of a gas is increased.
- 3 What happens to the pressure of a gas being heated in a sealed box?
- 4 The temperature of a gas is dependent on the average kinetic energy between its particles. Explain how the temperature of a gas is related to the motion of its particles.
- 5 Explain how a gas exerts pressure on a container wall.
- 6 Why would heating a sealed balloon cause it to expand?
- 7 The temperature of a gas is related to the maximum kinetic energy of its particles.

**Topic 8 — Atoms and Isotopes**

- 1 The radius of a nucleus is 1×10^{-14} m. Write this in femtometres, fm.
- 2 What is the approximate radius of an atom?
- 3 Where would you find the protons in an atom?
- 4 If the number of electrons and protons in an atom is equal, there is no net charge on the atom.
- 5 What particles are neutral in charge in the atom?
- 6 A sulphur atom has 16 protons and 16 neutrons; how many electrons does it have?
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- 9 A magnesium atom has 12 protons and 12 neutrons. What is its mass number?
- 10 What material was used for the thin film in the Geiger–Marsden scattering experiment?
- 11 What are isotopes? Give an example of two isotopes of the same element but which have a different number of neutrons.
- 12 Describe the previously accepted plum pudding model.
- 13 Explain what is meant by an ion.
- 14 Why did the Geiger–Marsden experiment and Rutherford's model disprove the plum pudding model?
- 15 Describe what happens when an electron emits electromagnetic radiation.

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Topic 9 — Atoms and Nuclear Radiation

- 1 What is the relative charge of an α -particle?
- 2 What is the relative charge of a β -particle?
- 3 Approximately what is the range of a β -particle in the air?
- 4 What is the range of a γ -particle in the air?
- 5 What is the standard unit for activity?
- 6 What property of α -particles makes them the most dangerous type of nuclear radiation?
- 7 For the nuclear reaction equation $^{19}_8\text{O} \rightarrow ^{19}_X\text{F} + ^0_{-1}\beta$, what is X?
- 8 Other than α , β and γ radiation, name a type of nuclear radiation.
- 9 α -particles have the greatest ionising power compared to other forms of nuclear radiation. True or false?
- 10 For the nuclear reaction equation $^{24}_{11}\text{Na} \rightarrow ^X_{12}\text{Mg} + ^0_{-1}\beta$, what is X?
- 11 Give a word to describe the nature of radioactive decay of a single atom.
- 12 The emission of β radiation causes a change in the mass of the nucleus involved. True or false?
- 13 What is γ radiation?
- 14 Explain what is meant by radioactive contamination.
- 15 Explain what is meant by 'activity'.
- 16 Explain what happens to the count rate of a radioactive sample after one half-life.
- 17 Explain why α -particles wouldn't be very good for monitoring the thickness of paper.

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Answers

Topic 1 — Energy Changes in a System

Fundamentals

- 0.0125 kg
- As chemical energy
- Joule, J
- Kinetic energy
- Before: chemical energy; after: kinetic energy
- $80 - 35 = 45$
- $5 \times 9.8 \times 3 = 147$ J
- $E_p = mgh$
- $0.025 \times 9.8 \times 3 = 0.74$ J
- A thermometer
- $1.2 \times 185 \times 35 = 7800$ J or 7.8 kJ
- 1 watt is equal to the energy transfer of 1 joule per second
- Use a thermometer to measure the temperature of the material before and after the change, then calculate the difference
- The energy is transferred electrically to thermal energy
- Elastic potential energy is the way energy is stored in a compressed or stretched spring
- At least three times; to ensure the measurement is reliable
- More power means more energy is incident on the food per second, causing it to heat more quickly

Challenge

- It is divided by 4
- As kinetic energy
- 9 J
- 7.2×10^{-4} or 0.72 mJ
- Joules per kilogram per degree Celsius, J / kg °C
- 390 J / kg °C
- 9.1 J
- 1.7 GJ
- 5400 s or 1.5 hours
- 3750 J
- 2 kW
- The higher the mass, the more material there is that must be raised by 1 °C; therefore, more energy is needed
- Measure the temperature change and the mass of the object, then use the specific heat equation
- Before: it is stored as gravitational potential energy; after: it is stored as kinetic energy (as it falls to the ground)
- Kinetic energy of the object is transferred to thermal energy in the tyres
- Because it is transferred twice as quickly
- The amount of energy required to raise the temperature of 1 kg of a substance by 1 °C

Extension

- 3.54 m
- 855 J
- 252 kJ
- 44.3 m/s
- 6.3 m/s
- By a factor of 4
- Temperature
- A system
- 69.4 J
- 16.2 °C
- 20 m/s
- The 1.5 kW motor
- The mass of water that can be heated to boil
- Velocity is squared; there is no such thing as negative energy
- Before: it is stored as elastic potential energy; after: stored as thermal energy
- The current is electricity; the wire to be stored
- The temperature of the system; there is an increase in the temperature of the system; the system has some internal energy
- For the rocket to move; the rocket to transfer energy to other forms

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Topic 2 — Transfers, Efficiency and Energy Resources

Fundamentals

- Gravitational potential energy → Kinetic energy
- Oven gloves are good insulators; metal tongs are good conductors
- Carried away by light and sound to be dissipated and stored as thermal energy
- Energy is transferred by the current to the thermal energy store)
- The kinetic energy is dissipated mechanically and eventually converted to thermal energy
- Efficiency = useful output energy transfer / Total input energy transfer
- Thermometer
- Kinetic energy (racquet) → Elastic potential energy → Kinetic energy (tennis ball) + Sound energy
- Coal/oil/gas/nuclear
- $80 / 100 = 80 \% \text{ or } 0.8$
- A renewable energy resource is one that is being (or can be) replenished as it is used
- The silver veneer reflects any infrared radiation, reducing heat loss by radiation
- Chemical energy is transferred to kinetic energy and thermal energy
- Oil acts as a lubricant to prevent the engine wasting energy through heat or sound
- Energy that becomes unrecoverable (and, therefore, is wasted) during an energy transfer
- They are a more long-term solution and don't produce greenhouse gases so are better for the environment

Challenge

- Hydroelectricity
- A copper kettle
- Painting the inside of the kettle a silver colour / building the kettle from thermally insulating materials / removing limescale from the heating element
- The amount of material
- Via thermal energy
- 300 W
- 76.6 % or 0.766
- Nuclear
- Through the conduction of its walls, windows and doors
- Biofuel/solar
- It stays the same because energy can neither be created nor destroyed
- Build a large, light wheel / ensure the paddles have a large surface area
- It requires thermal activity just below the surface of Earth's crust
- It doesn't produce harmful pollutants or CO₂ as fossil fuels do
- There is a huge amount of coal buried underground and it takes millions of years to form
- It is better for the environment and for the durability of the device (as it won't overwork itself)

Extension

- It is renewable / it
- 0.32
- Paint the inside of radiator away from
- A vacuum
- 630 W
- False (hot gases are less dense)
- Larger sail (bigger)
- Tidal energy
- 0.56
- Night-time
- Solar/geothermal/
- The laser beam is stored as thermal energy becomes too hot
- Burning fossil fuels greenhouse gas, which climate change
- No; light from the panel, and the bulb energy as heat
- Heat conducts into pump has to work thermal energy)
- To ensure we have future demand (or run out). Also, more environmental efficiency
- Near the equator (entire year) and in
- They alone don't make decision – such decisions by businesspeople, and

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Topic 3 — Current, Potential Difference and Resistance

Fundamentals

1. Coulomb, C
2. True (a current means charges flow through the LED which do work)
3. $1.5 \times 90 = 140 \text{ C}$
4. Current = Charge / Time
5. Temperature
6. $V = I R$ (or, Potential difference = current \times resistance)
7. $250 \times 100 = 25 \text{ V}$
8. $80 \text{ C} / 20 \text{ s} = 4 \text{ A}$
9. $1.2 \text{ mA} = 0.0012 \text{ A} = 400 \text{ mV}$ or 0.40 V
10. $80 / 60 = 1.33 \text{ A}$
11. The graph is curved at large values and linear in between
12. The diameter of the wire
13. A current won't flow if there is a break in the circuit, meaning no charge will reach the components
14. An ohmic component is one which obeys Ohm's law, i.e. its current–potential difference graph is linear
15. Any suitable application, e.g. using an LDR to turn on street lights when it's dark enough in the evening
16. For negative potential differences, no current flows; for positive potential differences, a diode is ohmic (linear graph)
17. As the diameter increases, so does the resistance (because resistance is proportional to the amount of material)

Challenge

1. A battery
2. False (current is the same throughout a series circuit)
3. False (it is possible to move within a circle)
4. 6.9 C
5. The current must decrease
6. 135Ω
7. 5 mA
8. 210 s
9. The current through the component
10. 0.51 C
11. It causes a lower resistance
12. Its resistance decreases
13. A rectangular box (like the ordinary resistor) with an arrow diagonally crossing through it
14. Measure the current passing through it, and then use a stop clock to time how long you want to measure the charge for. Then, use $Q = I \times t$ to find the charge that has passed through in that time.
15. Current that always flows in the same direction
16. A potential difference is created by an imbalance of charge carriers between two points. The energy stored by this imbalance is used to move charge carriers to flow.
17. Ammeter in series, voltmeter in parallel, both connected to a cell

Extension

1. 0 A
2. 5.0 V
3. 0.15 C
4. 1.4 C
5. 5.0 V
6. A thermistor
7. Brighter
8. Very high
9. 75Ω
10. The length / material of wires used
11. 3.6 V
12. The duration of the current causes the wire to heat up, increasing its resistance to increase the current
13. The resistance increases with temperature depending on the component (e.g. filament lamp)
14. It can be used to control the current in building a circuit, e.g. a diode as a component well
15. They don't allow current to flow if any output below a certain value
16. The longer the wire, the more current flows through, so the current meets

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Topic 4 — Series, Parallel Circuits and Mains Electricity

Fundamentals

- False (it is only the same for components connected in parallel)
- $R_T = R_1 + R_2$
- The potential difference across each component is the same
- Connected in series
- Also 4 V
- 50 Hz
- $9 / 2 = 4.5$
- Brown
- Alternating
- Green and yellow stripes
- $9 / (2 \times 300) = 15 \text{ mA}$
- A direct potential difference (dc supply) is one that is constant in direction (i.e. remains either positive or negative)
- If you were to touch the live wire you would receive an electric shock, which could be fatal. An exposed live wire could also come into contact with something else, resulting in high currents which could start a fire.
- Connect the LED in series to a DC power supply and resistor, and turn on the supply. Swap round the connections of the LED and repeat.
- You can choose which light/s you want on/off; you aren't required to have all the lights on at any one time. Also, if one bulb blows, the rest of the lights are still usable.
- A parallel circuit is made up of several series circuits joined together at intersections
- There is only one path for the charge to flow through, and so it must pass through each resistor; therefore, every resistor receives the current

Challenge

- The total resistance is less
- 35 mA
- 1660 Ω or 1.66 k Ω
- 45 mA
- 2.2 A
- Blue
- 0 V
- 3 V
- The earth wire safely discharges the appliance from any excess charge
- 230 V
- 1250 Ω
- If there is a fault in the appliance, any unwanted charge can be safely discharged
- The larger the resistance of the variable resistor, the lower the potential difference across the lamp, meaning the lamp dims
- An alternating potential difference is one that reverses every time period, i.e. it is between positive and negative
- This ensures that the wires can't come loose and come into contact with each other
- The potential difference across components connected in parallel is the same, so a measurement can be reliably taken
- An alternating current changes direction every time period, i.e. it flips from positive to negative

Extension

- 0.3 A
- 57.1 Ω
- $I_{100} = I_{330} = 21 \text{ mA}$
True (there are two resistors with less resistance)
- 4 V
- 14 V
- 37.5 mA
- 0.92 A
- 30 mA
- The neutral wire current would flow
- 0.32 A
- The circuit is now working
- Adding more resistors creates more paths for the current, though these paths aren't infinite (an infinite resistance isn't there).
- For easy identification, make it clearer with a label. Much if you mix up the wires, simply breaks the circuit. The earth wire (yellow and green) is for safety.
- A current is made up of many small currents which can only flow in one direction. The current splits at a junction depending on the resistance of the branches.
- A parallel circuit can be used to determine which branch will still be on.

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Topic 5 — Power and the National Grid

Fundamentals

1. $P = VI$ (or power = potential difference \times current)
2. $P = IV = 3.0 \times 0.3 = 0.9 \text{ W}$
3. $V = P / I = 0.7 / 0.15 = 4.67 \text{ V}$
4. $E = Pt = 100 \times 45 = 4500 \text{ J}$ or 4.5 kJ
5. $P = IV = 3.3 \times 230 = 760 \text{ W}$
6. $E = Pt = (3 + 2) \times 120 = 600 \text{ J}$
7. $700 \times 100 = 70 \text{ kJ}$
8. $9.0 \times 200 = 1800 \text{ J}$ or 1.8 kJ
9. They decrease at the domestic levels
10. The national grid is a system of cables and transformers linking power stations to consumers
11. The higher the current, the more charges present, and, therefore (through $E = QV$), the more energy in the system
12. It starts as electrical energy in the mains, before being transferred to chemical energy in the battery
13. The higher the potential difference, the more the charges will want to flow, so more energy is present in the system
14. They increase the p.d. of the power which in turn decreases the current ($P = IV$ must stay balanced). A smaller current means less wasted energy as heat.

Challenge

1. 12 V
2. 64Ω
3. The 1200 W hairdryer
4. 11.5 J
5. 167 mA
6. 97 W
7. 25 ms
8. 470 C
9. 40Ω
10. 110 kJ
11. The kettle
12. 2 MW
13. Electrical energy from the mains is transformed into thermal energy in the water

Extension

1. 500 kWh
2. 2.5 hr
3. 300 C
4. 66 mJ
5. 0.94 J
6. 3.6 C
7. The decrease in p.d. is greater than the step-up transformer
8. $V = (Pt) / Q = (3 \times 10^6) / 1000 = 3000 \text{ V}$
9. 5400 s or 1.5 hours (answer from Q5)
10. 68 C
11. $E = Pt = (IV)t$, and $E = (It)V = QV$
12. The step-up transformer decreases the current. The lower current reduces the energy lost through heat loss.
13. $R = 14\,000 \text{ km} \times 0.01 \text{ km} = 140 \text{ km}$
 $P = I^2R = (1000 \text{ A})^2 \times 140 = 1.4 \times 10^8 \text{ W}$
 Percentage loss = $\frac{1.4 \times 10^8}{1.4 \times 10^8 + 1.4 \times 10^8} \times 100 = 50\%$

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Topic 6 — Changes of State

Fundamentals

- $0.65 / 2.3 = 0.283 \text{ kg / m}^3$
- $4 / 2^3 = 0.5 \text{ kg / m}^3$
- Freezing
- False (gases are less dense than solids, hence their particles are further apart)
- $2.5 / 8940 = 2.80 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^3$
- Vernier calipers
- False (condensation is a change of state transitions to a liquid, the mass stays the same)
- $20 / (2 \times 10^3) = 0.01 \text{ kg / m}^3$
- $191\,600 / 218 = 871 \text{ kJ / kg}$
- $24\,900 / (3.1 \times 340) = 23.6 \text{ °C}$
- A change of state from a solid to a liquid
- It stays the same
- A scientific model used to describe a system as being made of particles that interact via collisions and potentials
- Place the object into a tank of water with a known volume. Then, measure the new volume of the water and calculate the difference.
- The conservation of mass says when a system changes state (e.g. from a liquid to a gas), mass is conserved
- Latent heat is the energy needed for a substance to change state with no temperature change
- A liquid can evaporate at any temperature but only on its surface, whereas a liquid can boil from anywhere in its volume but only beyond its boiling point
- Melting is when a solid changes to a liquid whereas sublimation is when a solid changes to a gas

Challenge

- 560 kg
- False (in a closed system the mass will always stay constant)
- 1.9 kJ
- Melting and boiling
- Stays constant
- They move faster
- 2000 J / kg °C
- 2.5 kJ / kg
- A digital balance (compare before and after)
- 7.00 °C
- 0.29 kg
- The heat loss from the beaker
- Changes of state can be reversed, whereas chemical changes cannot be reversed
- The total energy of the system held by the particles in the system
- At the melting point the graph is horizontal, then it's linear up until the boiling point, where it is again horizontal
- The energy supplied by the Sun needs to overcome the latent heat of water before it changes state
- The particles arrange into structures resulting in an increase in density
- Each particle is moving faster on average than in other states, so particles collide more and, therefore, are further apart

Extension

- 43 kg / m^3
- 9.16 g
- Boiling and condensation
- 98.8 g
- Gas particles move faster
- $5.4 \times 10^3 \text{ kg / m}^3$
- False; it is stored in the nucleus of atoms, energy stays constant
- 26.7 kJ
- 32 °C
- 39.7 °C
- Higher resolution
- The particles must have more potential energy
- Internal energy = potential energy
- Evaporated water condenses to form a liquid
- The particles of a gas are spaced out than in a liquid, resulting in less collisions, resulting in less energy being transferred
- The steam releases energy by transferring more energy to the water
- Latent heat is needed to change the state of the water. Once this energy is added, the remaining liquid will change state
- Measure the volume of the displaced water and calculate the density

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Topic 7 — The Particle Model of a Gas

Fundamentals

1. False (gas particles are in constant random motion)
2. Speed increases
3. It increases
4. False (it is dependent on the average kinetic energy of the particles)
5. The faster the particles of a gas move, the more kinetic energy the gas has, and, therefore, the higher its temperature
6. Gas particles collide with the wall, exerting a small perpendicular force on the wall. The force due to lots of particles is observed as pressure.
7. Increasing the temperature of the gas inside the balloon causes the pressure to increase. As the rubber balloon is stretchy, the increase in pressure will cause the balloon to expand.
8. False (temperature depends on the average kinetic energy of particles, not maximum)

Challenge

1. Their average kinetic energy
2. True (temperature and pressure for a gas are directly proportional)
3. True (the more tightly packed the gas particles are, the higher the number of collisions, i.e. pressure)
4. The temperature increases
5. For a fixed volume of gas, a decrease in pressure means that a decrease in temperature has occurred
6. If the kinetic energy of 50 % of particles increases, the average kinetic energy – and thus the temperature – increases
7. False (temperature depends on the average kinetic energy of particles, not volume)

Extension

1. True (more collisions means a large force exerted on the container, resulting in higher pressures)
2. The lighter particles
3. It also decreases
4. Each particle has less energy due to the lower temperature; therefore, there are fewer collisions with the container wall, resulting in the lower pressure
5. The gas in balloon B has the same temperature as the gas in balloon A

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Topic 8 — Atoms and Isotopes

Fundamentals

- 10 fm
- 1×10^{-10} m
- In the nucleus
- True (each electron and proton has equal and opposite charge which cancels the other's effect)
- Neutrons
- 16
- $12 - 6 = 6$
- $235 - 92 = 143$
- $12 + 12 = 24$
- Gold
- Isotopes
- Negatively charged particles embedded in a sphere of positive charge
- An atom that has either lost or gained an electron to become charged
- Some α -particles were scattered at large angles, not predicted by the plum pudding model
- The electron will move closer to the nucleus, to a lower energy level

Challenge

- 0.09 nm
- $1 / 10\,000$
- 1.3×10^{-14} m
- 2
- 22
- 244
- The mass number is 64 and it has 28 electrons
- False (the discovery of the proton came nine years after the electron)
- The number of electrons
- The proton
- Electromagnetic radiation (accept photon)
- Isotopes have a varying number of neutrons which contribute a lot to the mass of an atom, but not to its charge
- Electrons are arranged in different energy levels orbiting around the nucleus
- A nucleus made up of positive protons and neutral neutrons orbited by negative electrons in orbital shells
- The nucleus of the atom was heavier and like-charged compared to the α -particles, so some were reflected
- The repeatable Geiger–Marsden experiment showed that the majority of the mass of an atom is concentrated at the atom's centre and is positively charged

Extension

- Electromagnetic radiation
- True (the majority of the mass is concentrated at the centre)
- 2
- 3
- The neutron
- The number of protons
- They agreed with the results
- True (conservation of mass)
- The electron and the proton
- 3
- To verify their results, they repeated the experiment and their results are reliable
- He theorised electrons orbit the nucleus based on their energy levels
- An electron orbits the nucleus at a fixed energy and jumps between energy levels
- Later experiments showed the atom is subdivided into protons and neutrons
- The nucleus is small and dense and has the least charge compared to the electron

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Topic 9 — Atoms and Nuclear Radiation

Fundamentals

1. +2
2. -1
3. 1 m
4. Unlimited
5. Becquerel, Bq
6. Short penetration depth / high ionising power
7. $8 - (-1) = 9$
8. Neutron radiation
9. True (they have the largest mass so they have the largest effect)
10. $24 - 0 = 24$
11. Random/unpredictable
12. False (β radiation has an extremely small mass so doesn't affect the mass of the nucleus)
13. High-energy electromagnetic (EM) radiation
14. When a substance is exposed or subjected to the unwanted presence of radioactive atoms
15. The activity of a radioactive substance is the rate at which its radioactive nuclei decay
16. Its count rate is halved because there is now half the number of unstable nuclei that can decay
17. α -particles wouldn't be able to penetrate the metal; therefore, a detector wouldn't be able to tell whether the metal thickness was varying

Challenge

1. Unstable nuclei
2. $1.9 \times 10^8 / \text{s}$
3. Helium
4. 3 years
5. α radiation and neutron radiation
6. The lead
7. $X = 9$ and $Y = 4$
8. $X = 14$ and $Y = 7$
9. 92
10. 234
11. False (it is the time it takes for half a radioactive sample to decay; the decay of a single nucleus is unpredictable)
12. 0.25 kg
13. To reduce the risk of radioactive contamination / to reduce the amount of irradiation on their bodies
14. It monitors the count rate of radioactive substances
15. No type of nuclear radiation (except neutrons, but they are harmless) can penetrate lead
16. Gamma radiation because it can easily pass through the skin and has no charge, so it's unlikely to ionise anything
17. Irradiation is when a substance is subjected to nuclear radiation from a radioactive substance

Extension

1. 0.0313 g
2. 0.125 kg
3. 2
4. 2
5. α radiation
6. 239
7. True (the activity halves each half-life)
8. An electron
9. γ radiation
10. A proton
11. 3
12. Nuclear radiation depending on the type
13. Naturally occurring isotopes have half-lives quickly
14. The half-life of a substance is of billions of decays before it is lost
15. So other scientists can better understand it
16. The relative change in the nucleus stays the same

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