

Energy

The capacity of a system to do work or the quantity required for mechanical work to take place. Measured in joules (J). For example, a man transfers 100 J of energy when moving a wheelbarrow.



Endothermic

Reaction in which energy is taken in.



Thermal decomposition

Type of reaction in which a compound breaks down to form two or more substances when it is heated.

Exothermic

Reaction in which energy is given out to the surroundings. The surroundings then have more energy than they started with so the temperature increases.



Combustion

The process of burning by heat.



Oxidation

The gain of oxygen, or loss of electrons, by a substance during a chemical reaction.

Neutralisation

The reaction between an acid and a base to form a salt plus water.



Reaction profile

Chart showing how the energy of reactants and products changes during a reaction.



Energy level diagram

Chart showing the energy in the reactants and products, and the difference in energy between them.

Reactant

A substance that reacts together with another substance to form products during a chemical reaction.



Product

A substance formed in a chemical reaction.



Activation energy

The minimum amount of energy that colliding particles must have for them to react.

Cell

A store of internal energy that can be transferred as an electric current in a circuit.



Voltage

The potential difference across a cell, electrical supply or electrical component. It is measured in volts (V).



Fuel cell

Device that produces a voltage continuously when supplied with a fuel and oxygen.