

Key word	Definition
carbon fibre	A material made of thin tubes of carbon.
ceramic	A compound such as a metal silicate or oxide that is hard, strong, and has a high melting point.
composite	A mixture of materials with properties that are a combination of those of the materials in it.
displace	A more reactive metal displaces – or pushes out – a less reactive metal from its compound.
displacement reaction	In a displacement reaction, a more reactive metal displaces – or pushes out – a less reactive metal from its compound.
metal	Elements on the left of the stepped line of the Periodic Table. Most elements are metals. They are good conductors of energy and electricity.
natural polymer	Polymers made by plants and animals, including wool, cotton, and rubber.
ore	A rock that you can extract a metal from.
polymer	A substance made up of very long molecules.
reactive	A substance is reactive if it reacts vigorously with substances such as dilute acids and water.
reactivity series	A list of metals in order of how vigorously they react.
state symbol	A state symbol gives the state of a substance in a chemical equation. (s) means solid, (l) means liquid, (g) means gas, and (aq) means dissolved in water.
synthetic polymer	A substance made up of very long molecules that does not occur naturally.
thermite reaction	Reaction of aluminium with iron oxide to make aluminium oxide and iron.