### 12 PROPERTIES OF MATERIALS

1. Adjectives describing properties - form nouns from the adjectives:

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	A <i>brittle</i> material or thing breaks easily; e.g. glass, egg noun:		A soft material is easy to scratch e.g. chalk noun:					
	A tough material / thing does not break easily; e.g. steel noun:		A <i>flexible</i> material bends easily: e.g. rubber noun:					
	A <i>hard</i> material is difficult to <i>scratch</i> . e.g. glass noun:		A <i>rigid</i> material does not <i>bend</i> easily; e.g. concrete <b>noun</b> :					
THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NAM	Some materials have a smooth surface; they produce little friction when they are rubbed; e.g. ice noun:		You can see through transparent materials; e.g. water noun:					
	Some materials have a rough surface and produce a lot of friction; e.g. sandpaper noun:	De la companya della companya della companya de la companya della	You cannot see through translucent materials but the light passes through them; e.g. dirty water noun:					
The same	Soluble materials dissolve easily; e.g. salt		You cannot see through opaque materials and the light cannot pass through them; e.g. metal noun:					
	Materials which are insoluble do not dissolve; e.g. glass noun:		Combustible materials burn easily e.g. wood noun:					

Bates, Martin and Dudley-Evans, Tony: *Nucleus of General Science*.

# 2. Adjective + the infinitive. Choose the right word in the second sentence to say the same as the 1<sup>st</sup> one.

1. You can scratch chalk easily. Chalk is *easy / hard* to scratch.

2. Steel cannot be bent without force. Steel is *easy / difficult* to bend.

3. Diamond is so hard that it can cut glass. Diamond is *hard / soft* enough to cut glass.

4. You can burn paper without much effort. Paper is *hard / easy* to burn.

5. Rubber cannot be torn apart easily. Rubber is too *elastic / brittle* to be torn apart.

3. Look at the materials in task 1 and in pairs, say a few sentence about their properties. Make sentences with an adjective + the infinitive.

### 4. An experiment: Complete the text with the correct form of the word in brackets.

https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/upper-intermediate-b2/a-lecture-about-an-experiment

#### 5. Circle the best answer.

- 1. The pitch drop experiment is ...
  - a. the oldest experiment in history.
  - b. the oldest experiment that is still running today.
  - c. the longest experiment in 1927.
- 2. The creator of the experiment wanted to ...
  - a. have an experiment that lasted a long time.
  - b. show the dangers of everyday materials.
  - c. show that common substances have extraordinary properties.
- 3. Pitch is a substance ...
  - a. that looks solid but is actually liquid.
  - b. that looks liquid but is actually solid.
  - c. that doesn't appear to be liquid or solid.
- 4. The professor heated and poured the sample into a
  - a. porcelain vessel.
  - b. plastic beaker.
  - c. glass funnel.
- 5. The first time a drop of pitch fell was ...
  - a. eight years after the experiment began.
  - b. three years after the experiment began.
  - c. forty years after the experiment began.
- 6. Which of the following sentences is true about Professor John Mainstone?
  - a. He never saw the pitch drop.
  - b. He was responsible for the experiment for over fifty years.
  - c. He took over the experiment in 1927.
- 7. In the year 2000, ...
  - a. an electricity failure meant the pitch drop was not filmed.
  - b. scientists set up a live stream of the experiment.
  - c. the ninth drop of pitch fell.
- 8. In Dublin, ...
- a. news about unusual events spread very quickly.
- b. scientists set up a similar experiment.
- c. people weren't interested in such a slow event.
- 6. Do you know of any other famous experiments? What are they?

#### 7. Here are other properties of materials. Form adjectives from these nouns.

Czech translation	Noun	Adjective
1. pružnost	elasticity	elastic
2. křehkost	fragility	
3. tažnost	ductility	
4. kujnost	malleability	
5. vodivost	conductivity	
6. žáruvzdornost	heat-resistance	
7. zápalnost	flammability	
8. jedovatost, toxicita	toxicity	
9. reaktivita	reactivity	
10. netečnost	inertness	
11. lehkost	lightness	
12. savost, absorpčnost	absorbency	
13. viskozita, lepkavost	viscosity	
14. hustota	density	
15. trvanlivost, odolnost	durability	
16. odolnost proti korozi	corrosion resistance	
17. síla	strength	
18. rozpustnost	solubility	
19. hořlavost	combustibility	
20. propustnost	permeability	

### 8. Grammar: the use of adjectives + infinitives - study the examples here:

http://www.grammaring.com/adjective-to-infinitive

#### 9. Discoveries and inventions

Add the words 1 -6 to the text.

Read the text to find out *what makes the properties of steel better*, and under what conditions. Underline your answers.

In 1913, English metallurgist Harry Brearly accidentally discovered that adding chromium to low carbon steel gives 1\_\_ stain resistance. It is the addition of a minimum of 12% chromium to the steel 2\_\_ makes it resist rust, or stain 'less' than other types of steel. The chromium in the steel combines with oxygen in the atmosphere to form a thin, invisible layer of chrome-containing oxide, called the passive film. The sizes of chromium atoms and 3\_\_ oxides are similar, so 4\_\_ pack neatly together on the surface of the metal, forming a stable layer only a few atoms thick. If the metal is cut or scratched and the passive film is disrupted, 5\_\_ oxide will quickly form and recover the exposed surface, protecting 6\_\_ from oxidative corrosion. The passive film requires oxygen to self-repair, so stainless steels have poor corrosion resistance in low-oxygen and poor circulation environments.

<b>1.</b> its	<b>2.</b> that	<ol><li>other</li></ol>	<b>4.</b> they	<b>5.</b> less	<b>6.</b> them
it	which	his	that	little	it
this	what	their	what	more	us

## 10. Describing advantages and drawbacks

Talking about ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES				
The greatest advantage of	One drawback of				
Another point in favour of is	Another point against is				
The major benefit of	A major disadvantage of				
PROS	CONS				
good points, pluses, positive aspect,	bad points, minuses, disadvantage, drawback,				
advantage, positive point, benefit	negative effect,				

You will get a picture showing a new invention. Describe the invention and persuade your classmates about its benefits.

### **HOMEWORK:** How to make graphene

 $\underline{https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ehvksWx3AJQ\&list=PLA8E157D4D495E8D0} \quad 0.30-3.30\ , 5.35-6.56$ 

The scientists from the University of Manchester show how to make graphene from graphite and explain why graphene is an extraordinary material. Complete the gaps with the given words. Then listen and check.

impression	squishy	sticky	naked	excess	absorbs	rip	edge	sample	cleave	range	conductor	light
1. We take	some gra	aphite a	nd place	it on so	me tape,			tape				
2. Then yo	u just pre	ss the g	raphite,	it's								
3. Press the	e graphite	on the	tape an	d then y	ou can tal	ke an						
•	ou press t grap	•	togethe	er, you're	e basically	remo	oving a	few laye	rs, () s	o we ju	st remove t	he
5. It's quite	thick - it	's still a	graphite	e, you ca	n see it w	ith th	e		eye			
•	u press th nove the			ne silicon	surface, j	ust g	rab the	!		of the	tape and tl	he trick
7. If you do	it too qu	iickly, th	en the l	ayers do	n't		that v	well.				
8. What we	e would tl	hen do i	s transfe	er the		t	o a mio	croscope				
() 9. Nice thir	ng about {	graphen	e is that	it's got	a whole			of pro	perties v	vhich ar	e all great.	
10. Despite	the fact	that it is	so thin	, it's alsc	the stror	igest	materi	al. If you	try to		it a	part, it
takes m	ore force	than ar	nything e	else.								
11. Since it	is so thin	ı, it's als	o very									
12. It's mo	stly trans	parent –	- it's abo	out 97% t	transpare	nt to	light bu	ut anothe	er way o	f lookin	g at it is de	spite
being th	nat thin it	still		3%								
13. Graphe	ne is the	best			of elec	tricity	and h	eat beca	use elec	trons ca	an zip throu	ıgh
grapher	ne as if th	ey are p	articles	of light.								