

Key points to learn

1. Fuel	Substance that we burn to release heat energy
	Stores chemical energy
2. Fossil fuels	Coal, oil and gas
	Remains of ancient organisms. Millions of years to form.
	Are non-renewable
	Release carbon dioxide when burnt
3. Non-renewable	Are used quicker than they are made. So will run out.
4. Renewable fuels	Made quicker than they are used. Will not run out
	These energy sources are renewable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biofuel • Wind and Wave • Geothermal • Hydroelectric and Tidal • Solar
5. Biofuel	Fuel made from living organisms eg vegetable oil, ethanol, wood
	Are considered carbon-neutral because CO ₂ released is balanced by amount taken in by photosynthesis
	Reliable – can even be used fossil fuel power stations
	Reduces land available for food growth
	Renewable
6. Burning fuels	Releases carbon dioxide which contributes to the greenhouse effect and global warming.

Key points to learn

7. Decommission	Take apart and make safe at the end of its life
8. Wind and wave power	Kinetic energy of the air/water turns turbines
	Unreliable as both need wind
	Renewable
9. Geothermal power	Use heat energy from deep underground instead of fuel
	Not available everywhere
	Renewable
10. Hydroelectric and Tidal power	Water stored high up in dams then released to spin a turbine
	Very quick start-up time
	Can destroy habitats for animals
	Renewable
11. Solar power	Use light or heat energy from the Sun
	Unreliable as needs sun
	Renewable
12. Nuclear fuel	Energy stored in nucleus as nuclear energy. Uranium or Plutonium.
	Heat release in reactor core
	High energy yield
	Very slow start-up time as potentially dangerous
	Fuel and waste is radioactive
	Very expensive to set up and decommission

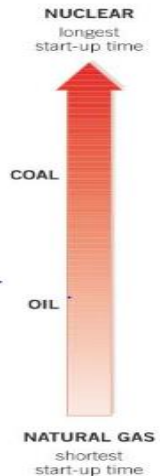
P3 – Energy Resources

[Video Link](#)

Knowledge Organiser

Big energy issues:

- Variations in demand
- Start up times of power stations
- Reliability problems
- Capital costs vs. overall costs



Background

It is hard to imagine a World without electricity. It reaches into every aspect of our lives. But where do we get the energy to make it from? Will they run out? Have we got a backup plan?

Additional

To make electricity, we usually spin a turbine which we then attach to a generator. Making that turbine spin, is the problem... The most common way is by burning fuels to boil water, then shooting the steam at the turbine. But there are issues with this, as you will find out.