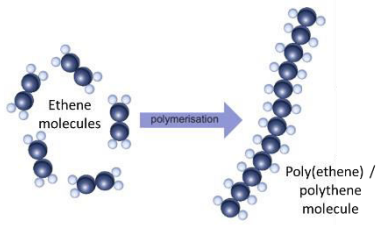
9E Making Materials

1. About Ceramics

Ceramics	Range of hard, durable, non-metallic materials, generally unaffected by heat. *e.g. glass, china*
Ceramic Properties	• Hard, strong and brittle • High melting point and heat resistant • Good insulators of heat and electricity • Very unreactive
Glass	Hard, rigid, unreactive and can be transparent making it ideal for windows, bottles and jars.
Porcelain	Rigid, strong when compressed and an electrical insulator making it ideal to support electrical cables on pylons.
Ceramics	Heat resistant so used for brakes in high-performance cars
Raw Materials	Clays are used for making pottery and sand for glass.
Using Clay	When heated, chemical reactions occur forming new compounds. When cooled, crystals form and bind together in the ceramic.
Crystal Size	Dependent upon speed of cooling. Slower cooling produces larger crystals.
Lattice Structure	Grid-like structure formed by crystals.
Bonds	Because atoms in a lattice structure are joined by strong bonds it explains why ceramics are so stiff and have high melting points.

2. Polymers

Polymer	Substances that have molecules made of long chains of repeated groups of atoms.
Monomer	Small molecule joined with the identical molecules to form polymers.
Rubber	Polymer from certain trees. Soft and sticky when hot, but hard and brittle when cold.
Vulcanisation	Rubber is heated with sulfur to form cross-links between molecules making it harder and tougher.
Natural Polymer	Polymers found naturally. *e.g. rubber, DNA, proteins*
Synthetic Polymers	Polymers made in laboratories mainly using raw materials from crude oil.
Polymerisation	Reaction that joins together monomers into chains.
Forming Polythene Diagram	
Exothermic	Reactions that transfer energy to the surroundings. e.g. polymerisation
Endothermic	Reactions that absorb energy from the surroundings.

3. Composite Materials

Composite Material	Combinations of 2 or more materials with properties of each. *e.g. concrete, paper*
Laminated Glass	Combines layers of glass with a clear polymer
Laminated Glass Properties	Laminated glass is rigid and hardwearing like glass but holds together under impact.
Making Composite Materials	Many are made by mixing fibres into a liquid resin which then sets hard.
GRP (Glass Reinforced Plastic)	Composite of glass fibres in a polyester resin. Used in boatbuilding as it is strong, light and slightly flexible.
Concrete	Composite material made from a mixture of cement, sand, aggregate and water.
Concrete Properties	Strong, hardwearing and easy to mould into shapes.
Aggregate	Crushed rocks
Reinforced Concrete	In building works, steel rods are also added to make it even stronger.
Cement	Mainly calcium oxide which is made by roasting calcium carbonate (limestone) in a thermal decomposition reaction which is endothermic
Thermal Decomposition of Limestone	Calcium carbonate → calcium oxide + carbon dioxide

4. Problems With Materials

Finite	Limited resource that will eventually run out.
Fossil Fuels	Usually used in the manufacture of materials.
Incomplete Combustion	Produces carbon monoxide and soot due to lack of oxygen
Sulfur Dioxide	Caused by sulfur impurities in fuel. Leads to acid rain.
Nitrogen Oxides	Caused by high combustion temperatures. Form acid rain.
Carbon Dioxide	Traps the Sun's energy, increasing the greenhouse effect, leading to global warming.
Carbon Capture Technology	Technology used to remove carbon dioxide from waste gases given off.
Toxic Substances	Pass along the food chain as organisms eat smaller animals.
Non-Biodegradable	Materials that do not break down naturally.

5. Recycling Materials

Recycling	Using the same materials again.
Recycling Benefits	Reduce use of finite resources, save fuel/energy, reduce landfill use.
Recycling Metals	Can be melted down and used again.
Recycling Glass	Can be crushed, melted and moulded into new glass.
Recycling Polymers	Difficult and expensive to separate different polymers so recycling levels are low.
Recycling Paper	Water added, filtered, heated and mixed to form pulp, squeezed and dried to form paper.
Recycling Concrete	Crushed using large machines and used aggregate.

Lesson	Memorised?
1. About Ceramics	
2. Polymers	
3. Composite Materials	
4. Problems With Materials	
5. Recycling Materials	