MeerkatSkool

PRACTICE TEST

Practice test · Term 3
Version 1.5 · 20 October 2026

Natural Sciences and Technology · Grade 4

Energy and Change

Term 3 | 9 questions | CAPS-aligned

TOTAL 57 MARKS

NAME AND SURNAME _____ CLASS _____ DATE _____

Instructions

1. This question paper consists of TWO sections. Answer all the questions.
2. Answer all the questions on the question paper itself, in the spaces provided.
3. Read each question carefully before you begin writing.
4. Write neatly and legibly. Work that cannot be read cannot be marked.
5. You may use a pencil and a ruler for drawings and diagrams.

Question	Content of the question	Marks	Obtained
1	Multiple choice	5	
2	Matching	4	
3	Short questions	6	
4	Energy and energy sources	8	
5	Volume and pitch	6	
6	Sound	9	
7	Energy transfer and conversion	9	
8	Sequencing: the energy chain	6	
9	Input energy of machines	4	
	Total	**57**	
	Percentage		%

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Section A Short questions

1 Multiple choice

5 marks

Choose the correct answer and circle the letter next to it.

PRACTICE EXAMPLE · DO THIS ONE TOGETHER FIRST

Which one gives off light?

a A torch that is switched on b A stone c A pillow

A torch that is switched on gives off light, so the answer is a. Circle the a.

This example does not count for marks. It only shows you how to answer.

1.1 What is the Earth's most important source of energy? **(1)**

(a) The Sun (b) The Moon (c) The stars

1.2 Which one of the following stores energy that we can use? **(1)**

(a) Sand (b) Wood (c) Glass

1.3 How do you make a guitar string vibrate? **(1)**

(a) You blow into it (b) You press it down and hold it still (c) You pluck it

1.4 What kind of energy does a drum make when you hit it? **(1)**

(a) Sound energy (b) Heat energy (c) Light energy

1.5 What must an object do to make sound? **(1)**

(a) Melt (b) Vibrate (c) Grow

2 Matching

4 marks

Match the description in COLUMN A with the correct word in COLUMN B. Write only the LETTER. One word is left over.

2.1 **(4)**

COLUMN A	COLUMN B	Answer
1. A chain where energy moves from the Sun to plants to animals	A. Noise pollution	1 = _____
2. When energy moves from one place or object to another	B. Fuel	2 = _____
3. Loud sound that can damage our ears	C. Energy transfer	3 = _____
4. How high or low a sound is	D. Energy chain	4 = _____
	E. Pitch	

3 Short questions

6 marks

3.1 Name THREE things in which energy is stored. **(3)**

3.2 Write next to each musical instrument how you give it movement energy to make a sound: BLOW, HIT or PLUCK. **(3)**

Instrument	Blow / Hit / Pluck
Drum	
Pan flute	
Thumb piano (mbira)	

Section B Longer questions

4 Energy and energy sources — 8 marks

4.1 Explain where the energy in your food originally comes from. **(2)**

4.2 Name TWO ways energy is used at school. **(2)**

4.3 Why do people and animals need to eat food every day? **(2)**

4.4 Name TWO kinds of energy that we notice around us every day. **(2)**

5 Volume and pitch — 6 marks

5.1 Write LOUD or SOFT next to each sound. **(2)**

Sound	Loud / Soft
A jet plane taking off	
Someone whispering	

5.2 Write HIGH or LOW next to each sound. **(2)**

Sound	High / Low
A small bird chirping	
A big drum being hit	

5.3 How can you make a drum sound LOUDER? **(1)**

_____

5.4 What do we call how loud or soft a sound is? **(1)**

_____

6 Sound

9 marks

6.1 What must happen before an object can make sound? **(2)**

_____

_____

6.2 Name TWO musical instruments and say which part of each one vibrates. **(2)**

_____

_____

6.3 Sound can travel through many materials. Name TWO materials, other than air, that sound can travel through. **(2)**

_____

_____

_____

6.4 Vusi fills four glass bottles with different amounts of water and taps each one with a spoon. **(3)**

a. Which factor must he keep the SAME? _____

b. Which factor does he CHANGE? _____

c. What does he measure? _____

_____

_____

_____

7 Energy transfer and conversion

9 marks

7.1 What kind of OUTPUT energy does each device give? **(4)**

Device	Output energy
Car	
Gas heater	
Electric kettle	
Drum	

7.2 A radio is switched on. What is its INPUT energy, and what is its OUTPUT energy? **(2)**

7.3 A candle is lit. What is its INPUT energy, and what is its OUTPUT energy? **(2)**

7.4 Name ONE way to reduce noise pollution at school. **(1)**

8 Sequencing: the energy chain

6 marks

8.1 Arrange the following in the correct order to show how energy moves. Write 1 to 4. **(4)**

Step	Number
The cow eats the grass	
The person drinks the cow's milk	
The Sun shines	
The grass grows	

8.2 Where does EVERY energy chain start? Explain why. **(2)**

9 Input energy of machines

4 marks

9.1 Where does each of these get its INPUT energy from? **(4)**

Machine	Input energy
Bicycle	
Car	
Torch	
Windmill	

Total **57 marks**



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