

# TRINITY COLLEGE FOR WOMEN NAMAKKAL Department of Physics

**INTRODUCTORY PHYSICS** 

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#### What is energy?

- Energy is defined as the "ability to do work, which is the ability to exert a force causing displacement of an object." Despite this confusing definition, its meaning is very simple: energy is just the force that causes things to move.
- Energy is divided into two types:
- > potential
- > kinetic

# What are the different types of energy?

➤ Types of energy can be categorised into two broad categories – kinetic energy (the energy of moving objects) and potential energy (energy that is stored).

These are the two basic forms of energy. The different types of energy include thermal energy, radiant energy, chemical energy, nuclear energy, electrical energy, motion energy, sound energy, elastic energy and gravitational energy.

#### Thermal (Heat) Energy

Thermal energy is created from the vibration of atoms and molecules within substances. The faster they move, the more energy they possess and the hotter they become. Thermal energy is also called *heat* energy.



## **Chemical Energy**

Chemical energy is stored in the bonds of atoms and molecules – it is the energy that holds these particles together. Stored chemical energy is found in food, biomass, petroleum, and natural gas.



#### **Nuclear Energy**

Nuclear energy is stored in the nucleus of atoms. This energy is released when the nuclei are combined (fusion) or split apart (fission). Nuclear power plants split the nuclei of uranium atoms to produce electricity.



## **Electrical Energy**

Electrical energy is the movement of electrons (the tiny particles that makeup atoms, along with protons and neutrons). Electrons that move through a wire are called electricity. Lightning is another example of electrical energy.



## **Radiant Energy**

Also known as light energy or electromagnetic energy, radiant energy is a type of kinetic energy that travels in waves. Examples include the energy from the sun, x-rays, and radio waves.

# **Light Energy**

Light energy is a form of electromagnetic radiation. Light consists of photons, which are produced when an object's atoms heat up. Light travels in waves and is the only form of energy visible to the human eye.



# **Sound Energy**

in sound than in other forms of energy. Sound energy is the movement of energy through substances. It moves in waves and is produced when a force makes an object or substance vibrate. There is usually much less energy



#### **Elastic Energy**

Elastic energy is a form of potential energy that is stored in an elastic object - such as a coiled spring or a stretched elastic band. Elastic objects store elastic energy when a force causes them to be stretched or squashed



#### **Gravitational Energy**

Gravitational energy is a form of potential energy. It is an energy associated with gravity or gravitational force – in other words, the energy held by an object when it is in a high position compared to a lower position.



# THANK YOU

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