

Design & Technology

Smart materials

Materials required for questions

- Pencil
- Rubber
- Calculator

Instructions

- Use black ink or ball-point pen
- Try to answer all questions
- Use the space provided to answer questions
- Calculators can be used if necessary
- For the multiple choice questions, circle your answer

Advice

- Marks for each question are in brackets
- Read each question fully
- Don't spend too much time on one question

Good luck!

Q1. Which **one** of the following is a smart material?

- A** Shape memory alloy (SMA)
- B** Polyester resin
- C** Medium density fibreboard (MDF)

Q2. Which one of the following materials will respond quickly to a change in Ultra Violet (UV) light?

- A** Shape memory alloys
- B** Reactive glass
- C** Carbon nanotubes

Q3. What is the definition of a smart material?

- A** A material that has been engineered to have additional properties
- B** A material whose physical properties change in response to external stimuli
- C** A material that is available in large sheets

Q4. Smart materials have?

- A** Properties that can significantly change
- B** Good conducting properties
- C** Weak covalent bonds

Q5. What material is used to make dental braces?

- A** Nitinol
- B** Zinc
- C** Aluminium

Q6. What properties does phosphorescent pigment have?

- A** Never ending light source
- B** Absorbs heat, heat energy released in dark
- C** Absorbs light and releases it in the dark

Q7. Why might quantum tunnelling composites be used in a winter coat?

- A** They have excellent thermal capacity
- B** Allow user to use electronics without hands
- C** Protect user from UV radiation

Q8. Reactive glass could reduce energy consumption by?

- A** Storing heat energy and turning it into electricity
- B** Changing transparency with light to keep room temperatures constant
- C** Increasing incident light rays into houses creating more heat energy

Q9. Explain **three** features in the design of smartphones that have been impacted by smart materials and the miniaturisation of components **(9 marks)**

1.

2.

3.

Q10a. Phosphorescent pigments have many practical applications. What are phosphorescent pigments? **(2 marks)**

10b. Describe **one** application of phosphorescent pigments **(3 marks)**

Q11. Shape Memory Alloys (SMA) are often used in fire alarms and air-conditioning units.

Explain the smart property of a Shape Memory Alloy (SMA) that makes it suitable for these applications **(2 marks)**

Q12. What is polymorph? Your answer must include a reference to a practical application **(3 marks)**

Q13a. Thermochromic pigments have many innovative applications. Outline the household applications of thermochromic pigments **(4 marks)**

Q13b. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of thermochromic pigments
(4 marks)

Q14. New technologies have transformed products in innovative ways.

Smart glass is often used in the glazing of buildings. Discuss the benefits of using smart glass in this application **(3 marks)**

[illegible]

Answers

Q1. A

Q2. B

Q3. B

Q4. A

Q5. A

Q6. C

Q7. B

Q8. B

Q9.

- Smartphones are thin (1) as developments in battery technology have allowed the miniaturisation of battery packs (1) while maintaining battery life/reducing weight/less bulky to carry (1)
- Increased functionality/storage capacity features, e.g. camera, torch, pay scan, etc. (1) due to miniaturisation of electronics (1) so consumers can use smartphones for a greater range of tasks/store more data, pictures, videos, music, games, etc. (1)
- Smart materials have been used to develop colour LCD screens (1) enabling clear/detailed/high-quality images (1), resulting in increased consumer appeal (1)
- Smart material is used in piezo-electric transducers (1), enables reasonable quality sound/music without the use of bulky speakers (1) so consumers can access their music anywhere (1)
- The development of touch screen technology (1) has reduced the need for physical buttons/keyboards on phones (1), allowing improved looks, clean aesthetic lines/leading to easier use of phones /improved ergonomics (1)

Q10a.

- Phosphorescent pigments are manufactured from phosphors (1)
- Material absorbs light and emits it slowly over time (1)
- Pigment is often used in novelty toys, safety signs (1)

10b.

Application 1 – luminous watch

- Absorbs suns and artificial lights energy (1)
- In the dark, energy is slowly released (1)
- Light is actually also released during the day however we do not notice it (1)
- An advantage of it is the glow allows the user to read the time in the dark (1)
- It is also aesthetically pleasing (1)

Application 2 – glow in the dark toys

- Material it is made from contains phosphorescent pigment (1)
- Absorbs light energy during day time (1)
- Slowly releases energy in form of light (1)
- More apparent at night time (1)

Q11.

- A change in stimulus (temperature / electricity) (1)
- produces a change in shape / movement (1)

Q12.

- Polymorph is a thermoplastic material (1)
- Can be shaped and reshaped any number of times (1)
- Normally supplied as granules looking like small plastic beads (1)
- When heated with hot water, granules become a solid material that can be moulded (1)
- Applications include: ergonomic handles, 3D modelling (1)

Q13a.

- Used as a safety indicator in products that might be used in the kitchen (1)
- Used as a safety indicator in products such as cutlery used by children (1)
- Used as a safety indicator in products used in the bathroom e.g. bath toys (1)
- Used on containers to register correct temperatures for the storage of foods (1)
- Used as a thermometer e.g. forehead thermometer/room thermometer/fish tank thermometer (1)
- Used for novelty effect e.g. décor / children's toys / mugs / cups (1)
- Used in food storage / fridges to indicate correct/safe temperature (1)
- Radiator warning label / sticker (1)

Q13b.**Advantages**

- Colour changes give an indication of safe temperature (1)
- Removes need for external thermometer (1)
- Encourages children to make safety checks (1)
- Gives novelty value (1)
- Clear visual warning / indication of temperature (1)
- Ease of use (1)
- Thermochromic temperature indicators are cheaper than conventional thermometers (1)

Disadvantages

- Difficult to achieve a precise temperature reading (1)
- Limited range of colours (1)
- Become less effective over time (1)
- Can lead to complacency (1)
- Can be slow to react for some applications (1)
- Products can be more expensive than conventional products (1)

Answers that state 'cheaper' or 'more expensive' unless qualified will not be accepted

Q14.

- Provides shade from harmful UV rays reduce glare (1)
- Glass can change opacity properties / tint the window (by the application of electric input) (1)
- Provides privacy when made opaque (1)
- Can be used for energy saving windows to prevent heat passing (1)
- Can reduce secondary greenhouse emissions through excessive heating / a-c (1)
- Can be used for advertising / promotion / gimmick (1)
- Eliminates need to blinds / curtains (1)
- Reduces gold fish bowl effect in / out side (1)
- Allows control of natural light levels (1)

Q15.

- The lenses will darken in sunlight (1) which means a second pair is not required (1) thus reducing the cost to the consumer (1)
- No need to change glasses as the user moves between environments (1) because the glasses will always have the correct level of tint (1) minimising eye strain (1)
- The user is likely to wear them all the time (1) so there is less chance of them being lost (1) reducing the need for costly replacements (1)
- Improved safety when driving (1) because the driver does not have to change glasses (1) when light levels change (1)