# Metals & alloys

1. What is the text about?

Metals & alloys is about the difference between a metal and an alloy. A metal is a pure periodic element while an alloy is mixed of different elements to often times make it stronger.

1. What is an alloy?

An alloy is a metal mixed of different periodic elements. Steel for example is made out of iron and carbon. Another alloy could be brass which is made out of copper and zinc.

1. Define the concept “an element”:

An ‘element’ is a single element from the periodic table. This includes, but is not limited to, oxygen, iron, gold and uranium. They all have an individual periodic number. Iron has the number 26.

1. Explain why it is called an element, not a element:

An is used whenever the following word begins with a vowel sound or a soft H.

1. Name three metals or alloys mentioned in the text and comment on their composition (alloys) and uses:

Steel: According to ‘Multipurpose metals’ (p.17 right-hand side), steel is used inside a clock. The springs, chain and cogwheels are all made of steel.

Copper: Copper is a grate carrier of electric currents and is therefor most widely used in electrical cables.

Bronze: Bronze is a great metal for making bells. It vibrates for a long time when struck. The Liberty Bell is made out of bronze. It has cracked a total of three times, last being in 1846.