

MAGNETISM & MATTER – FULL STUDY GUIDE (CLASS 12)

 *Fun + Visual + Exam-ready + Easy-to-understand*

1. THEORY IN SIMPLE WORDS (WITH VISUALS)

1.1 What is Magnetism?

Magnetism = a property of materials where they can **attract or repel** other magnetic materials (like iron, nickel, cobalt).

Visual:

N ——— S

Opposite poles attract

Like poles repel

1.2 Earth's Magnetism

Earth behaves like a **giant bar magnet** with a magnetic field around it.

Key points:

- Geographic North ≠ Magnetic North
- Magnetic south pole near geographic north
- Magnetic north pole near geographic south

Visual:

Geographic N



Magnetic S

1.3 Magnetic Field Lines

- Always go from **North → South** outside a magnet
 - Do not intersect
 - Crowded = strong field
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★ 1.4 Magnetic Dipole

Every magnet has a **North pole** and **South pole**.

Magnetic dipole moment:

$$\vec{M} = m \cdot 2l$$

(m = pole strength, $2l$ = length)

★ 1.5 Magnetization (M)

M = magnetic moment / volume

Shows how strongly a material is magnetized.

★ 1.6 Magnetic Intensity (H)

External magnetizing field applied to a material.

$$\vec{B} = \mu_0(\vec{H} + \vec{M})$$

★ 1.7 Types of Magnetic Materials

(A) Diamagnetic

- Weakly repelled
- Susceptibility $\chi < 0$
- Example: copper, gold

(B) Paramagnetic

- Weakly attracted
- $\chi > 0$ (small positive)
- Example: aluminum, oxygen

(C) Ferromagnetic

- Strongly attracted
- $\chi \gg 0$ (large positive)
- Example: iron, cobalt, nickel

Visual Memory:

DIA → Dislike **magnets** (repelled)

PARA → Partially like **magnets** (weak attraction)

FERRO → Full **attraction** (strong)

★ 1.8 Curie's Law

For paramagnetic materials:

$$\chi = \frac{C}{T}$$

Susceptibility decreases when temperature increases.

★ 1.9 Permanent Magnets vs Electromagnets

Feature	Permanent Magnet	Electromagnet
Magnetism	Always	Only with current
Strength	Fixed	Adjustable
Example	Bar magnet	Crane magnet

★ 1.10 Hysteresis

Describes how a ferromagnetic material retains magnetism.

Key terms:

- Retentivity
- Coercivity
- Hysteresis loop area → energy loss

Visual:

Loop shape: S-shaped magnetic memory curve

2. KEY CONCEPTS & FORMULAS TABLE

Concept	Formula	Memory Trick
Dipole moment	$M = m \times 2l$	"Pole × distance"

Concept	Formula	Memory Trick
Magnetic intensity	$B = \mu_0(H + M)$	H + M = Total
Susceptibility	$M = \chi H$	χ connects M & H
Curie's law	$\chi = C/T$	\uparrow Temp $\rightarrow \downarrow \chi$
Torque on magnet	$\tau = MB \sin \theta$	Same as electric dipole

🌈 Mnemonics

- DIA \rightarrow Dislike (repelled)
- PARA \rightarrow Partial like
- FERRO \rightarrow Fiercely attracted
- NS Rule: "Field OUT from N, INTO S."

3. SOLVED NUMERICAL PROBLEMS

⭐ Type 1: Magnetic Dipole Moment

Q: A magnet has pole strength $m = 4 A \cdot m$ and distance between poles = 10 cm. Find magnetic dipole moment.

$$M = m(2l) = 4 \times 0.1 = 0.4 A \cdot m^2$$

⭐ Type 2: Curie's Law Problem

Q: $\chi = 0.01$ at 300 K. Find χ at 600 K.

Curie's law:

$$\chi \propto 1/T$$

$$\chi_2 = \chi_1 \frac{T_1}{T_2}$$

$$\chi_2 = 0.01 \times \frac{300}{600} = 0.005$$

⭐ Type 3: Torque on a Bar Magnet

Q: A magnet of moment $0.5 \text{ A} \cdot \text{m}^2$ is placed in a field of 0.2 T at 90° .
Find torque.

$$\tau = MB \sin \theta = 0.5 \times 0.2 \times 1 = 0.1 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}$$

4. PREVIOUS YEARS' BOARD QUESTIONS (SOLVED)

(Based on CBSE trends from 2016–2024)

✓ Q1

Define magnetic declination and inclination.
(VERY frequently asked)

✓ Q2

Explain diamagnetic, paramagnetic, ferromagnetic with examples.

✓ Q3

Draw hysteresis loop and label coercivity & retentivity.

✓ Q4

State and explain Curie's law of magnetism.
(3 marks)

✓ Q5

Derive torque on a bar magnet in a magnetic field.

✓ Q6

Explain why the earth behaves like a magnet.
(2 marks)

✓ Q7 (Numerical)

Find magnetic dipole moment / torque / susceptibility using formula.

5. QUICK REVISION NOTES (1–2 PAGES)

★ Earth's Magnetism

- Earth has magnetic field like a giant bar magnet
 - Magnetic axis \neq geographic axis
 - Declination = angle between magnetic & geographic meridian
 - Inclination = angle between B and horizontal
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★ Magnetization (M)

$$M = \frac{\text{magnetic moment}}{\text{volume}}$$

★ Magnetic Susceptibility (χ)

$$M = \chi H$$

★ Materials

Diamagnetic

- χ negative
- Weakly repelled
- Examples: Cu, Au

Paramagnetic

- χ small positive
- Weak attraction
- Examples: Al, O₂

Ferromagnetic

- χ very large
 - Domains aligned
 - Examples: Fe, Co, Ni
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★ Hysteresis

- Loop shows magnetism memory
 - Retentivity: remaining magnetism after removing field
 - Coercivity: field required to demagnetize
 - Energy loss = area of loop
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★ Magnets in fields

- Torque $\rightarrow MB \sin \theta$
 - Potential energy $\rightarrow -MB \cos \theta$
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6. PREDICTED / LIKELY QUESTIONS (2025 Boards)

Short Answer

- Define declination, inclination.
- What are magnetic materials?
- Write Curie's law.
- Distinguish between diamagnetic & paramagnetic.
- What is hysteresis?

Long Answer

- Explain earth's magnetism.
- Draw and explain hysteresis loop.
- Explain properties of ferromagnets.

Numericals

- Magnetic moment
 - Torque on magnet
 - Curie's law calculations
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7. EXAM TIPS & TRICKS

✓ Tip 1: Draw diagrams neatly

Earth's field lines \rightarrow easy marks.

✓ Tip 2: Learn materials examples

Often asked as 1-mark MCQs.

✓ Tip 3: Don't confuse these:

- Declination \neq Inclination

- Susceptibility (χ) \neq Permeability (μ)

✓ Tip 4: Hysteresis Loop Trick

Right side → strong field

Top curve → retained magnetism

Left curve → coercive force

✓ Tip 5: For numerical

Convert cm → m, mT → T, A·m → SI units.

8. VISUAL & KID-FRIENDLY MEMORY TOOLS

🌐 Magnetic Materials Visual

DIA → ↓ (weak repulsion)

PARA → ↑ (weak attraction)

FERRO → ↑↑↑ (strong attraction)

🌐 Earth's Magnet Visual

Actual Magnetic South ≈ Geographic North

(They attract!)

🌐 Hysteresis Loop

Loop = magnetic memory

Big loop = more energy loss

🌐 Dipole

N — S

Moment → from S to N