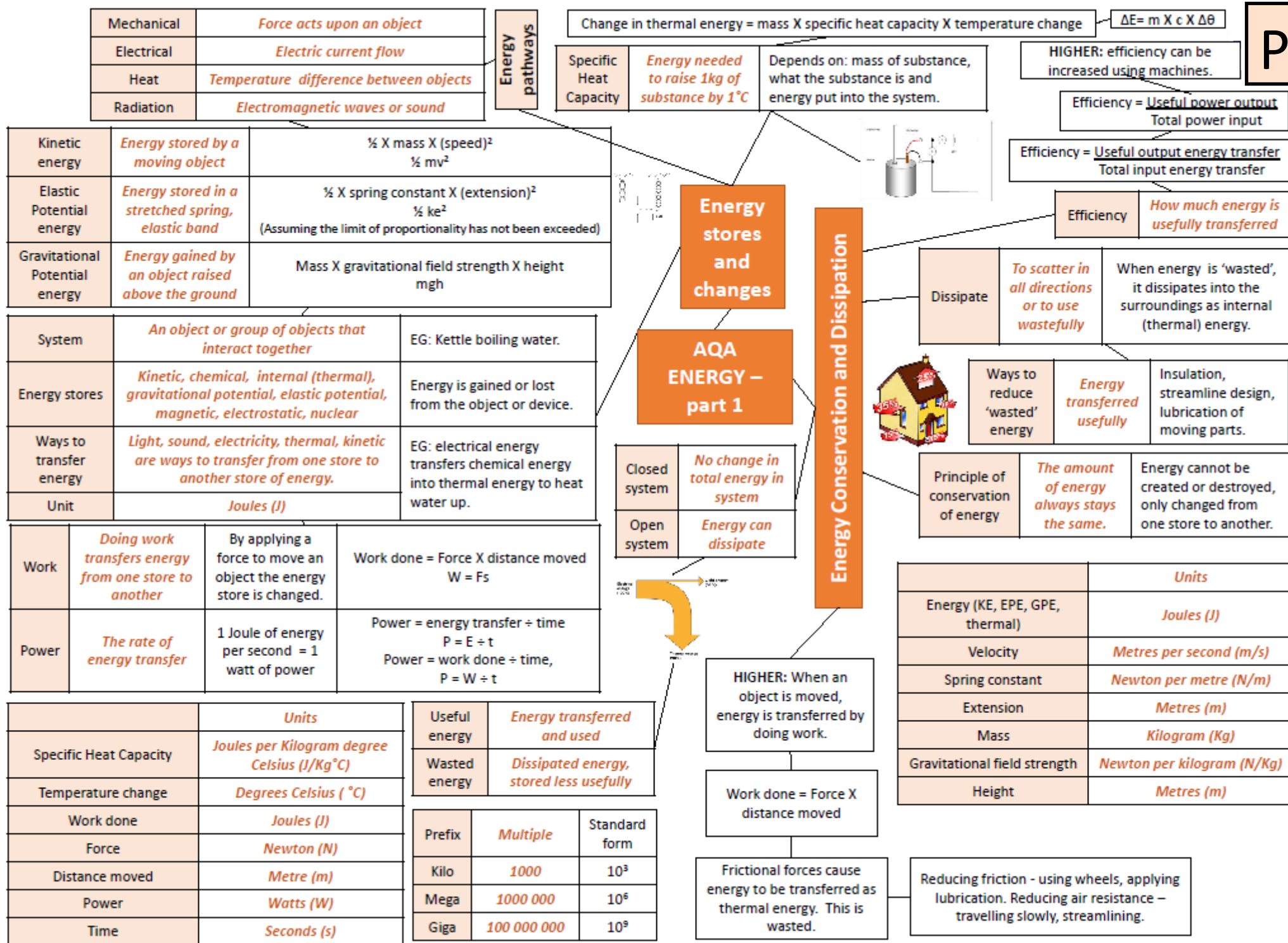
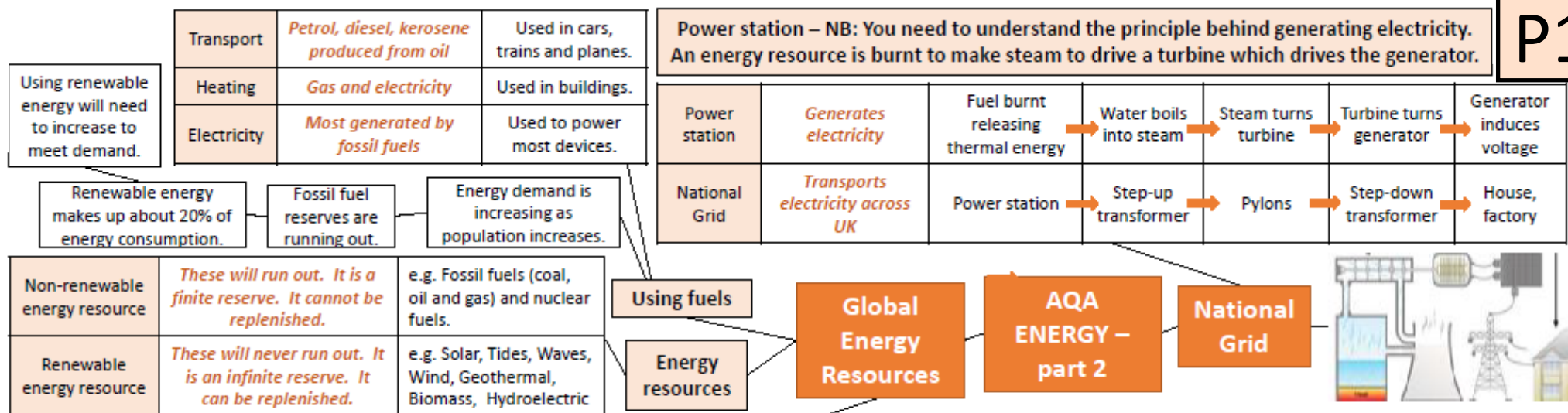






Energy resource	How it works	Uses	Positive	Negative
Fossil Fuels (coal, oil and gas)	<i>Burnt to release thermal energy used to turn water into steam to turn turbines</i>	Generating electricity, heating and transport	Provides most of the UK energy. Large reserves. Cheap to extract. Used in transport, heating and making electricity. Easy to transport.	Non-renewable. Burning coal and oil releases sulfur dioxide. When mixed with rain makes acid rain. Acid rain damages building and kills plants. Burning fossil fuels releases carbon dioxide which contributes to global warming. Serious environmental damage if oil spilt.
Nuclear	<i>Nuclear fission process</i>	Generating electricity	No greenhouse gases produced. Lots of energy produced from small amounts of fuel.	Non-renewable. Dangers of radioactive materials being released into air or water. Nuclear sites need high levels of security. Start up costs and decommission costs very expensive. Toxic waste needs careful storing.
Biofuel	<i>Plant matter burnt to release thermal energy</i>	Transport and generating electricity	Renewable. As plants grow, they remove carbon dioxide. They are 'carbon neutral'.	Large areas of land needed to grow fuel crops. Habitats destroyed and food not grown. Emits carbon dioxide when burnt thus adding to greenhouse gases and global warming.
Tides	<i>Every day tides rise and fall, so generation of electricity can be predicted</i>	Generating electricity	Renewable. Predictable due to consistency of tides. No greenhouse gases produced.	Expensive to set up. A dam like structure is built across an estuary, altering habitats and causing problems for ships and boats.
Waves	<i>Up and down motion turns turbines</i>	Generating electricity	Renewable. No waste products.	Can be unreliable depends on wave output as large waves can stop the pistons working.
Hydroelectric	<i>Falling water spins a turbine</i>	Generating electricity	Renewable. No waste products.	Habitats destroyed when dam is built.
Wind	<i>Movement causes turbine to spin which turns a generator</i>	Generating electricity	Renewable. No waste products.	Unreliable – wind varies. Visual and noise pollution. Dangerous to migrating birds.
Solar	<i>Directly heats objects in solar panels or sunlight captured in photovoltaic cells</i>	Generating electricity and some heating	Renewable. No waste products.	Making and installing solar panels expensive. Unreliable due to light intensity.
Geothermal	<i>Hot rocks under the ground heats water to produce steam to turn turbine</i>	Generating electricity and heating	Renewable. Clean. No greenhouse gases produced.	Limited to a small number of countries. Geothermal power stations can cause earthquake tremors.