AQA GCSE Physics 9-1 Required Practicals

# Revision Booklet

# Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Group\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Wilmslow High School Physics Department.



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| Paper    1 | Specific Heat  Capacity | Investigation to determine the specific heat capacity of one or more materials. The investigation will involve linking the decrease of one energy store (or work done) to the increase in temperature and subsequent increase in thermal energy stored. |
| Thermal Insulation  (Separate Physics only) | Investigate the effectiveness of different materials as thermal insulators and the factors that may affect the thermal insulation properties of a material. |
| Resistance | Use circuit diagrams to set up and check appropriate circuits to investigate the factors affecting the resistance of an electrical circuit. This should include: the length of a wire (at constant temperature); combinations of resistors in series and parallel. |
| I-V characteristics | Use circuit diagrams to construct appropriate circuits to investigate the I-V characteristics of a variety of circuit elements including a filament lamp, a diode and a resistor at constant temperature. |
| Density | Use appropriate apparatus to make and record the measurements needed to determine the densities of regular and irregular solid objects and liquids. Volume should be determined from the dimensions of regularly shaped objects and by a displacement technique for irregularly shaped objects. Dimensions to be measured using appropriate apparatus such as a ruler, micrometre or Vernier callipers. |
| Paper 2 | Force and  Extension | Investigate the relationship between force and extension for a spring. |
| Acceleration | Investigate the effect of varying the force on the acceleration of an object of constant mass and the effect of varying the mass of an object on the acceleration produced by a constant force. |
| Waves | Make observations to identify the suitability of apparatus to measure the frequency, wavelength and speed of waves in a ripple tank and waves in a solid and take appropriate measurements. |
| Light (Separate Physics only) | Investigate the reflection of light by different types of surface and the refraction of light by different substances. |
| Radiation and  Absorption | Investigate how the amount of infrared radiation absorbed or radiated by a surface depends on the nature of that surface. |

There are videos on you tube that describe the physics practical work. Use the links from firefly science revision to watch them. Some of the practicals have several videos of different parts of the experiments. Remember that trilogy students don’t need to learn about the two extra separate physics experiments! Make some rough notes and diagrams that cover:

* Variables
* Step by step method
* Labelled diagram of the set up
* Measuring instruments needed
* Measurements to make
* How to process the results
* Safety Precautions

Use your notes to complete the tables for each of the 10 required practicals.

The tables are general so you may not need to use all the rows in every table. Trilogy students can ignore the two practicals marked for separate physics only

Practicals 1-5 may be tested on paper 1 and practicals 6-10 on paper 2.

Sample Questions

Density

A student wants to calculate the density of a lump of rock and a metal cube.

Describe the methods that the student should use to calculate the densities of the two objects.

Refraction

Describe an investigation into how the angle of incidence and angle of refraction are related for the refraction of light at an air to glass boundary. Your answer should consider any cause of inaccuracy in the data. A labelled diagram may be drawn as part of your answer.

Specific Heat Capacity

Describe how to determine the specific heat capacity of a metal such as copper. Include a labelled diagram showing how the apparatus is set up. Suggest why the result could have a value greater than expected.

Acceleration

A teacher is demonstrating how the acceleration of a trolley depends on the force applied to the trolley. She uses a sloping runway and a trolley. Write a list of the other equipment the teacher will need for the demonstration. Describe a method she could use for the demonstration. Suggest why the teacher kept the same trolley for all the demonstrations.

Radiation and Absorption

Describe how you would investigate the effect of surface colour on the emission of infra-red radiation from a hot object. Include how you would make the investigation fair and how you would determine if the results were reliable. Suggest a suitable resolution of each of the measuring instruments used.

# Specific Heat Capacity – Paper 1

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| Independent Variable(s) The one you vary. | Dependent Variable(s) The one you measure. | Control Variables  Kept the same for a fair test. |
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| Method | Step 1 |  | Diagram of set up. |
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| Step 3 |  |
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| Step 7 |  |

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| Measurement | Instrument Used | How Instrument is used / How to minimise errors |
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| Equations / Calculations used to process results | Safety Precautions |
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# Thermal Insulation – Paper 1 SEPARATE ONLY

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| Method | Step 1 |  | Diagram of set up. |
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| Measurement | Instrument Used | How Instrument is used / How to minimise errors |
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# Resistance – Paper 1

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| Method | Step 1 |  | Diagram of set up. |
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| Measurement | Instrument Used | How Instrument is used / How to minimise errors |
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# Current-Voltage Characteristics – Paper 1

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| Method | Step 1 |  | Diagram of set up. |
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# Density – Paper 1

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# Force and Extension – Paper 2

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| Method | Step 1 |  | Diagram of set up. |
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# Acceleration – Paper 2

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# Waves – Paper 2

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# Light – Paper 2 SEPARATE ONLY

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# Radiation and Absorption – Paper 2

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