

Year 10 Construction and the Built Environment

Unit One

Key Terms to learn over the summer holidays

Keyword	Definition
1 Performance	How a building provides a comfortable safe environment for its occupants.
2 Stable	When a structure can keep its balance without moving.
3 Sustainability	Preserving resources for future generations and minimising impact of construction activities on the natural environment.
4 Ratio	The proportion of one thing to another. For example if a ratio of water: cement is 1:2, there is twice as much cement as water
5 Coniferous	Trees that have cones, such as pine larch and fir. Timber used from these trees is also called soft wood
6 Deciduous	These are trees whose leaves fall during the year. Examples include oak, beech, ash and walnut. Timber used from these trees is also called hardwood
7 Hard-core	Materials such as broken bricks, stone or concrete, which are hard and do not readily absorb water or deteriorate
8 Aggregate	A term used to describe the rock material used in concrete and hard-core such as gravel and sand
9 Wall tie	A component used to join the two halves or skins of a cavity wall
10 Intumescent paint	Paint that swells up when heated. This makes it fire resistant.
11 Thermal insulation	Insulation against heat loss
12 Pointing	Filling the joints in brickwork with mortar to improve appearance and weatherproofing
13 Screed	This is made from cement and sand to provide a level surface before a floor is laid
14 Double glazing	Technology used to make windows less likely to lose heat.
15 Adjacent	Next to or touching something
16 uPVC cladding	A covering made up of un-plasticised polyvinyl chloride
17 Useful Life	The length of time that a building fulfils the needs of the people who live or work in it
18 Sustainability	Meeting the needs of the present without giving up the needs and right of the future
19 Fossil Fuels	Non-renewable fuels such as coal oil gas or peat
20 Brownfield	Sites that have already been used
21 Greenfield	Sites that have never been used before
22 Orientation	The direction the building faces
23 Prefabricated	Describes the parts of the building that have been made in a factory and brought on site for assembly only.
24 Render	A type of plaster finish used on external as well as internal walls. It can improve a building's insulation.
25 Cladding	A covering or coating on the outside of a structure.

Key questions to revise over the summer holidays

Question	Answer
26. What is meant by a dead load?	A load in a building that does not move
27. A timber classified as C45 is a...?	A softwood
28. Which way are wall ties placed in a cavity wall?	Both horizontally and vertically for stability
30. What is the name for checking the ratio of water and cement in wet concrete?	Slump testing
31. What is the name for loads that can change during the use of a building such as people and furniture?	Dynamic loads
32. How is pressure measured?	Newtons per square mm (N/mm ²)
33. What is a U-Value?	A way to measure heat loss from a building
34. What is an advantage of using sheep's wool as an insulator?	It absorbs extra moisture
35. What is the name for a window with two panes of glass with a narrow gap in-between them?	Double glazing
36. What type of insulation would be a priority when building a music studio?	Sound insulation
37. How is stability achieved in a low-rise building?	Construction of a suitable foundation
38. Which is the preferred direction for a garden to face?	South
39. Identify a fire resistant material	Plasterboard
40. What is meant by the substructure of a building?	Everything below ground
41. Identify a way to slow down spread of fire in a building.	Compartments