MACHINES

5. Glossary.

axle: n. a bar with a wheel on either end, around which the wheels turn, as on a car.

compound machine: n. instrument made with simple machines which uses power to perform work.

engine: n. machine with moving parts which changes power from electricity, oil… into movement.

force: n. power that may produce changes or movement in a body or object on which it acts.

friction: n. force that tries to stop one surface sliding over another.

gear: n. apparatus consisting of a set of toothed wheels, that allows power to be passed from one part of a machine to another.

gravity: n. natural force by which objects are attracted to each other, especially that by which a large mass pulls a smaller on to it.

inclined plane: n. sloping surface, such as a ramp. It **is** used to move objects. The object must be moved a longer distance than if it was lifted straight up, but less force is needed.

lever: n. bar or other strong tool used for lifting or moving something heavy. One end is placed under the object, and the other end is pushed down strongly.

pull: v. to use force in order to move something towards oneself or in the direction of the force.

pulley: n. apparatus consisting of a wheel over which a rope can be moved, used for lifting heavy things.

push: v. to use force in order to move something forward, away from oneself, or to a different position.

ramp: n. artificial slope that connects two levels.

roller: n. machine used form moving heavy things that have no wheels.

screw: v. to turn or tighten. Rotate (something) so as to attach or remove it by means of a spiral thread.

simple machine: n. instrument or apparatus with few or no moving parts, which uses power to perform work.

tool: n. simple instrument that is held in the hands, and used for doing special jobs, such as a hammer, spade, screwdriver…

wedge: n. piece of a hard material with a V-shaped edge, one end being thin and the other wide, used for making space or filling a space.

wheel: n. circular object with an outer frame which turns round and inner to which is joined, and used for making things move.