

$$\text{Power (in watts)} = \frac{\text{work done (in joules)}}{\text{time taken (in seconds)}}$$

$$\text{or } \text{Power} = \frac{\text{energy transferred (in J)}}{\text{time taken (in s)}}$$

1 watt = 1 joule per second

Example

A force of 100 N moves a distance of 5 m in 2 seconds.

- What is the work done?
- What is the power?

Answer

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) Work done} &= \text{force} \times \text{distance moved (see p. 107)} \\ &= 100 \text{ N} \times 5 \text{ m} \\ &= 500 \text{ J} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{b) Power} = \frac{\text{work done}}{\text{time taken}} = \frac{500 \text{ J}}{2 \text{ s}} = 250 \text{ W}$$

Questions

For each question show all your working clearly.

- A boy does 500 J of work in 10 seconds.
What is his power output?
- A mother pushes a pram with a force of 30 N for a distance of 100 m in 50 s.
What is her power output?
- An electric lamp is marked 60 W.
How much energy does it transfer
 - in 1 second?
 - in 100 seconds?
 What are the energy transfers here?
- An athlete runs a 100 m race in 10 s against a friction force (drag) of 100 N.
What is his power output?
- A weightlifter lifts an object of mass 30 kg through a height of 2 m in 3 seconds.
 - What is the weight of the object?
(Hint: see p. 75.)
 - What is the work done on the object?
 - What is his power output?
- A boy weighing 600 N runs up the stairs,
 - in 3 seconds, and then
 - in 4 seconds.
 The vertical height of the stairs is 4 m.
What is his power output in each case?
- A lift containing 6 people is raised through a height of 20 m in 10 s. The total weight of the lift and passengers is 6000 N.
What is the power of the lift motor,
 - in watts?
 - in kilowatts?

