

Name _____

SHORT ANSWER. Write the word or phrase that best completes each statement or answers the question.

1) What alternative power sources could be used for vehicles use?

2) What are the advantages and disadvantages of using hydrogen?

3) How does a fuel cell work?

4) How does an ultra-capacitor work?

5) What are the uses of the various types of fuel cells?

6) What are the advantages and disadvantages of fuel cells?

Answer Key

Testname: HYBRID4_SHORT18

- 1) Alternative power sources that could be harnessed for vehicle use include hydroelectricity and wind power.
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- 2) Advantages of using hydrogen include zero emissions, quiet operation, and ability to generate hydrogen using renewable energy sources. Disadvantages of using hydrogen include limited vehicle range, perceived safety issues, a lack of fueling infrastructure, and low well-to-tank efficiency.
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- 3) A fuel cell generates electricity by harnessing the energy that is released when hydrogen combines with oxygen. Hydrogen is fed to one side of a catalyst-coated membrane, while oxygen is fed to the other side. The proton from the hydrogen is allowed to pass through the membrane, but the electron must follow a path external to the fuel cell to combine with the oxygen on the opposite side. This electron flow is converted into usable power by sending it through an electrical load such as a motor.
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- 4) Ultra capacitors can be used in hybrid-electric vehicle applications to store electrical energy during regenerative braking, and then discharge that energy as the vehicle accelerates. Ultra capacitors lack energy density, but can charge and discharge very rapidly and are sometimes used in place of the battery pack in fuel cell hybrid vehicle designs.
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- 5) Uses of the various types of fuel cells include:
 - PAFC (Phosphoric Acid Fuel Cell) – used for stationary power applications
 - PEM (Proton Exchange Membrane Fuel Cell) – used in vehicles, portable power, small stationary power
 - MCFC (Molten Carbonate Fuel Cell) – used in industrial and institutional power
 - SOFC (Solid Oxide Fuel Cell) – used in stationary power and military vehicle applications
 - DMFC (Direct Methanol Fuel Cell) – used in small portable power applicationsPage Ref: 290
- 6) The advantages of a fuel cell include zero emissions (only water and heat), high efficiency relative to an internal combustion engine, and no moving parts. The disadvantages of a fuel cell include high cost, lack of refueling infrastructure, perceived safety issues, lack of vehicle range, lack of durability, freeze starting problems, and insufficient power density.
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