

# Introduction to Petroleum

**What is**   
**crude**  
**OIL?**

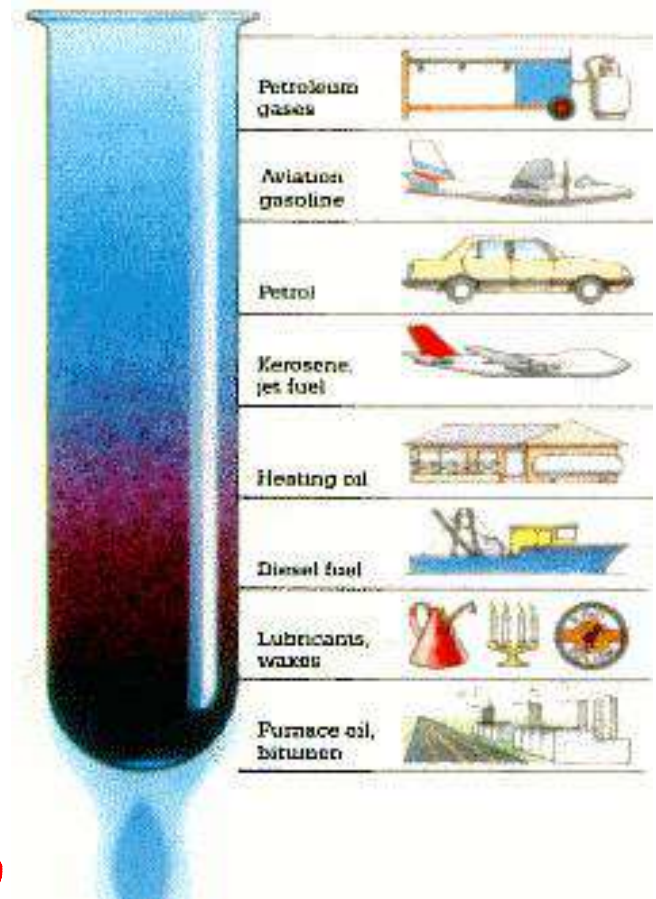
# *What is it?*

**Petroleum** - a liquid mixture of hydrocarbons that is present in rock layers

- It can be extracted and refined to produce fuels including gasoline, kerosene, and diesel oil
- Also used for chemicals, plastics, and synthetic materials
- Also known as crude oil, or black gold, or Texas Tea



- Petroleum (crude oil) is a mixture of hundreds to thousands of different compounds which
- a) are very rich in energy when burned
- b) can be transformed into many different compounds



Petroleum

a) is burned for energy  
b) is transformed into many compounds



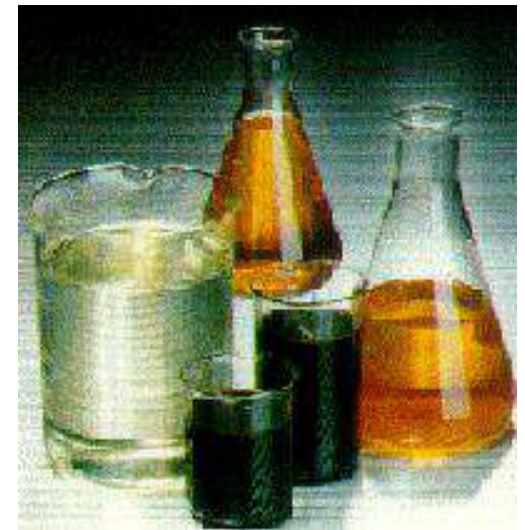
# Other uses of Petroleum

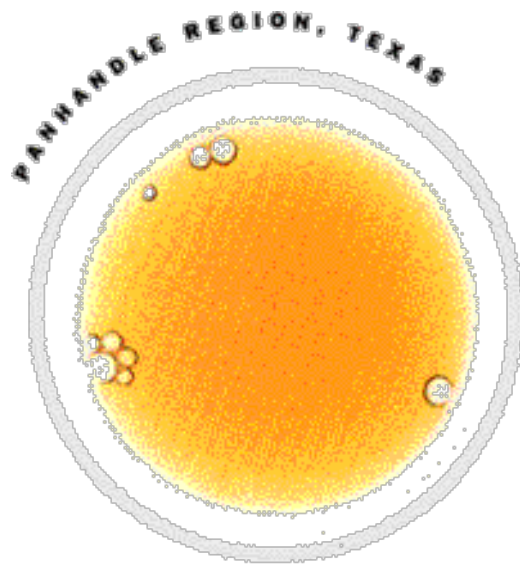
- Look around! Find something that DOESN'T come from petroleum
- - cd's, sports equipment, clothing, auto parts, carpeting, artificial limbs, medication. Etc.
- Eighty-four percent of petroleum is used outright as fuel
- Seven percent is used for medications and plastics
- The remaining 9% used for:
  - - lubricants, paving materials, miscellaneous products
- For every gallon of petroleum used to make useful products, more than five gallons are burned to release energy

# What is it like?

- Color?? Varies from pale yellow to dark black  
*Color: Wide Range*
- Texture?? Varies from very runny to a sludge-like texture (viscous) *Texture: very runny to highly viscous*
- Viscosity - resistance to flow; slow flowing liquids are very viscous

*Viscosity - resistance to flow*

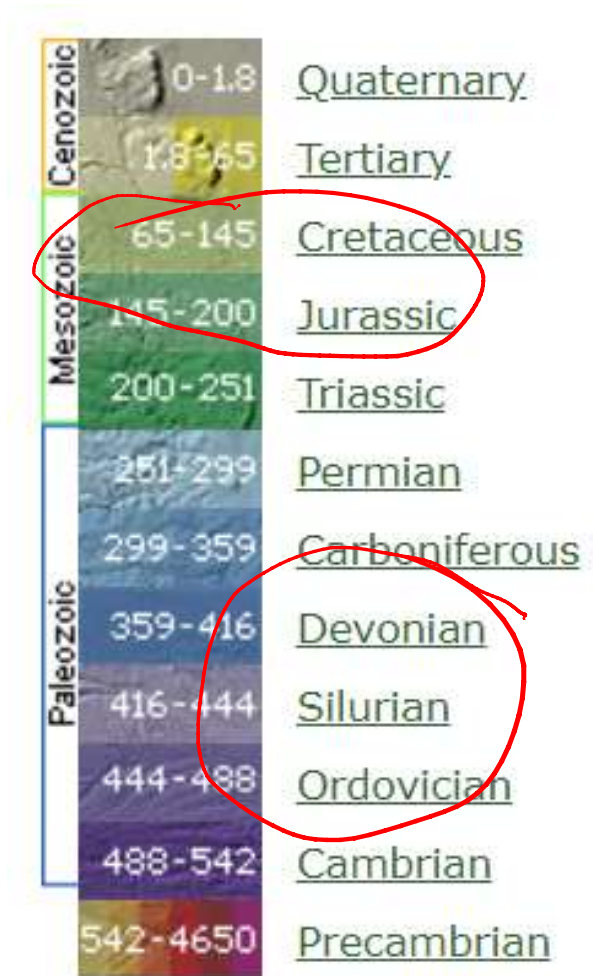




Petroleum From Around the World

# When did most petroleum form?

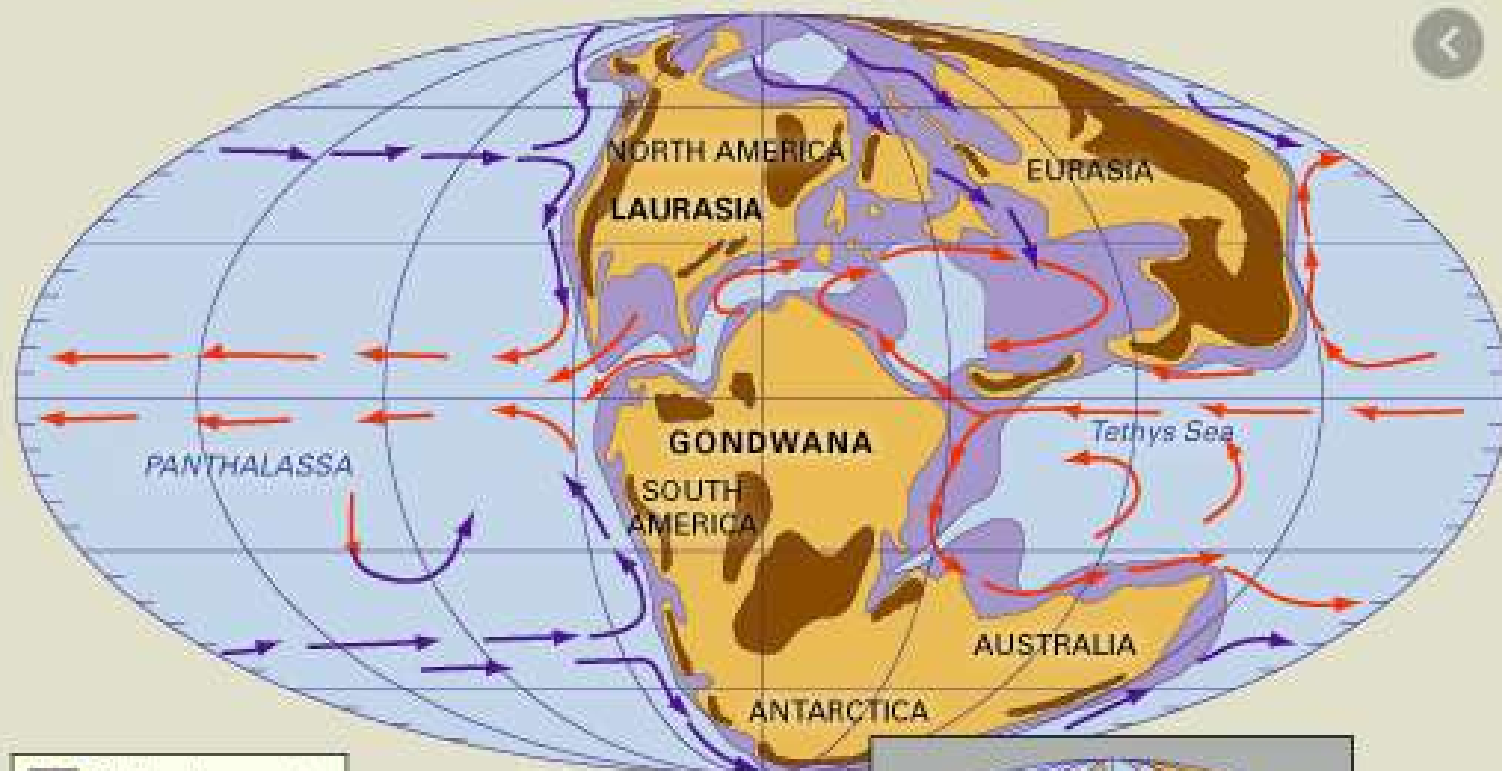
- 252 to 66 million years ago
  - 70% of oil deposits existing today were formed in the Mesozoic age (252 to 66 million years ago),
  - 20% were formed in the Cenozoic age (65 million years ago), and only
  - 10% were formed in the Paleozoic age (541 to 252 million years ago).



# Summary

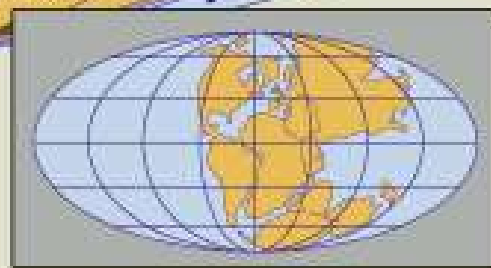
- Most petroleum on the planet formed around 200 million years ago for three reasons:
  1. It was significantly warmer than it is now
  2. The ocean level was much higher, which resulted in MANY shallow seas
  3. The shallow seas were TEEMING with life.

*Note: there have been other geological episodes similar to this in which abundant petroleum formed.*



- Cold water currents
- Warm water currents
- Mountains
- Land
- Shallow seas
- Deep ocean basins

**To animated map  
of all geologic  
time periods**



# The Greenhouse Era 100 Myr Ago

## The Cretaceous Period of the Mesozoic Era



- Global Sea Level – 200 m higher than today
- Shallow seas flooded continental interiors
- Cretaceous is from the Latin word *creta* which means chalk

## *So, how did it form?*

- *200 m.y.a – many continents were covered by warm, shallow seas*
- *marine life was abundant!! (mostly itty bitty stuff)*
- *it died, fell and built up on the ocean floor*
- *it rotted, got compressed from overlying material, and was heated from inside the earth*
- *this resulted in a mixture of gooey petroleum molecules!!!*



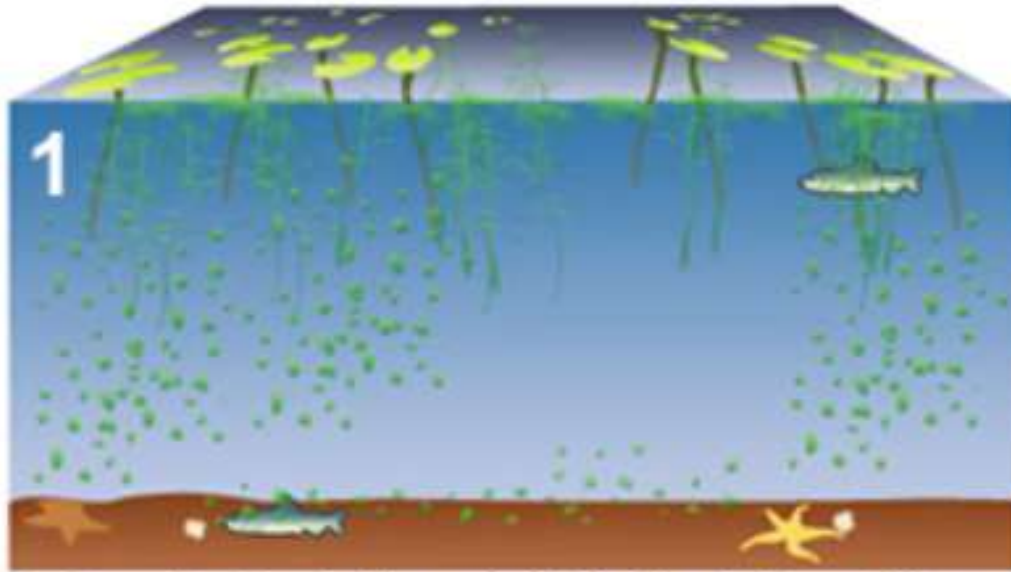
# What Happens Next??

- *After petroleum molecules form....*
- *they heat up and become less dense than the rocks around them*
- *they begin to rise up through the rocks*
- *petroleum can either escape into the atmosphere (where it is of no use to us) or....*
- *It can get trapped in a geologic structure*

## Petroleum Formation

→ marine life, which is abundant in warm shallow seas, dies and sinks to the bottom of the sea.

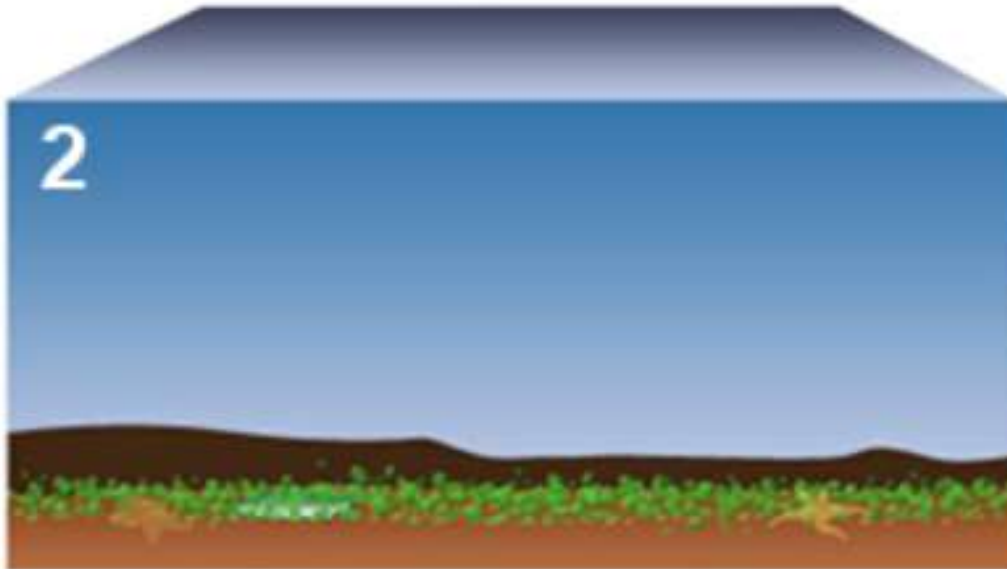
→ layers begin to form with the dead organisms and mud.



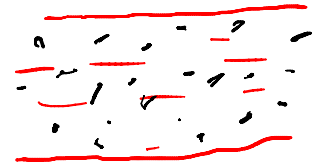
Plants and animals die and sink to the bottom of the sea.

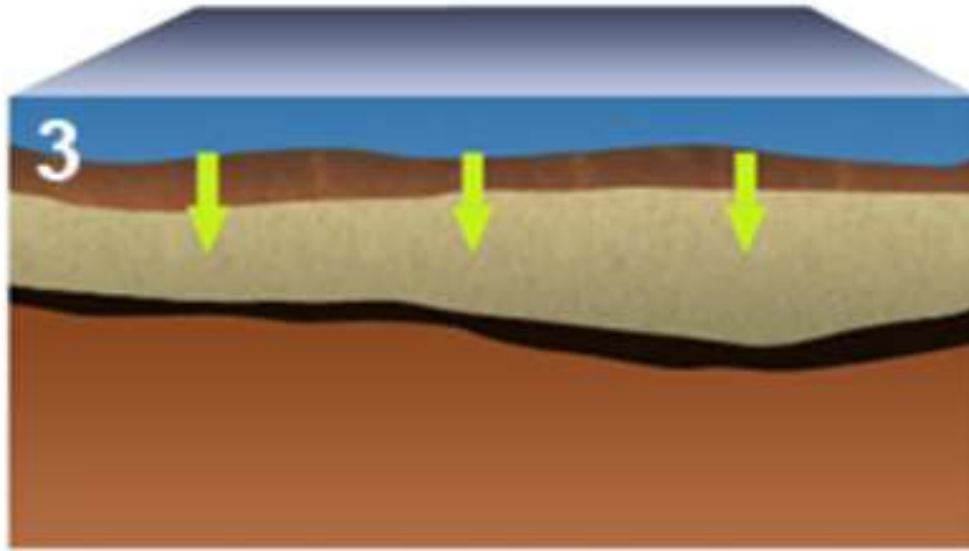
→ rotting organic matter becomes compressed from overlying layers

→ compression and heat from the earth rearrange the molecules into a wide variety of hydrocarbons (petroleum)

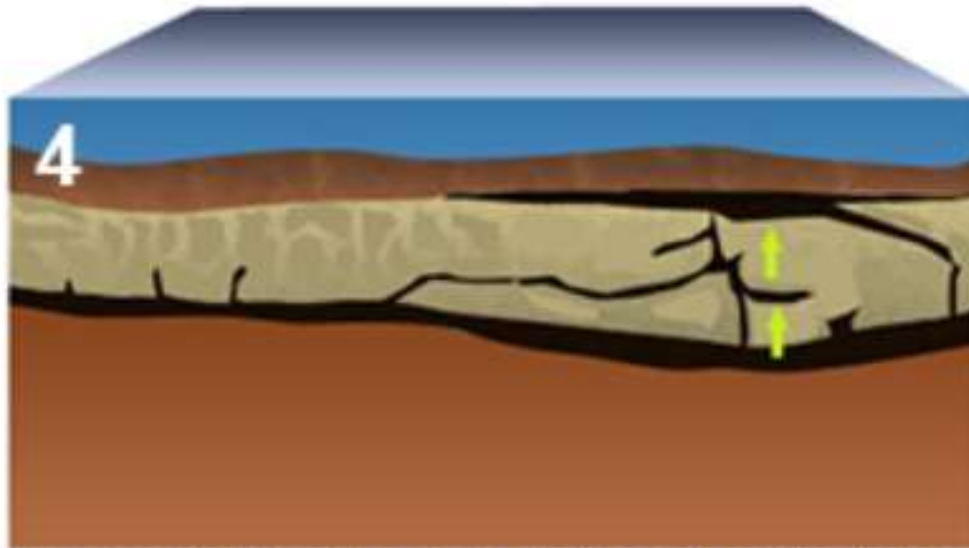


The plant and animal layer gets covered with mud.





Over time, more sediment creates pressure, compressing the dead plants and animals into oil.



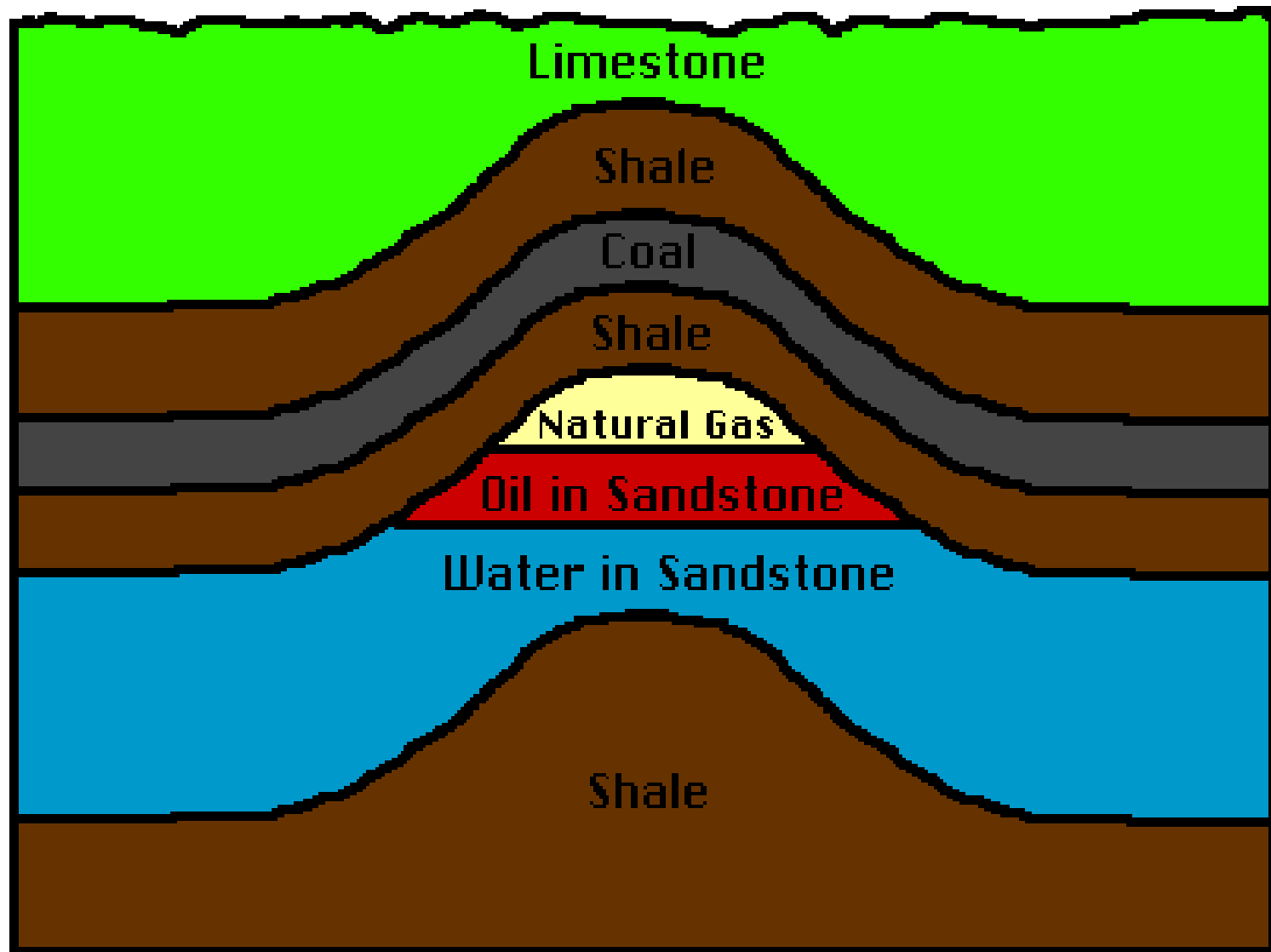
Oil moves up through porous rocks and eventually forms a reservoir.

→ New petroleum molecules heat up, become less dense, and begin to rise through the surrounding materials

→ it may continue rising all the way to the surface OR get trapped and accumulate as a reservoir in a geologic structure.







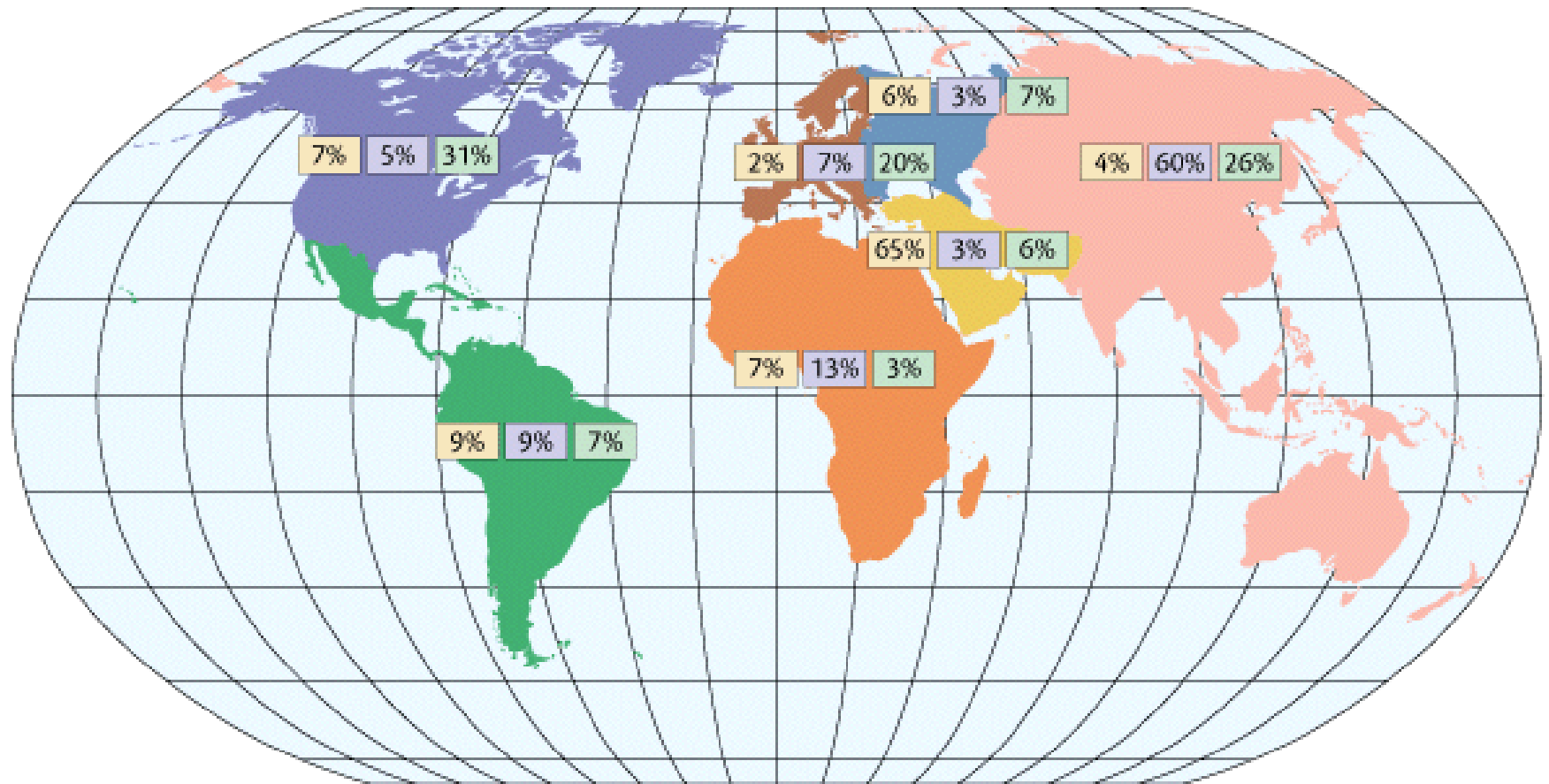


## World Distribution, Population, and Usage

Petroleum reserves (%)

World population (%)

World petroleum  
consumption (%)



North  
America



Central and  
South America



Western  
Europe



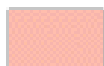
Eastern  
Europe



Africa



Middle  
East



Central Asia, Far East,  
and Oceania

# Petroleum Distribution and Usage

- Petroleum is not uniformly distributed
- Approximately 57% of out world's known reserves are located in just five Middle Eastern nations, which include: Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and United Arab Emirates
- North America accounts for just 7% of the world's known reserves

## Petroleum Distribution and Usage

- Petroleum is not uniformly distributed or used.
- We use the most (and have a relatively low population).
- Most reserves are in the Middle East



# Refining Petroleum

- Crude oil cannot be used in its natural state, and must be shipped to oil refineries where it is separated into simpler compounds
- The refining process doesn't separate each compound, but rather several mixtures called fractions
- Fractional Distillation – separating parts of a mixture by differences in boiling points

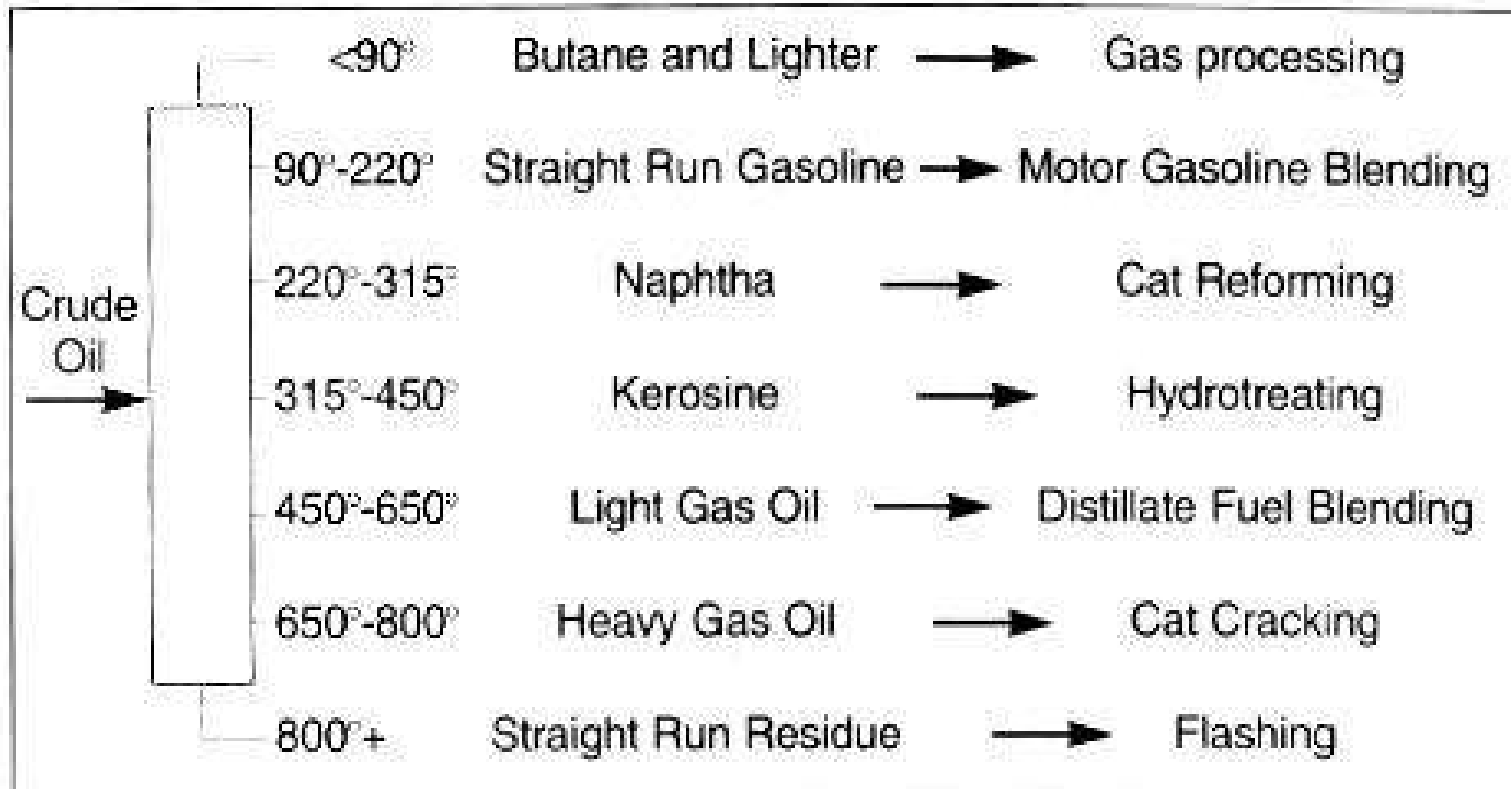
## Refining Petroleum

→ crude oil cannot be used in its natural state.

Fractional Distillation – separating parts of a mixture by differences in boiling points.

→ the separated parts are called fractions.

# Petroleum Refining



*Distilling crude and product disposition*

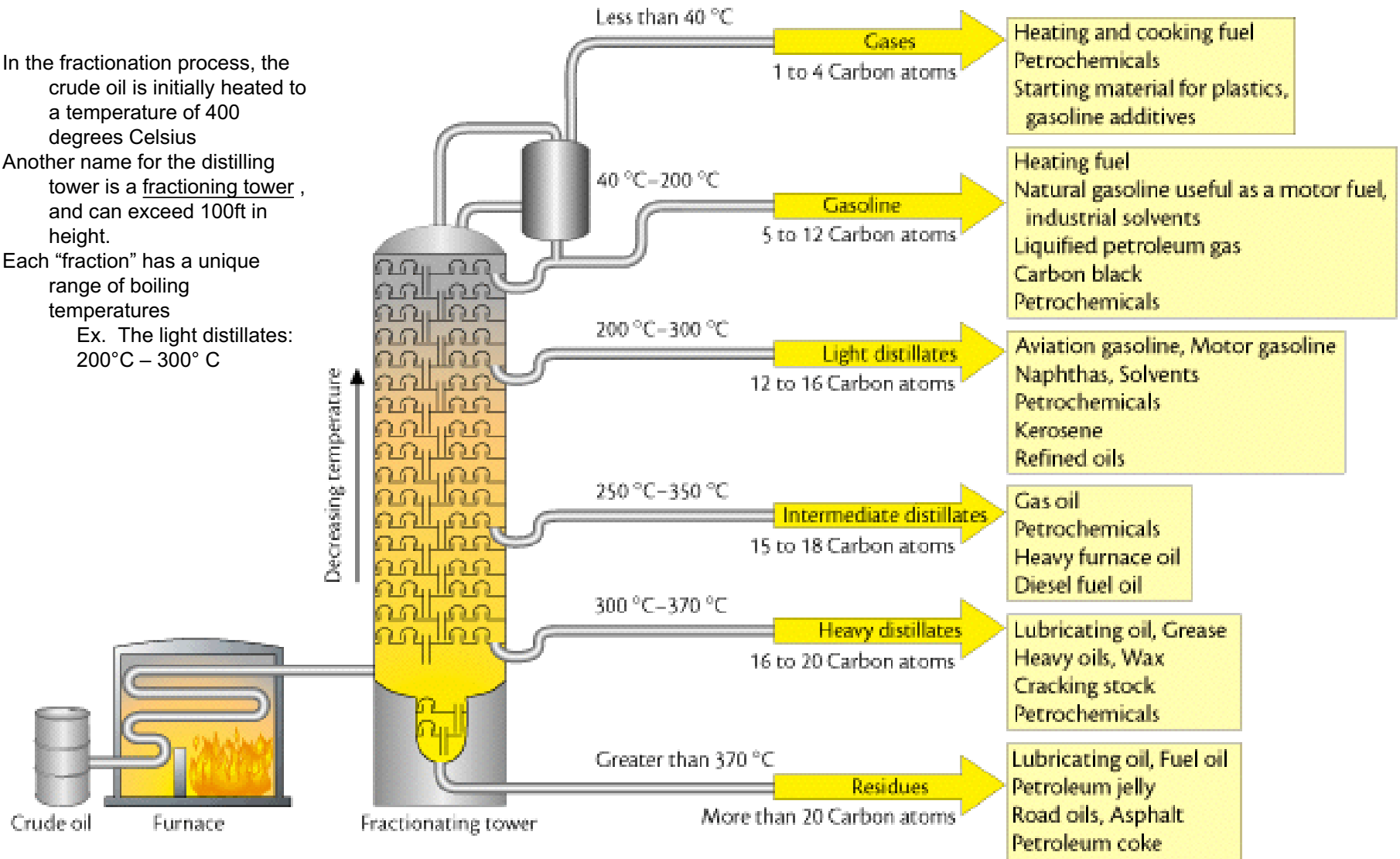


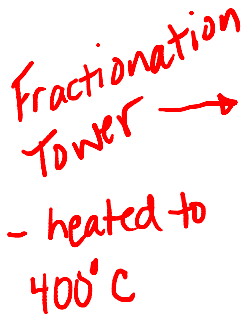
In the fractionation process, the crude oil is initially heated to a temperature of 400 degrees Celsius

Another name for the distilling tower is a fractioning tower, and can exceed 100ft in height.

Each "fraction" has a unique range of boiling temperatures

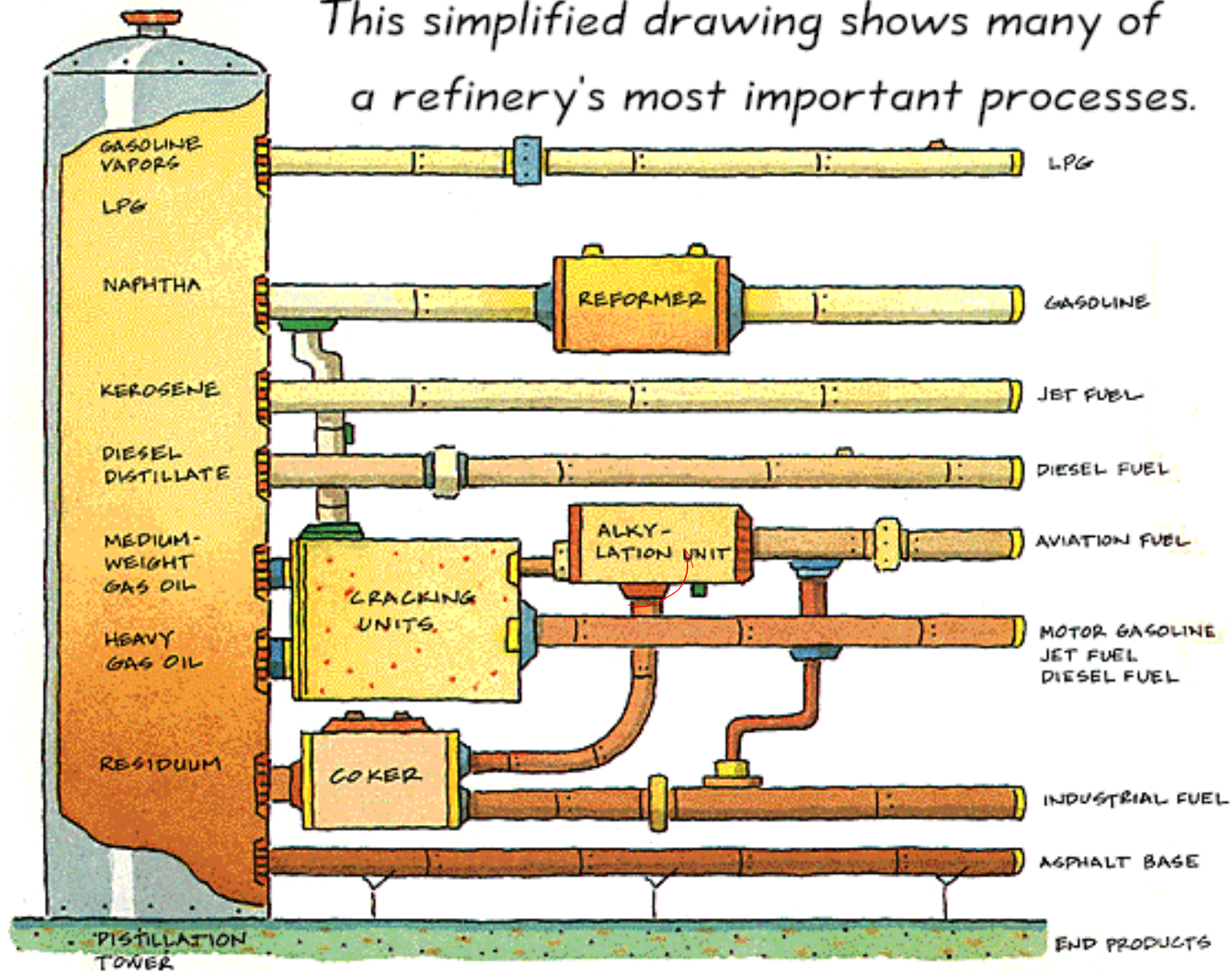
Ex. The light distillates:  
200°C – 300° C

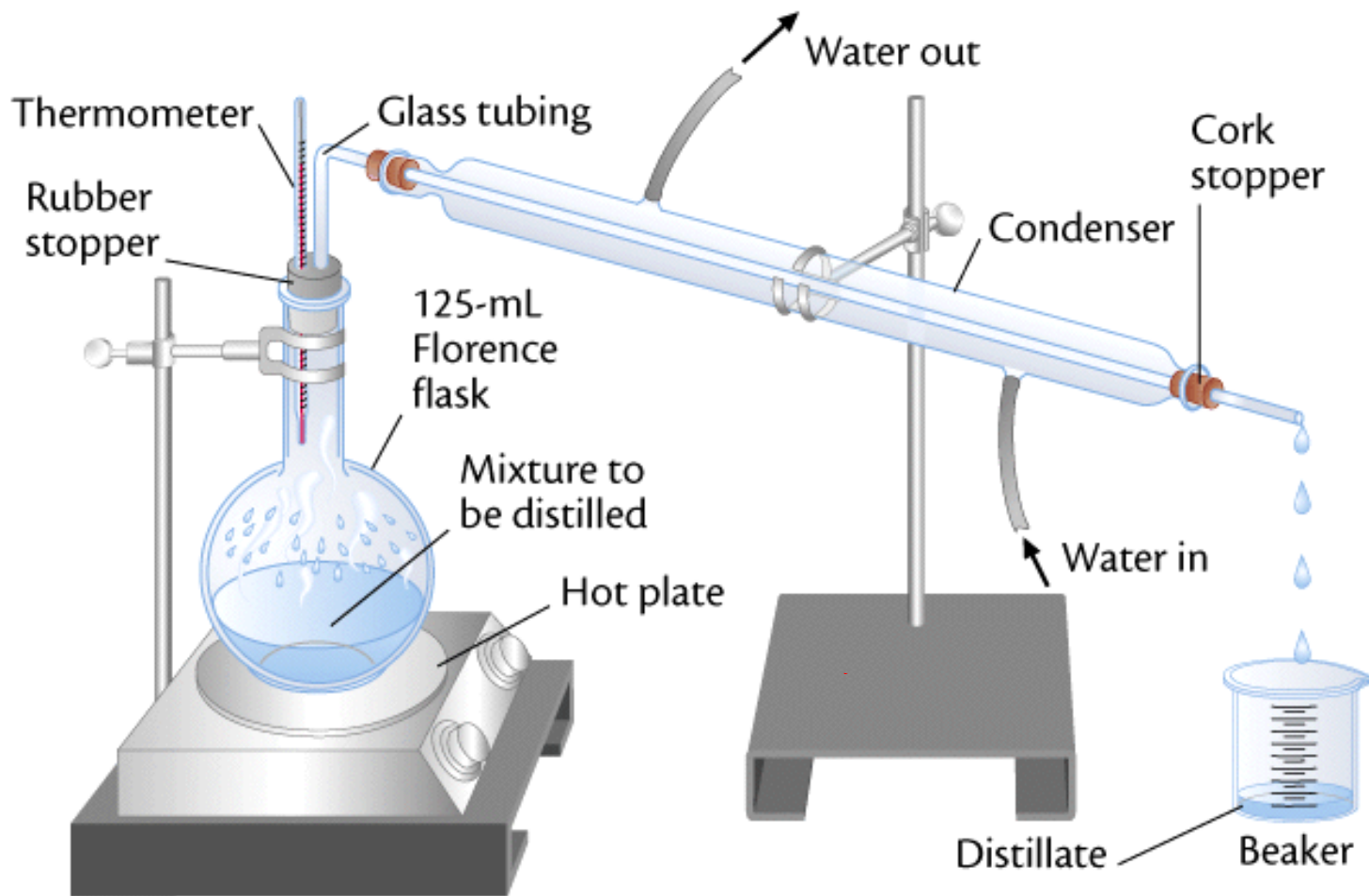




### Example(s)

*This simplified drawing shows many of  
a refinery's most important processes.*





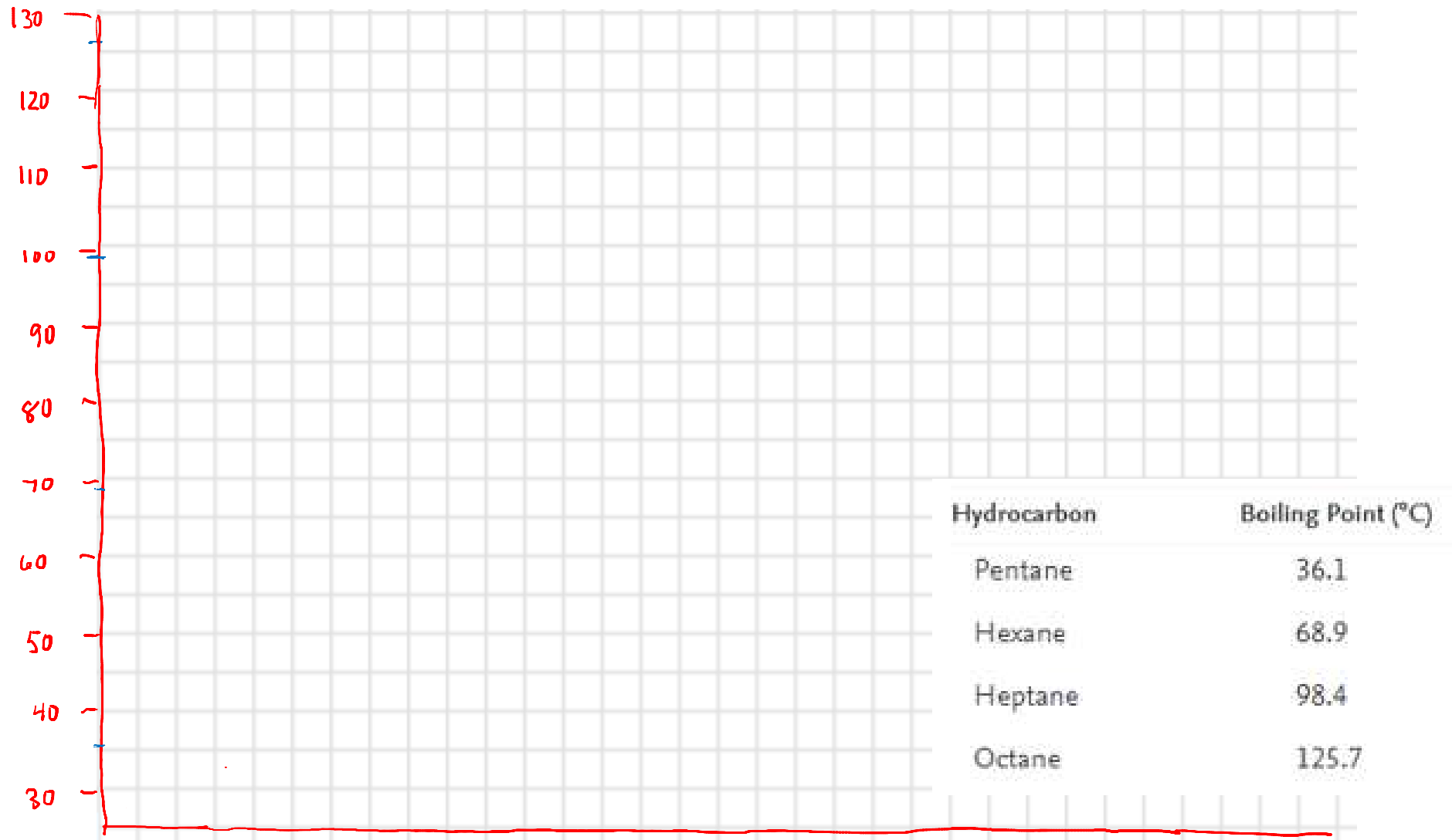
Distillation - a way to separate substances from one another according to boiling points.

- compounds with lower boiling points will evaporate first and leave the distillation flask

It is then converted back to liquid as it passes through the condenser, all before the second substance begins to boil and distill

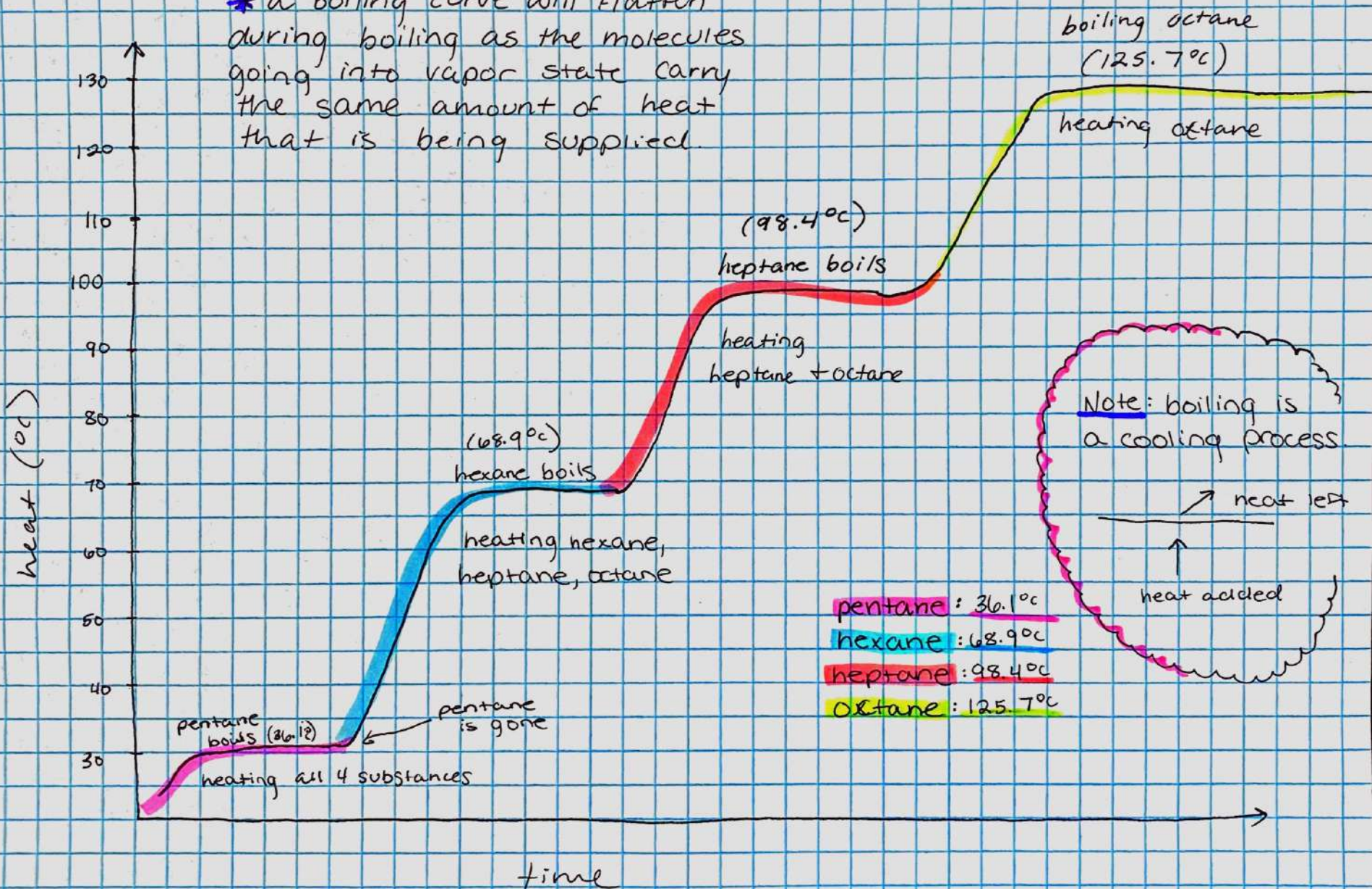
can then condense vapors to form distillates

# Distillation Curve for a Mixture of Hydrocarbons



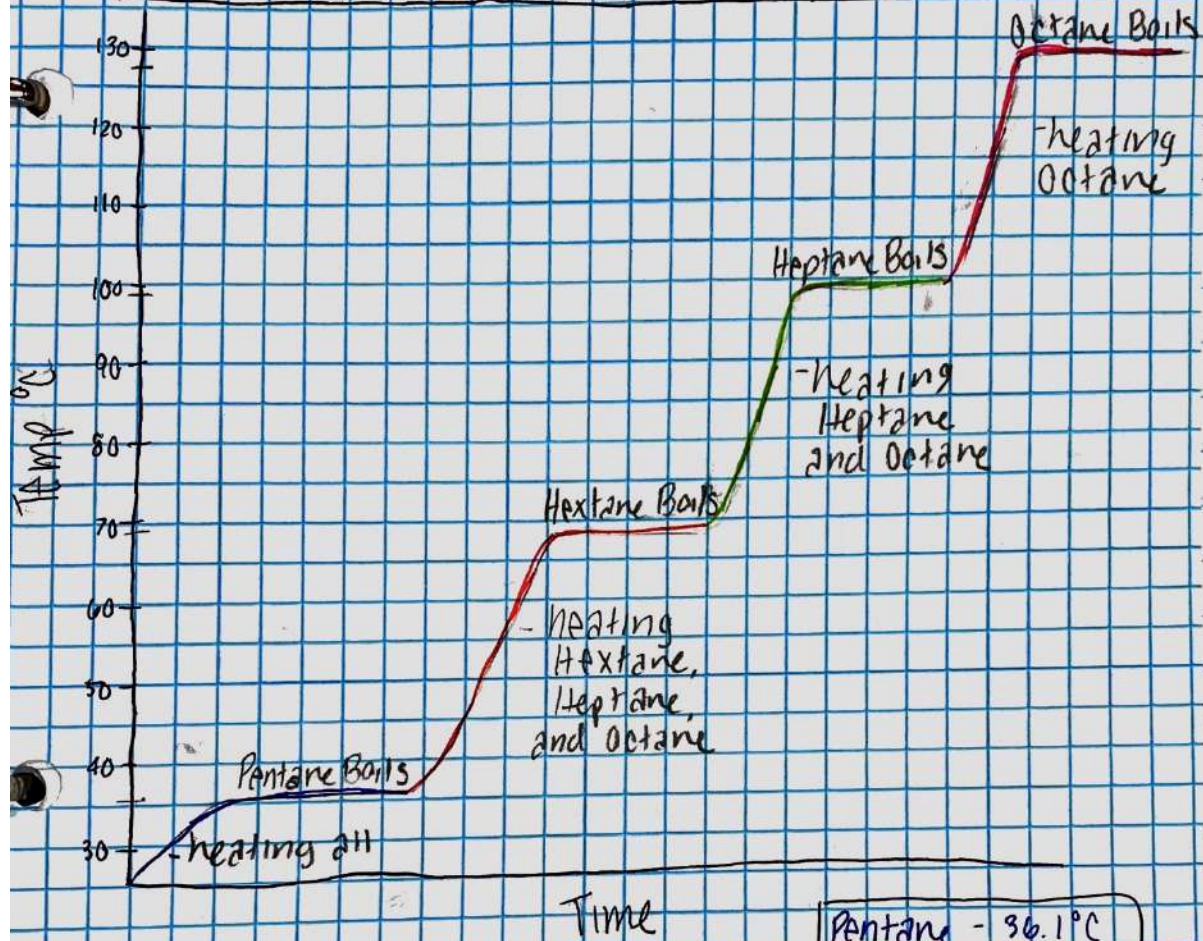


\* a boiling curve will flatten during boiling as the molecules going into vapor state carry the same amount of heat that is being supplied.





# Distillation Curve for a mixture of Hydrocarbons



\* A boiling curve will flatten during boiling as the molecules going into vapor state carry the same amount of heat that is being supplied.

\* NOTE: Boiling is a cooling process!

Pentane	- 36.1°C
Hexane	- 68.9°C
Heptane	- 98.4°C
Octane	- 125.7°C

heat leaves

heat added







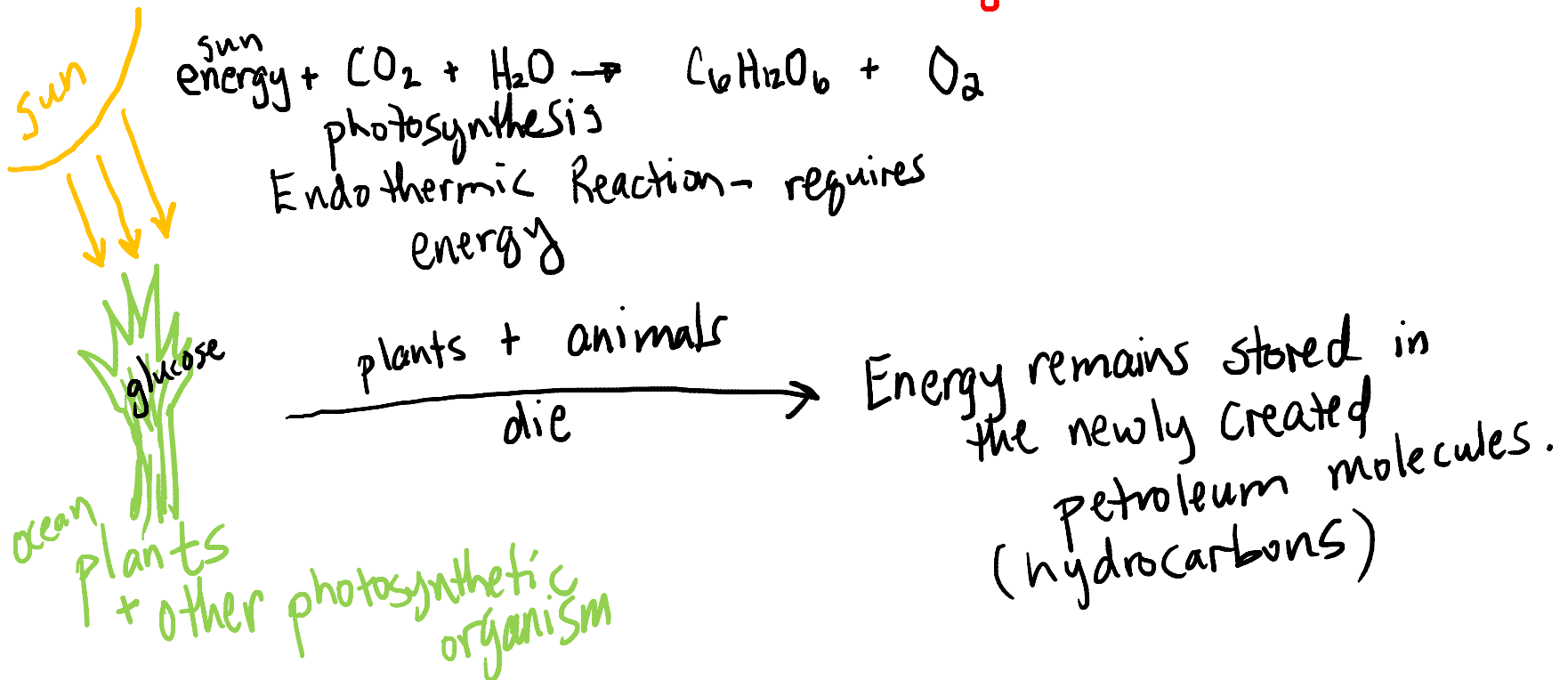
# Energy and Petroleum

- Petroleum is liquid sunshine
- All energy from fossil fuels originates from the sun!!!!
- Plants capture that energy during photosynthesis
- Plants die
- Animals eat plants...and die
- Plants use sunlight to make sugar (glucose)
- $\text{Sunlight} + 6\text{CO}_2 + 6\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_6 + 6\text{O}_2$
- Endothermic Reaction – requires energy

## Energy and Petroleum

\* Petroleum is liquid sunshine

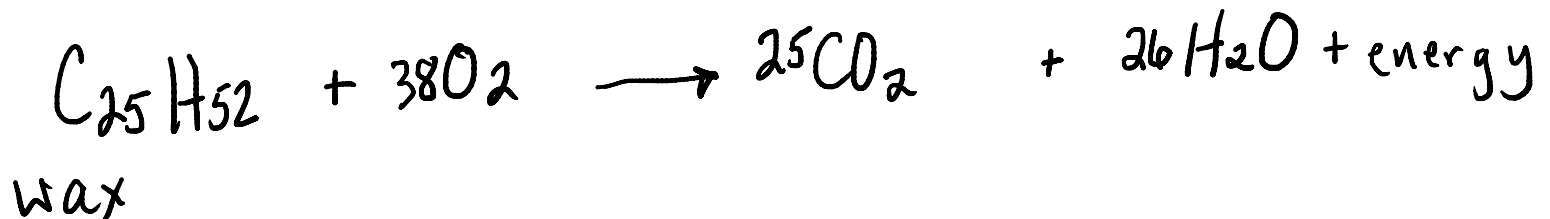
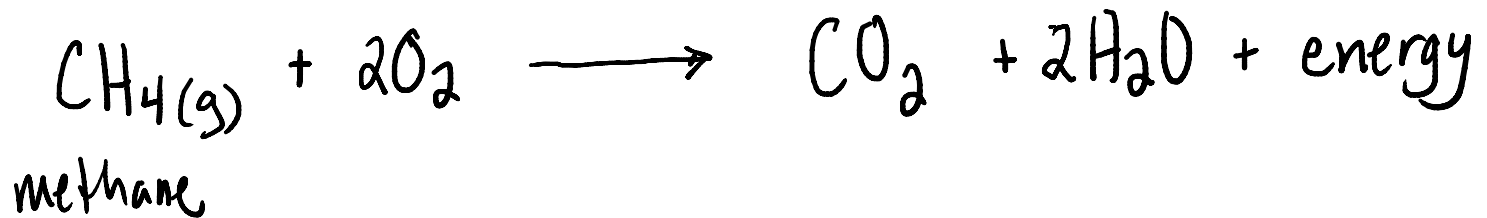
→ all energy stored in the bonds originates from the Sun.



# Fossil Fuel Energy

\* Combustion of fossil fuels releases the energy  
Stored in hydrocarbon bonds.  
→ Exothermic Reaction - heat/energy released.

Simplest:



# Health and Environmental Concerns of Petroleum Combustion

## Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

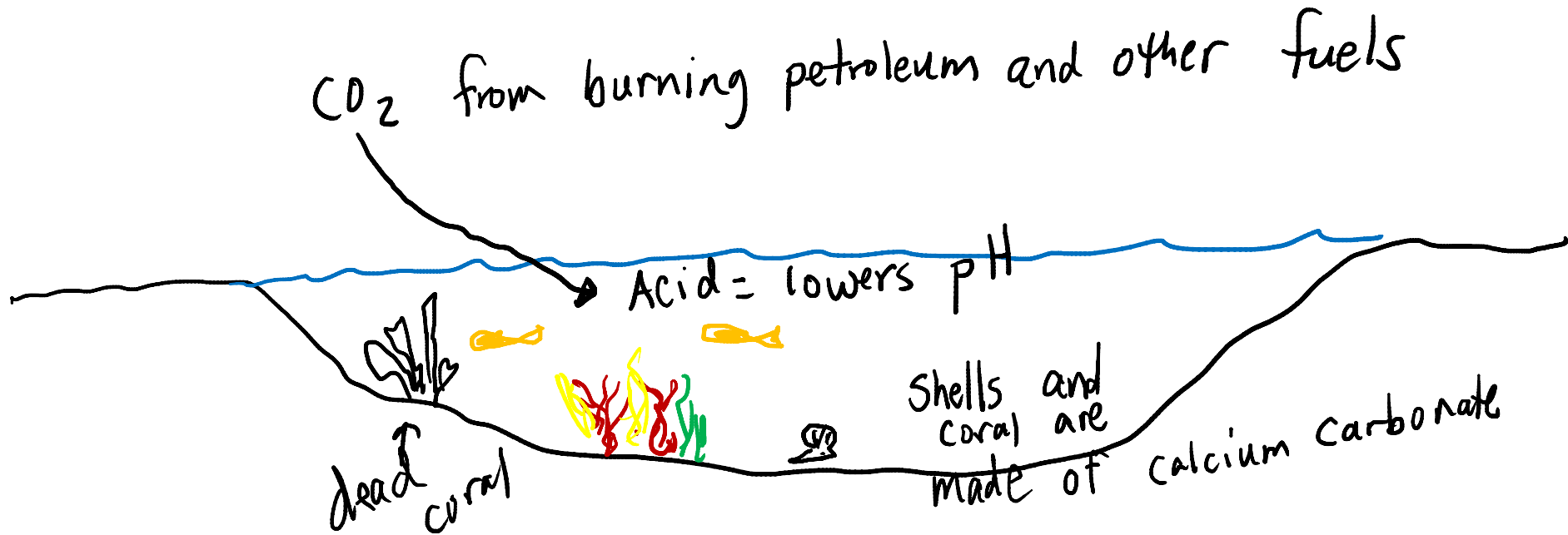
- Burning any petroleum product in a combustion reaction produces carbon monoxide
- Faulty appliances produce even higher levels
- Poor ventilation can trap and concentrate carbon monoxide
- Binds to oxygen receptors 200x more readily than  $O_2$  to produce sickness and even death.

### Signs of carbon monoxide poisoning



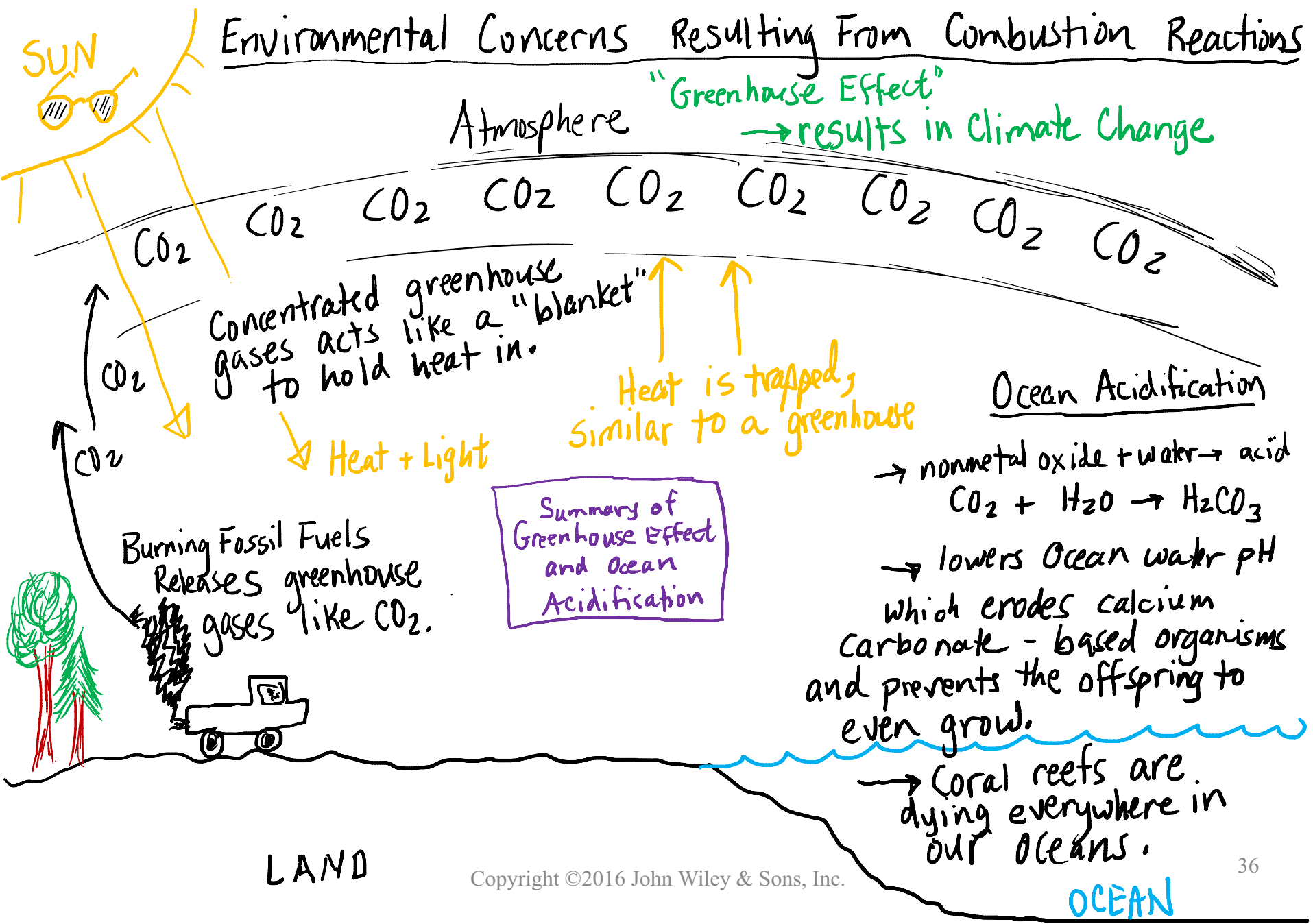
# Ocean Acidification

- $\text{CO}_2$  released by burning petroleum reacts with water produce an acid, which lowers ocean water pH.
- acid ocean water is currently eroding reef organisms and other calcium carbonate organisms at a rapid rate.





# Environmental Concerns Resulting From Combustion Reactions





# Isomerism

**Isomers** are molecules that have the same molecular formula but different structural formula

2 types:

1. Structural Isomers – atoms bonded in different orders

Isomerism – molecules with the same formula and different structures

2 Types

1) Structural Isomers

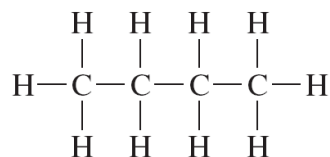
→ atoms bonded in different orders.

→ we will focus on alkanes (saturated hydrocarbons)

# Structural Isomerism

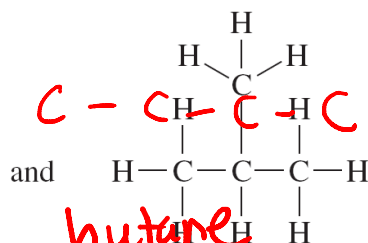
Ex.  $C_4H_{10}$

$C_4H_{10}$



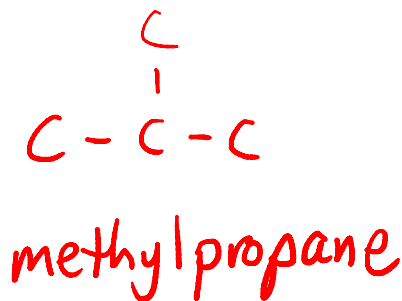
butane

and



butane

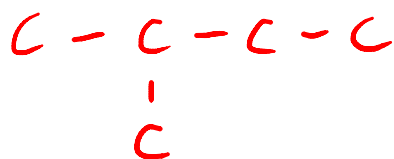
isobutane



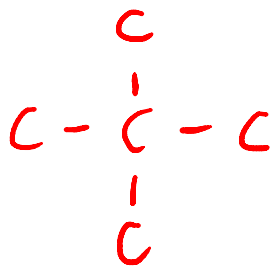
How many structural isomers for  $C_5H_{12}$



pentane

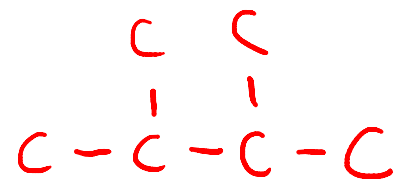
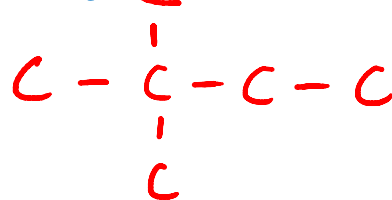
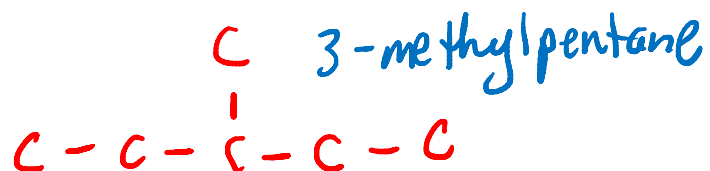
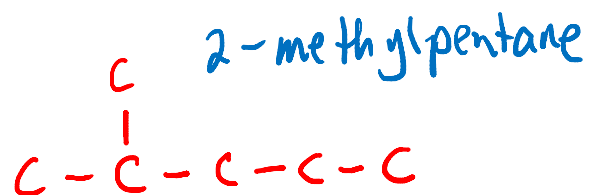
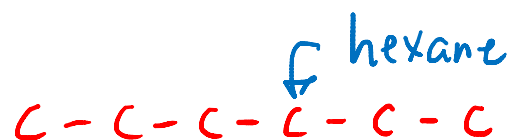


2-methylbutane



2,2-dimethylpropane

# How many structural isomers for $C_5H_{12}$



# Geometric Isomerism

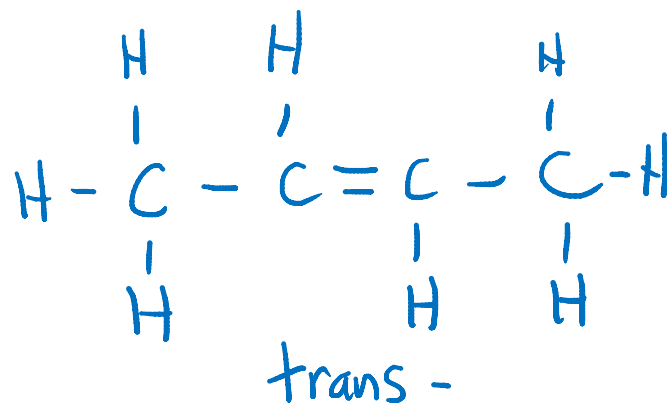
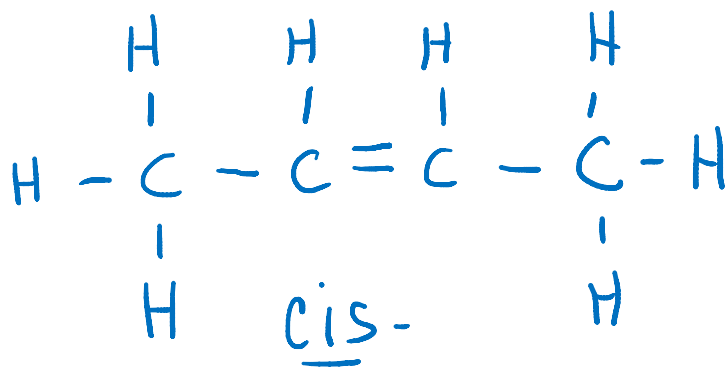
- 2. Geometric Isomers - atoms bonded in same order with different arrangement of atoms relative **to double bonded carbons**

2) Geometric Isomers

→ are found with alkenes

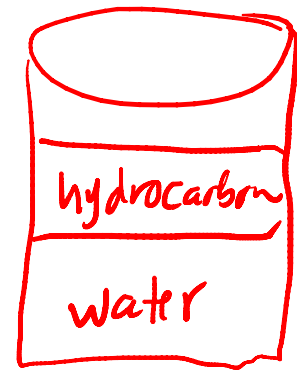
→ arrangement of atoms attached to double-bonded carbons.

inside (not <sup>an</sup> end) ✓



# Properties of Hydrocarbons

- 1) Non-polar substances
- 2) Insoluble in water
- 3) Less dense than water
- 4) Very weak intermolecular forces  
→ Van der Waals only (no polar bonds!)
- 5) Low melting points and low boiling points
- 6) Boiling points increase as carbons are added.
- 7) Undergo combustion reactions.



# Combustion Reactions



Balancing Tips -

balance C first

H second

O ALWAYS LAST.



C - 5

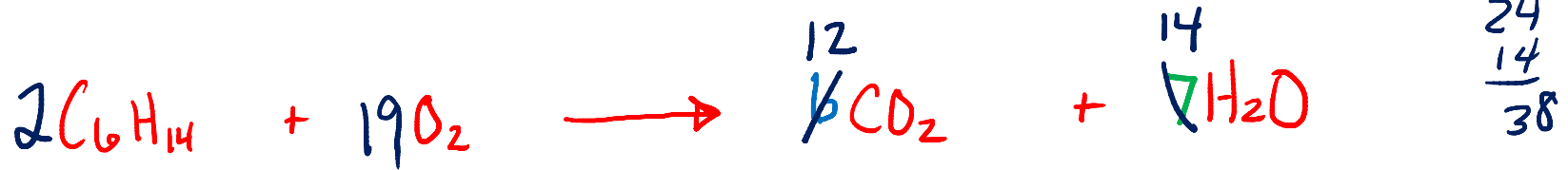
H - 12

O - ~~2~~ 16

C - ~~1~~ 5

H - ~~2~~ 12

O - ~~3~~ ~~1~~ 16



C - 6

H - 14

O - ~~2~~ 38

C - ~~1~~ 6

H - ~~2~~ 14

O - ~~3~~ ~~12~~ ~~14~~ 38

uneven - double  
ALL



C - 7

H - 16

O - ~~2~~ 22

C - ~~1~~ 7

H - ~~2~~ 16

O - ~~3~~ ~~15~~ 22

14  
8



# Saturated Hydrocarbons: Alkanes

Alkanes: Saturated – no double or triple bonds

General formula  $C_nH_{2n+2}$

**TABLE 19.3 | Names, Formulas, and Physical Properties of Straight-Chain Alkanes**

Name	Molecular formula $C_nH_{2n+2}$	Condensed structural formula	Boiling point (°C)	Melting point (°C)
Methane	CH <sub>4</sub>	CH <sub>4</sub>	−161	−183
Ethane	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	−89	−172
Propane	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	−42	−187
Butane	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>10</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	−0.6	−135
Pentane	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>12</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	36	−130
Hexane	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>14</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	69	−95
Heptane	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>16</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	98	−90
Octane	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>18</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	125	−57
Nonane	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>20</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	151	−54
Decane	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>22</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	174	−30