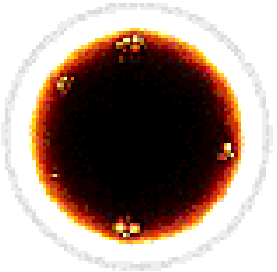
Introduction to Petroleum

What is crude OIL?

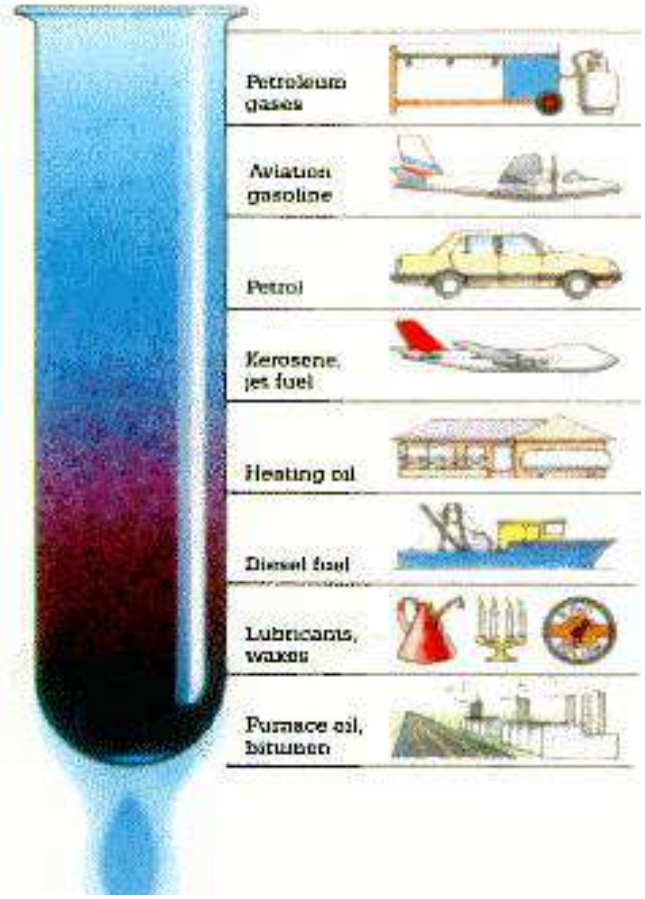


What is it?

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 petroluem
- - cd's, sports equipment, clothing, auto parts, carpeting, artificial limbs, medication. Etc.
- Eighty-four percent of petroleum us 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

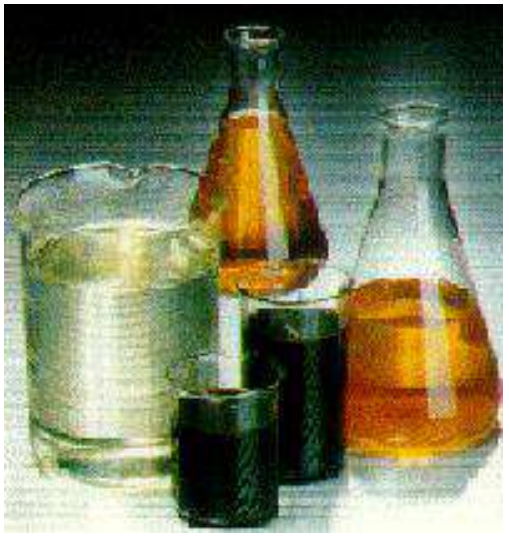
Color: Wide Range

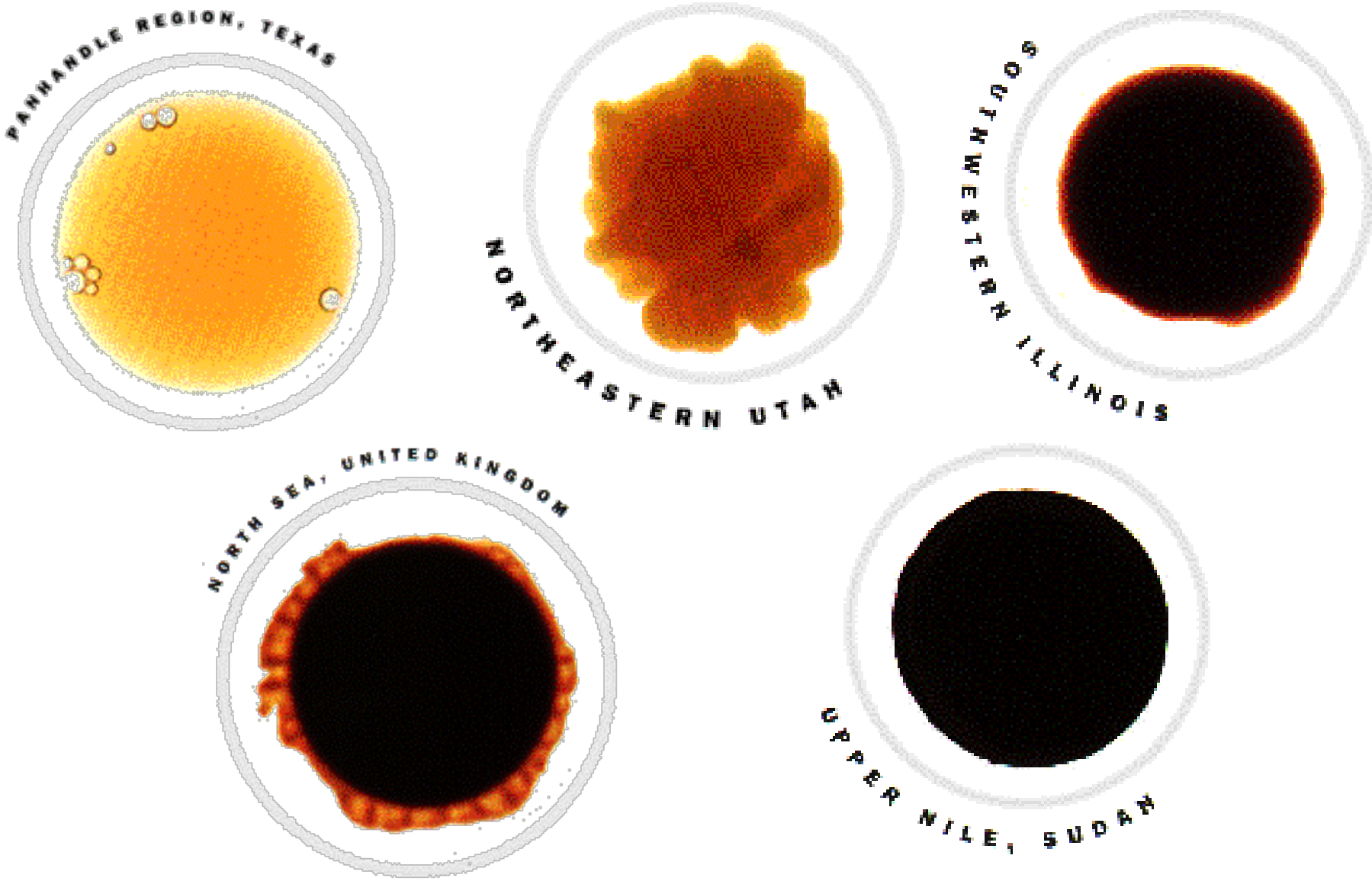
- Texture?? Varies from very runny to a sludge-like texture (viscous)

Texture: very runny to highly viscous

- Viscosity - resistance to flow; slow flowing liquids are very viscous

Viscosity - resistance to flow

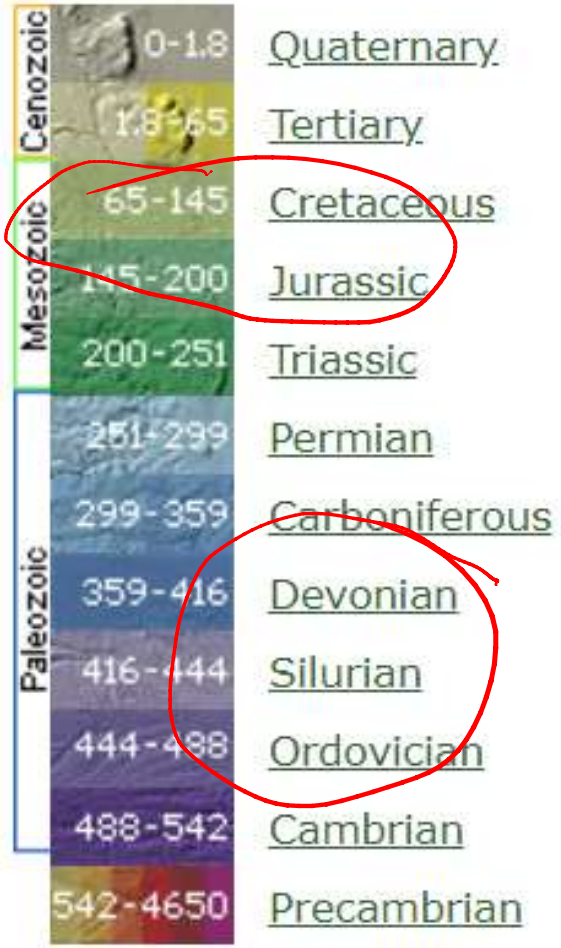




Petroleum From Around the World

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).***

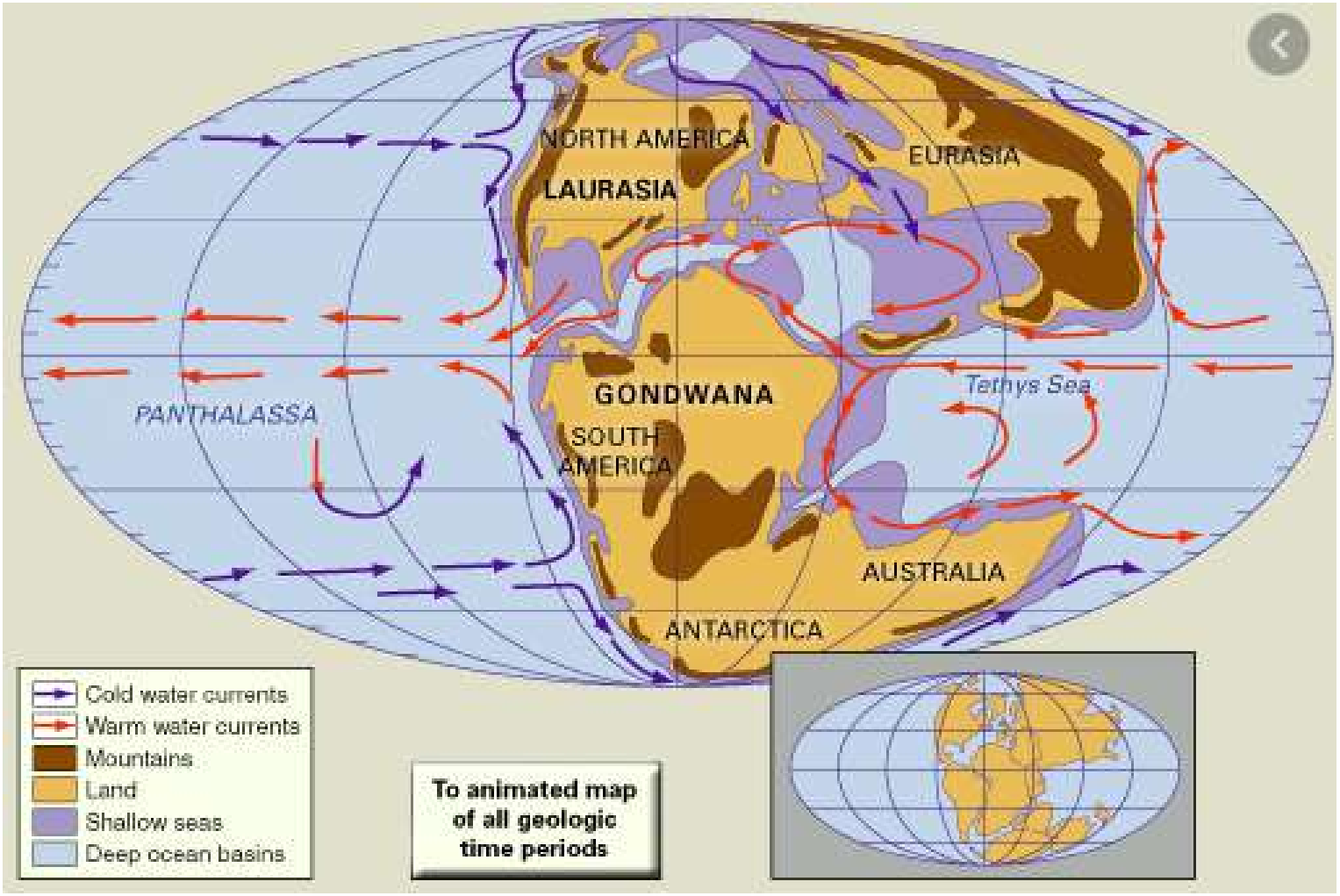


Summary

- 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.


NORTH AMERICA
EURASIA
LAURASIA
GONDWANA
Tethys Sea
PANTHALASSA
SOUTH AMERICA
AUSTRALIA
ANTARCTICA
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

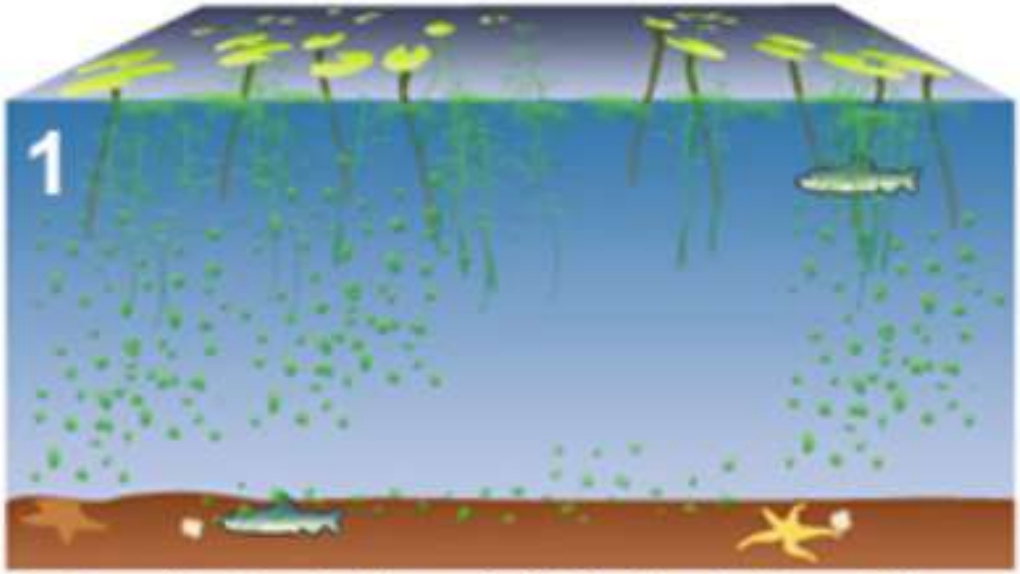
So, how did it form?

- *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*

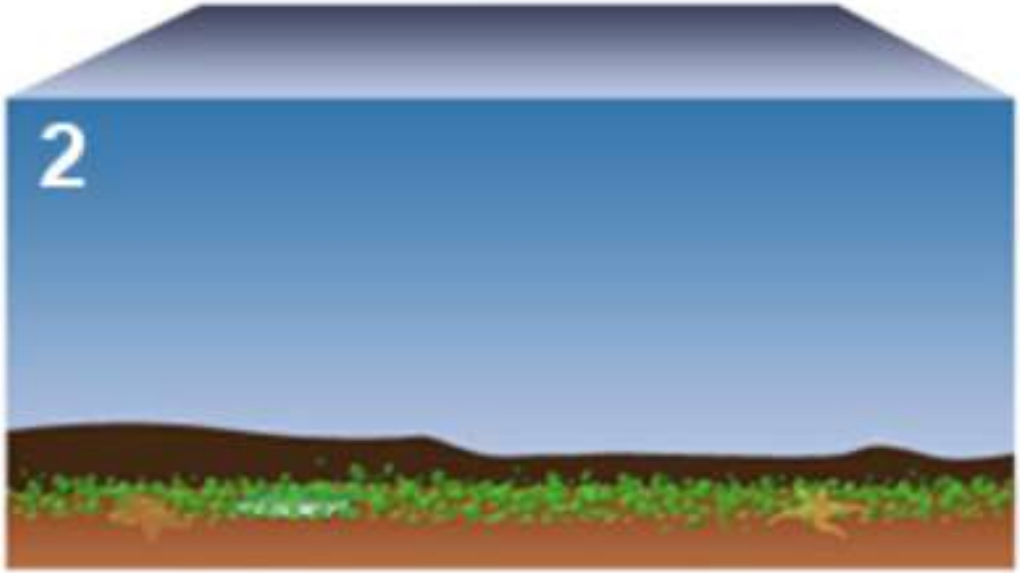
Petroleum Formation



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

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

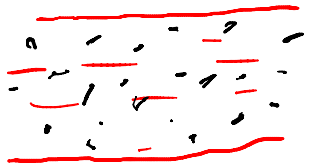
→ layers begin to form with the dead organisms and mud.

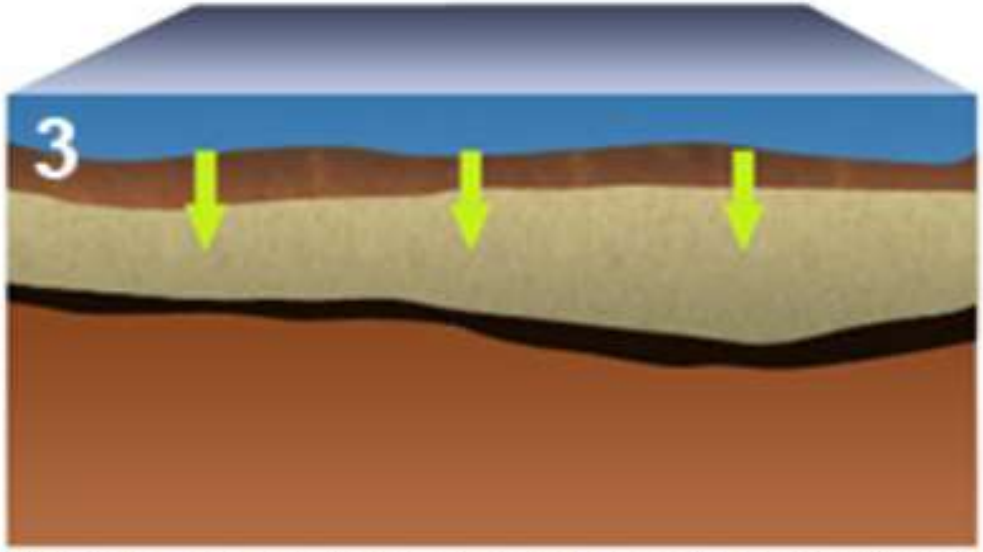


The plant and animal layer gets covered with mud.

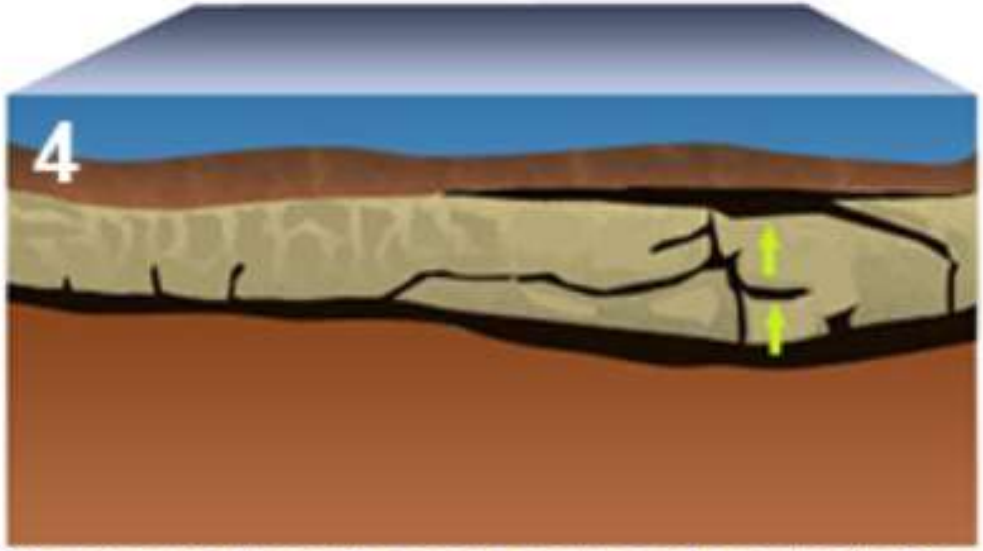
→ rotting organic matter becomes compressed from overlying layers

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





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

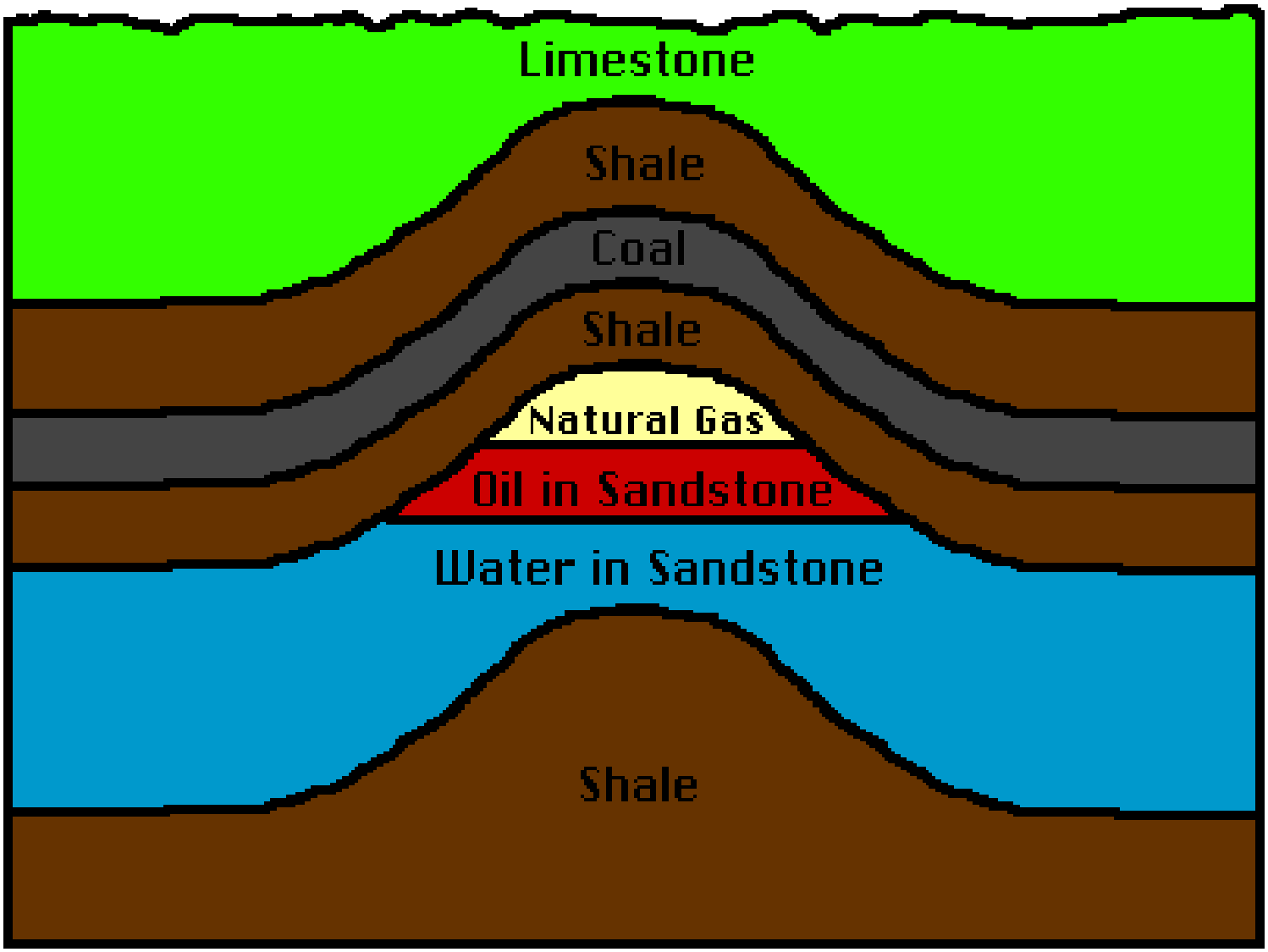


Oil moves up through porous rocks and eventually forms a reservoir.

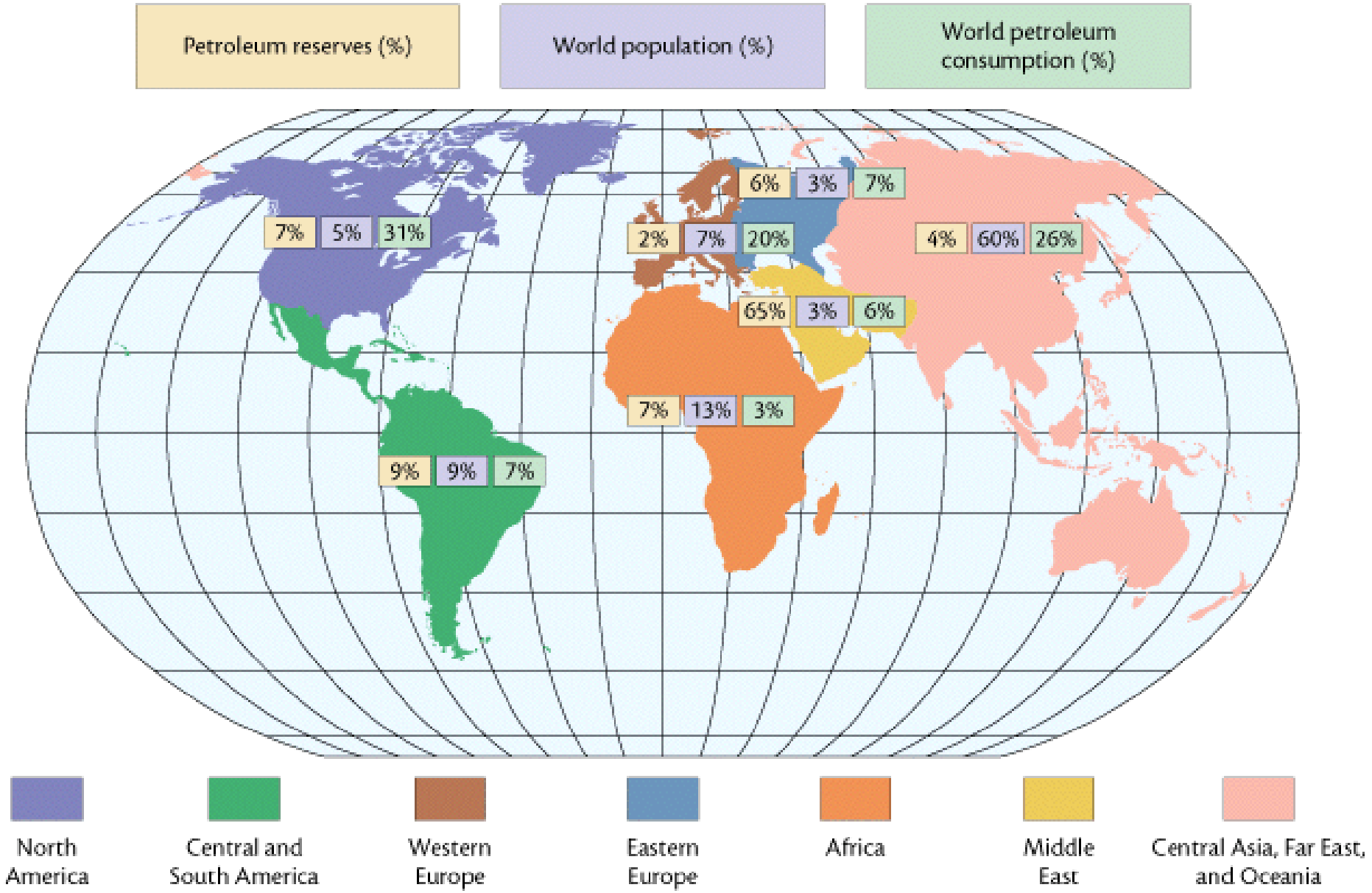
→ New petroleum molecules heat up, become less dense, and begin to rise through the surrounding materials

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


Paige Gill - Florida Keys NMS


Limestone
Shale
Coal
Shale
Natural Gas
Oil in Sandstone
Water in Sandstone
Shale

World Distribution, Population, and Usage



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

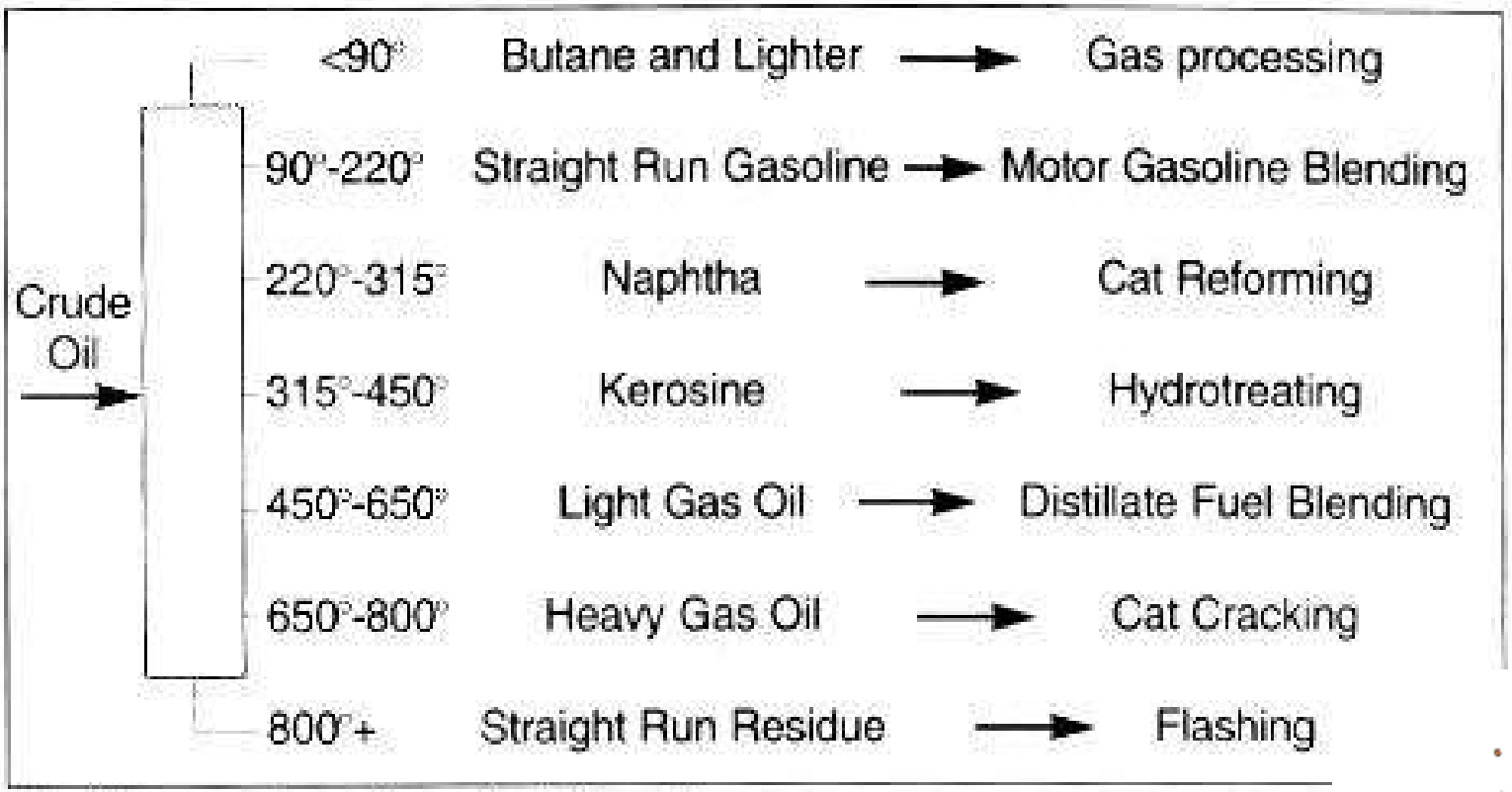
Refining Petroleum

→ 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



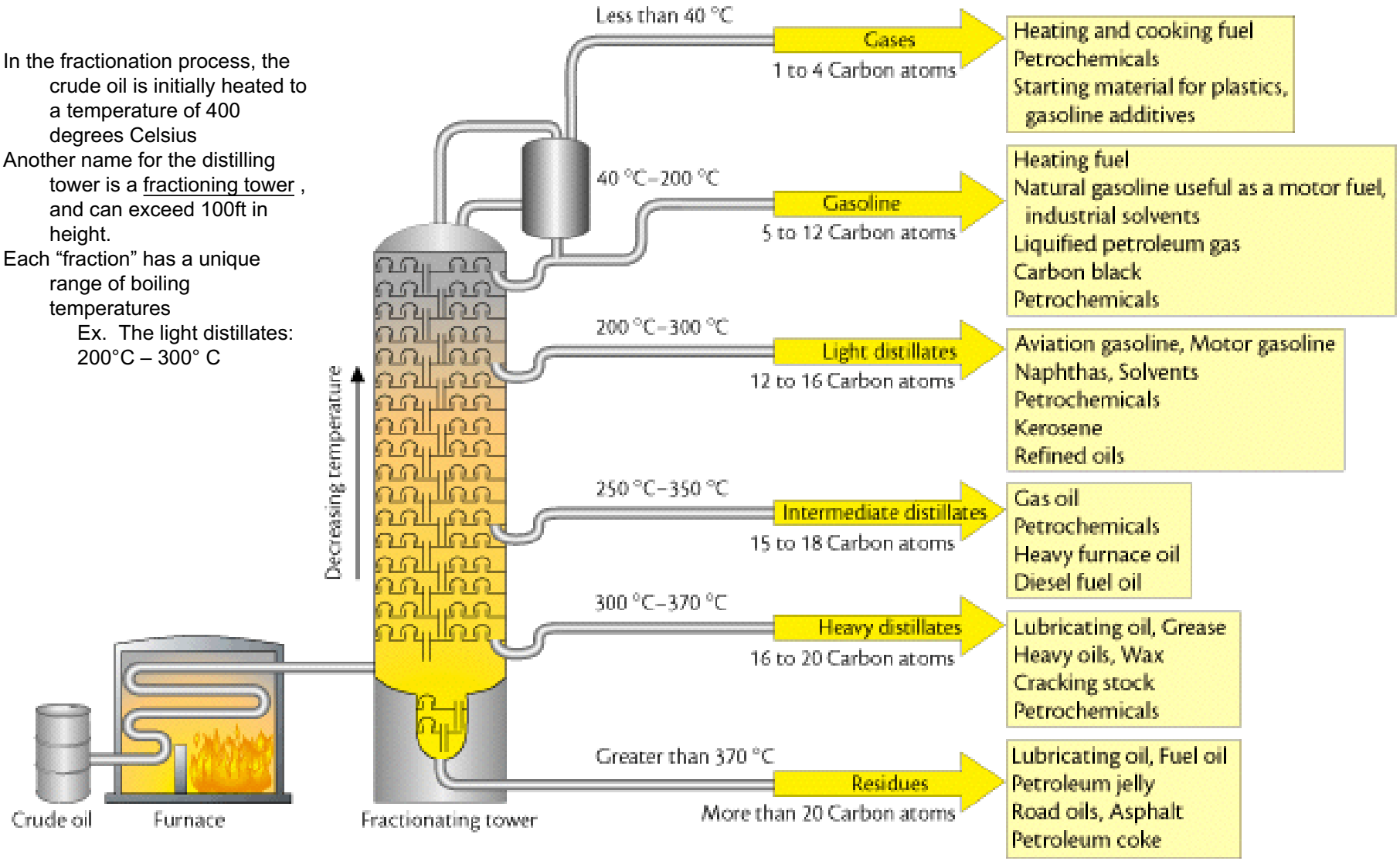
Distilling crude and product disposition

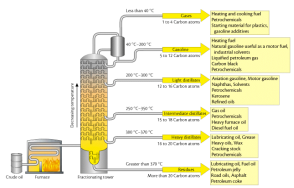
In the fractionation process, the crude oil is initially heated to a temperature of 400 degrees Celsius

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





Fractionation Tower →

- heated to 400° C

< 40° C

1-4 Carbons

Gases → natural gas, propane

5-12 Carbons

40° - 200° C

gasoline → gasoline

12 - 16 C

200° - 300° C

Light Distillates → Kerosene

15 - 18 C

250° - 350° C

Intermediate Distillates → Diesel Fuel

16 - 20 C

300 - 370° C

heavy distillates → lubricating oil

> 20 C

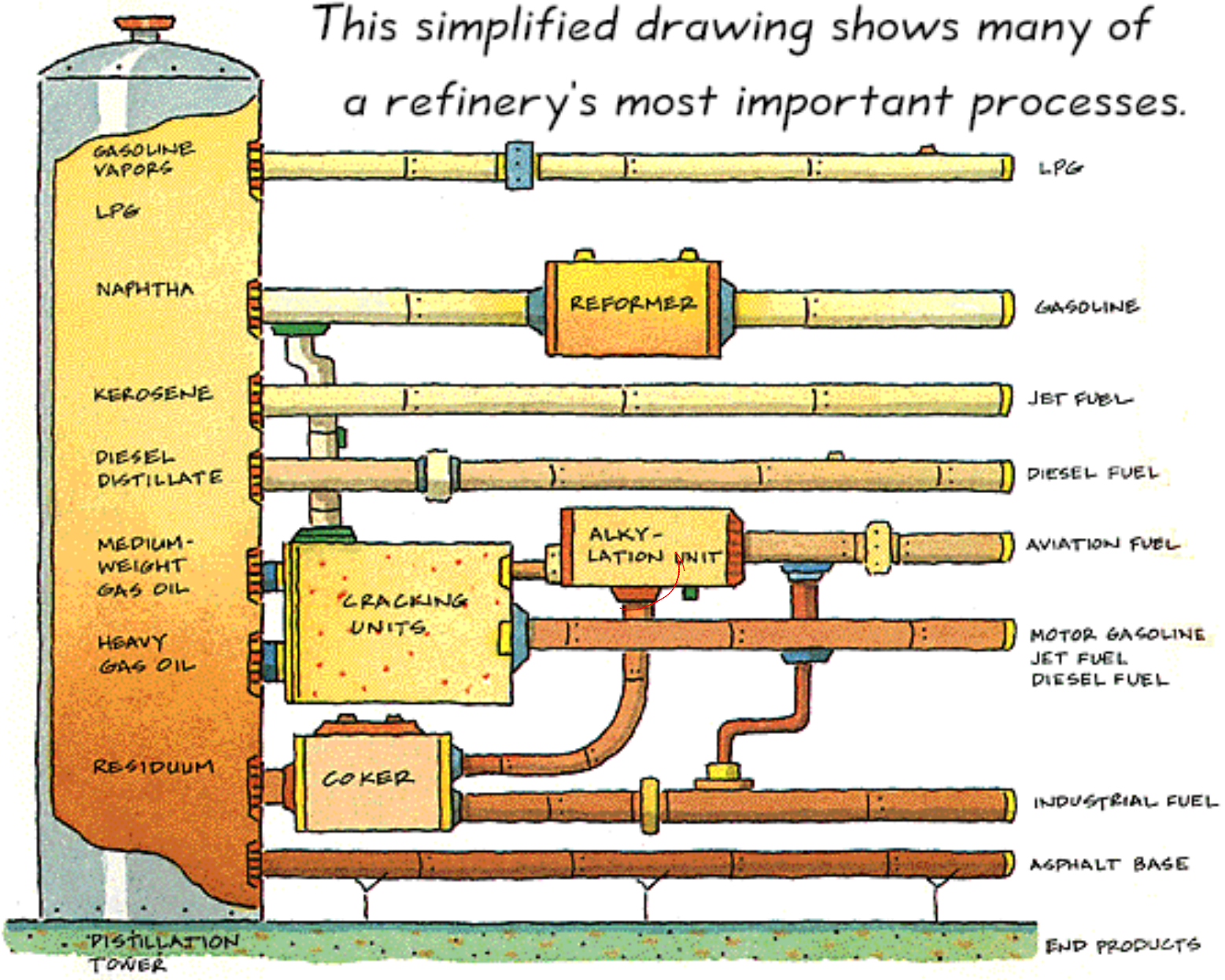
> 370° C

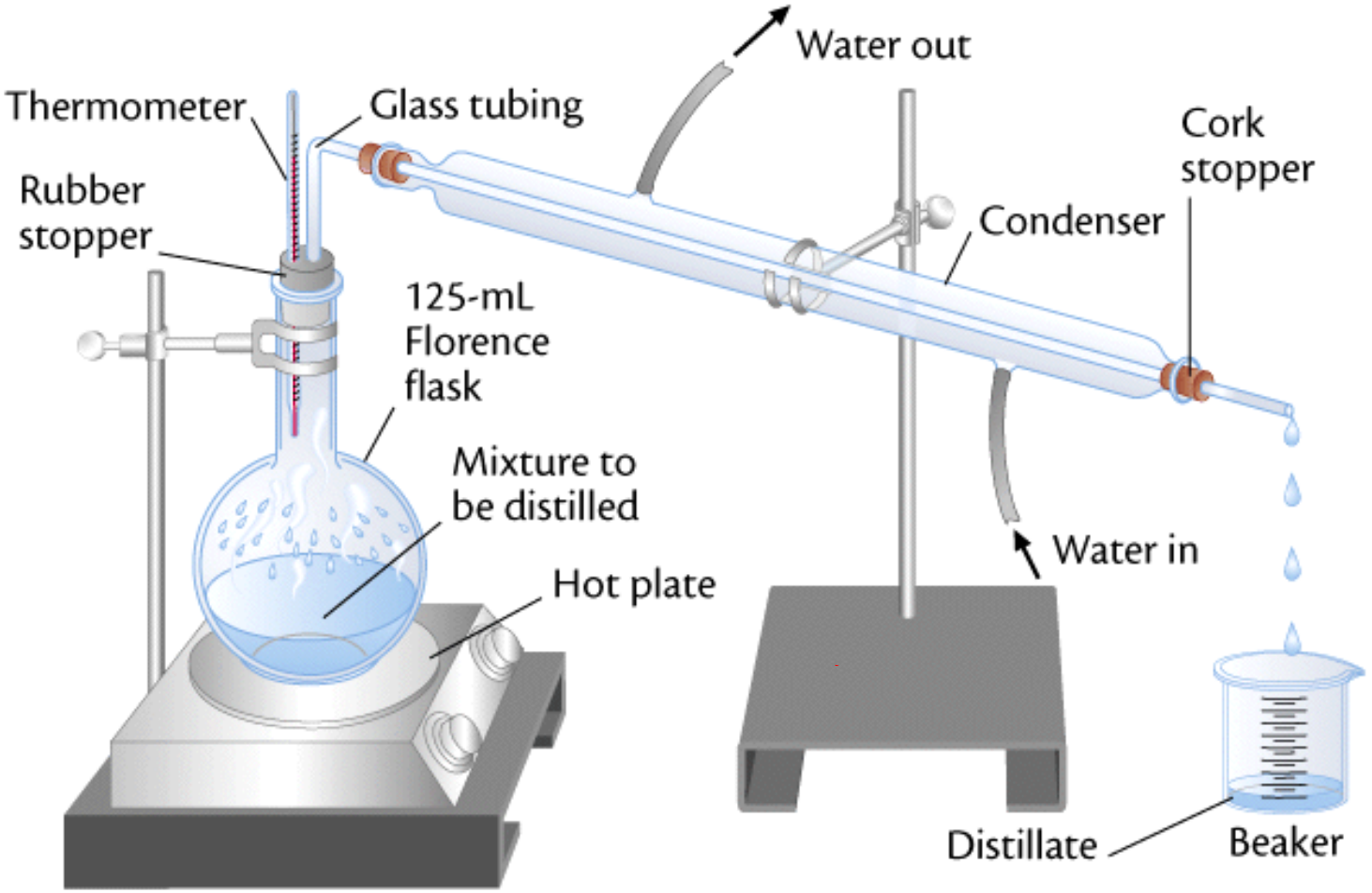
Residues → tar, asphalt

Fraction

Example(s)

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





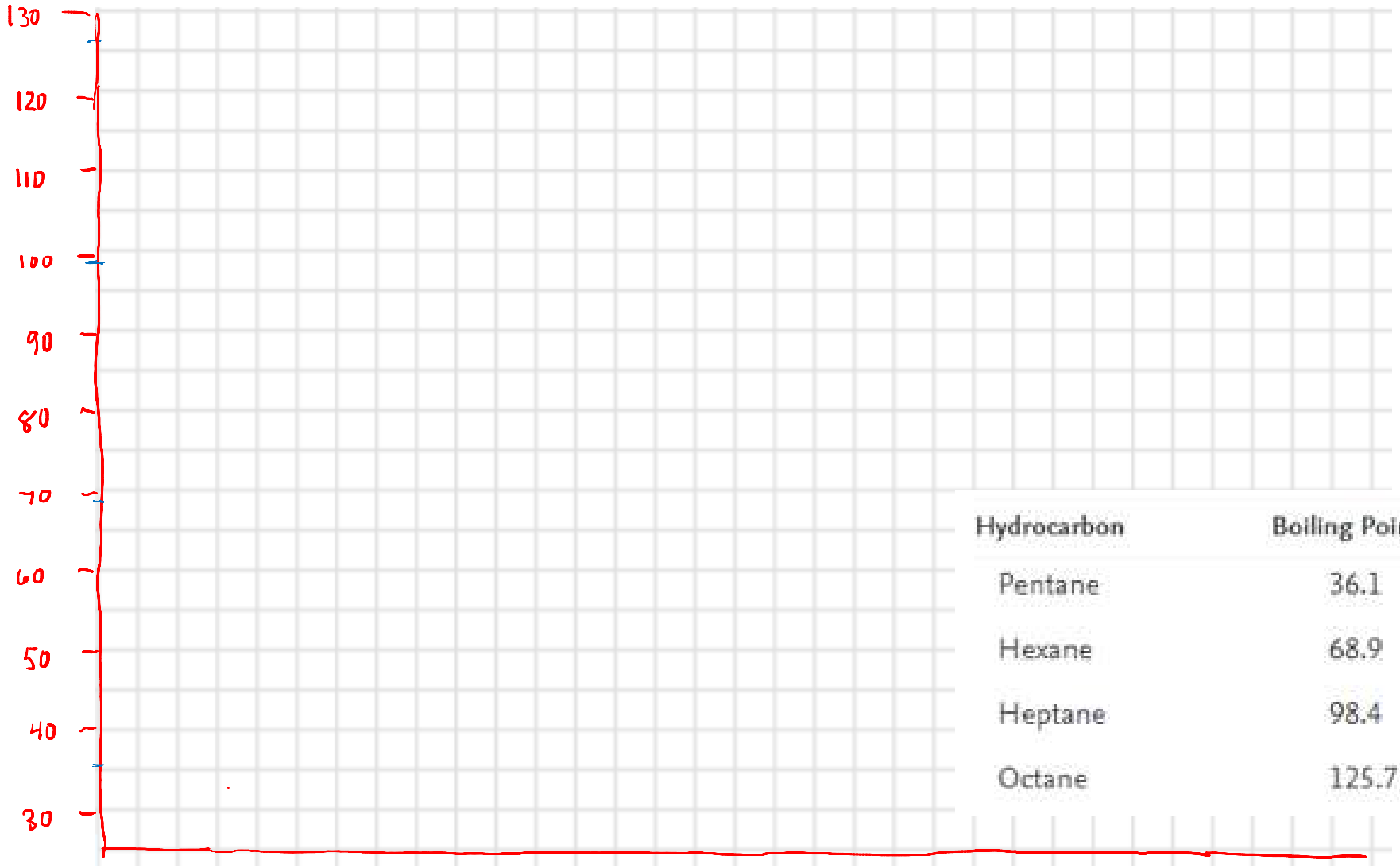
Distillation - a way to separate substances from one another according to boiling points.

- 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



Hydrocarbon	Boiling Point (°C)
Pentane	36.1
Hexane	68.9
Heptane	98.4
Octane	125.7


B 1534
201
197

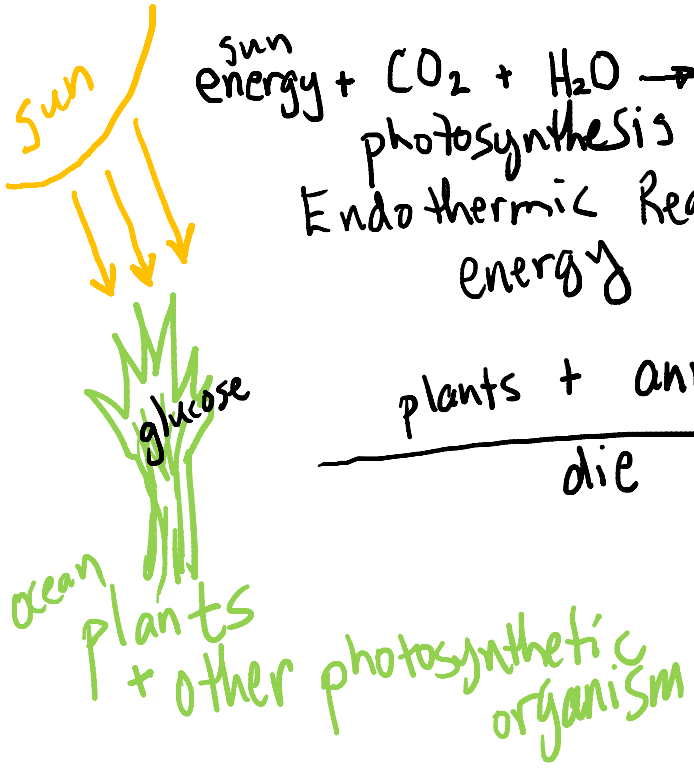
Energy and Petroleum

- 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)
- Sunlight + $6CO_2$ + $6H_2O$ → $C_6H_{12}O_6$ + $6O_2$
- Endothermic Reaction – requires energy

Energy and Petroleum

≠ Petroleum is liquid sunshine

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



sun
energy + CO_2 + H_2O → $C_6H_{12}O_6$ + O_2
photosynthesis
Endothermic Reaction- requires energy

plants + animals → die

Energy remains stored in the newly created petroleum molecules. (hydrocarbons)

Fossil Fuel Energy

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

Simplest:

$CH_{4(g)} + 2O_2 \longrightarrow CO_2 + 2H_2O + \text{energy}$

methane

$C_{25}H_{52} + 38O_2 \longrightarrow 25CO_2 + 26H_2O + \text{energy}$

wax

Health and Environmental Concerns of Petroleum Combustion

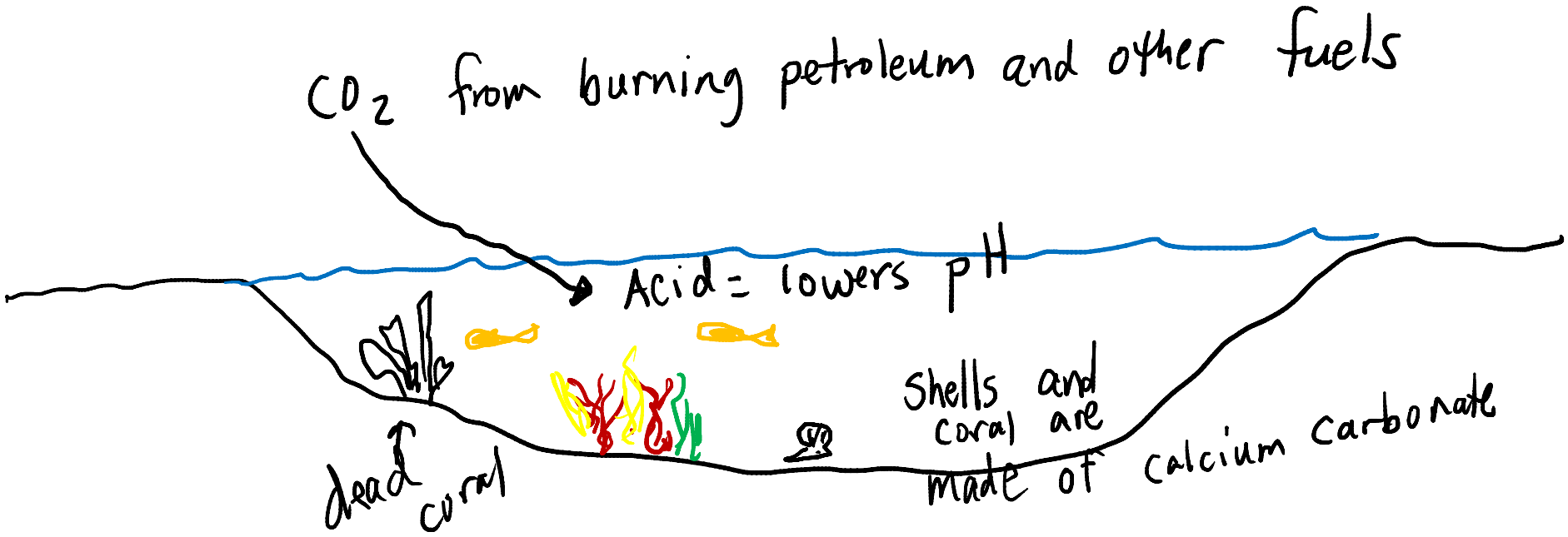
Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

- 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.

Ocean Acidification

→ 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

Atmosphere

"Greenhouse Effect"
→ results in Climate Change

CO_2 CO_2 CO_2 CO_2 CO_2 CO_2 CO_2 CO_2

Concentrated greenhouse gases acts like a "blanket" to hold heat in.

Heat + Light

Heat is trapped, similar to a greenhouse

CO_2

CO_2

Burning Fossil Fuels Releases greenhouse gases like CO_2.

Summary of Greenhouse Effect and Ocean Acidification

Ocean Acidification

→ nonmetal oxide + water → acid

$CO_2 + H_2O \rightarrow H_2CO_3$

→ lowers Ocean water pH which erodes calcium carbonate - based organisms and prevents the offspring to even grow.

→ Coral reefs are dying everywhere in our Oceans.

LAND

OCEAN