

Which Uses More Energy?

Energy is the *ability to do work*. Circle the option that you think uses the most energy.

1. All electric power plants or all U.S. cars?
2. Coal power plant or space shuttle?
3. 20 light bulbs or a horse?
4. The space shuttle or 50 airplanes?
5. A big ship or a big airplane?
6. An SUV or 100 horses?
7. 2,000 light bulbs or a small car?
8. On average, one American or two people from somewhere else in the world?

In your science journal, brainstorm a list of daily activities that use energy. Try to think of at least ten.

Which Uses More Energy? Answer Key

Energy is the ability to do work. Circle the option that you think uses the most energy.

1. All electric power plants or all U.S. cars? All U.S. cars (all U.S. cars = 7 times all power plants)
2. Coal power plant or space shuttle? Space shuttle (space shuttle = 14 plants)
3. 20 light bulbs or a horse? 20 light bulbs (20 light bulbs = 2 horses)
4. The space shuttle or 50 airplanes? Space shuttle (space shuttle = 56 airplanes)
5. A big ship or a big airplane? Big airplane (4 airplanes = 5 ships)
6. An SUV or 100 horses? SUV (SUV = 160 horses)
7. 2,000 light bulbs or a small car? Light bulbs (car = 1,000 light bulbs)
8. On average, one American or two people from somewhere else in the world? One American (Americans use 5 times as much power: 100 light bulbs a year compared to 20 light bulbs a year)

In your science journal, brainstorm a list of daily activities that use energy. Try to think of at least ten. These may include: television, computer, lights, music players and other electronics, stove, oven, washer/dryer, car, bath, outside doors, thermostat, fireplace, windows, appliances, such as toaster, blow dryer, can opener, etc.