

amorphous

a solid which is not crystalline, characterised by certain areas of short-range order

asphalt

a composite material consisting of aggregates suspended in a matrix of bituminous material interspersed with air voids

basic oxygen
steelmaking

a technique used for making steel from molten pig iron and scrap

cantilever

beams anchored at only one end, allowing for overhanging structures without external bracing

cast iron

a non-malleable, iron-carbon that is brittle and relatively weak in tension

cement	an ingredient of concrete made from calcined mixtures of clay-like and lime-bearing materials
ceramic	a multi-phase material containing phases composed of compounds of metals and non-metals; typically hard and providing good insulation
composites	a multiphase material formed from a combination of materials; remaining bonded, individual components combine to improve upon the original properties of the component materials
compression	forces applied to an object that try to squash or reduce the object in size
concrete	a combination of cement, fine aggregate (sand), coarse aggregate (blue metal) and water

corrosion

a chemical reaction that results in the conversion of metallic materials into oxides, salts or other compounds

elastic

material that deforms under stress but returns to its original size and shape when the stress is released, leaving no permanent deformation

factor of safety

an idea that guides engineers to design structures within safe limits

geotextile

natural and synthetic materials used to create a barrier between differing layers of earthworks

glass

ceramic produced through the fusion of inorganic materials cooled to a hard condition without any crystalline structure developing

Hooke's law

a principle stating that stress is directly proportional to strain within a material's proportional limit

life cycle analysis

a tool to support decision making for designers, engineers and manufacturers when assessing the impact of a product or process on the environment

method of joints

a technique used for resolving forces in trusses by isolating individual joints

method of sections

an approach to truss analysis isolation a section of the truss to be dealt with separately