

Unit 1 3rd Physics

READING PASSAGE

James Clerk Maxwell

James Clerk Maxwell, (born June 13, 1831, Edinburgh, Scotland-died November 5, 1879, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, England), Scottish physicist best known for his formulation of electromagnetic theory. He is regarded by most modern physicists as the scientist of the 19th century who had the greatest influence on 20th-century physics, and he is ranked with Sir Isaac Newton and Albert Einstein for the fundamental nature of his contributions. In 1931, on the 100th anniversary of Maxwell's birth, Einstein described the change in the conception of reality in physics that resulted from Maxwell's work as "the most profound and the most fruitful that physics has experienced since the time of Newton.". The concept of electromagnetic radiation originated with Maxwell, and his field equations, based on Michael Faraday's observations of the electric and magnetic lines of force, paved the way for Einstein's special theory of relativity, which established the equivalence of mass and energy. Maxwell's ideas also ushered in the other major innovation of 20th-century physics, the quantum theory. His description of electromagnetic radiation led to the development (according to classical theory) of the ultimately unsatisfactory law of heat radiation, which prompted Max Planck's formulation of the quantum hypothesis-i.e., the theory that radiantheat energy is emitted only in finite amounts, or quanta. The interaction between electromagnetic radiation and matter, integral to Planck's hypothesis, in turn has played a central role in the development of the theory of the structure of atoms and molecules.

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Maxwell came from a comfortable middle-class background. The original <u>family name</u> was Clerk, the additional surname being added by his father, who was a lawyer, after he had inherited the Middlebie estate from Maxwell ancestors. James was an only child. His parents had married late in life, and his mother was 40 years old at his birth. (*See* <u>Researcher's Note:</u> <u>Maxwell's date of birth</u>.) Shortly afterward the family moved from Edinburgh to Glenlair, the country house on the Middlebie estate. His mother died in 1839 from abdominal cancer, the very disease to which Maxwell was to <u>succumb</u> at exactly the same age. A dull and uninspired tutor was engaged who claimed that James was slow at learning, though in fact he displayed a lively curiosity at an early age and had a phenomenal memory. Fortunately he was rescued by his aunt Jane Cay and from 1841 was sent to school at the Edinburgh Academy. Among the other pupils were his biographer Lewis Campbell and his friend <u>Peter Guthrie Tait</u>.

Maxwell's interests ranged far beyond the school <u>syllabus</u>, and he did not pay particular attention to examination performance. His first scientific paper, published when he was only 14 years old, described a generalized series of oval curves that could be traced with pins and thread by <u>analogy</u> with an <u>ellipse</u>. This fascination with <u>geometry</u> and with mechanical models continued throughout his career and was of great help in his subsequent research.

At age 16 he entered the <u>University of Edinburgh</u>, where he read voraciously on all subjects and published two more scientific papers. In 1850 he went to the <u>University of Cambridge</u>, where his exceptional powers began to be recognized. His <u>mathematics</u> teacher, William Hopkins, was a well-known "wrangler maker" (a wrangler is one who takes first-class honours in the mathematics examinations at Cambridge) whose students included Tait, <u>George Gabriel (later Sir George) Stokes</u>, <u>William Thomson (later Baron Kelvin)</u>, <u>Arthur Cayley</u>, and Edward John Routh. Of Maxwell, Hopkins is reported to have said that he was the most extraordinary man he had ever met, that it seemed impossible for him to think wrongly on any physical subject, but that in analysis he was far more deficient. (Other contemporaries also testified to Maxwell's preference for geometrical over <u>analytical</u> methods.) This shrewd <u>assessment</u> was later borne out by several important formulas advanced by Maxwell that obtained correct results from faulty mathematical arguments.

In 1854 Maxwell was second wrangler and first Smith's prizeman (the Smith's Prize is a prestigious competitive award for an essay that incorporates original research). He was elected to a fellowship at Trinity, but, because his father's health was deteriorating, he wished to return to <u>Scotland</u>. In 1856 he was appointed to the professorship of natural philosophy at

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Marischal College, Aberdeen, but before the appointment was announced his father died. This was a great personal loss, for Maxwell had had a close relationship with his father. In June 1858 Maxwell married Katherine Mary Dewar, daughter of the principal of Marischal College. The union was childless and was described by his biographer as a "married life...of unexampled devotion." In 1860 the University of Aberdeen was formed by a merger between King's College and Marischal College, and Maxwell was declared redundant. He applied for a vacancy at the University of Edinburgh, but he was turned down in favour of his school friend Tait. He then was appointed to the professorship of natural philosophy at King's College, London. The next five years were undoubtedly the most fruitful of his career. During this period his two classic papers on the electromagnetic field were published, and his demonstration of colour photography took place. He was elected to the Royal Society in 1861. His theoretical and experimental work on the viscosity of gases also was undertaken during these years and culminated in a lecture to the Royal Society in 1866. He supervised the experimental determination of electrical units for the British Association for the Advancement of Science, and this work in measurement and standardization led to the establishment of the National Physical Laboratory. He also measured the ratio of electromagnetic and electrostatic units of <u>electricity</u> and confirmed that it was in satisfactory agreement with the <u>velocity of</u> light as predicted by his theory. In 1865 Maxwell resigned his professorship at King's College and retired to the family estate in Glenlair. He continued to visit London every spring and served as external examiner for the Mathematical Tripos (exams) at Cambridge. In the spring and early summer of 1867 he toured Italy. But most of his energy during this period was devoted to writing his famous treatise on electricity and magnetism. It was Maxwell's research on electromagnetism that established him among the great scientists of history. In the preface to his Treatise on Electricity and Magnetism (1873), the best exposition of his theory, Maxwell stated that his major task was to convert Faraday's physical ideas into mathematical form. In attempting to illustrate Faraday's law of induction (that a changing magnetic field gives rise to an induced electromagnetic field), Maxwell constructed a mechanical model. He found that the model gave rise to a corresponding "displacement current" in the dielectric medium, which could then be the seat of transverse waves. On calculating the velocity of these waves, he found that they were very close to the velocity of light. Maxwell concluded that he could "scarcely avoid the inference that light consists in the transverse undulations of the same medium which is the cause of electric and magnetic phenomena." Maxwell's theory suggested that electromagnetic waves could be generated in a laboratory, a possibility first

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demonstrated by <u>Heinrich Hertz</u> in 1887, eight years after Maxwell's death. The resulting <u>radio</u> industry with its many applications thus has its origin in Maxwell's publications.

In addition to his electromagnetic theory, Maxwell made major contributions to other areas of physics. While still in his 20s, he demonstrated his mastery of classical physics by writing a prizewinning essay on Saturn's rings, in which he concluded that the rings must consist of masses of matter not mutually coherent-a conclusion that was corroborated more than 100 years later by the first Voyager space probe to reach Saturn. The Maxwell relations of equality between different partial derivatives of thermodynamic functions are included in every standard textbook on thermodynamics. Though Maxwell did not originate the modern kinetic theory of gases, he was the first to apply the methods of probability and statistics in describing the properties of an assembly of molecules. Thus he was able to demonstrate that the velocities of molecules in a gas, previously assumed to be equal, must follow a statistical distribution (known subsequently as the Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution law). In later papers Maxwell investigated the transport properties of gases-i.e., the effect of changes in temperature and pressure on viscosity, thermal conductivity, and diffusion. Maxwell was far from being an <u>abstruse</u> theoretician. He was skillful in the design of experimental apparatus, as was shown early in his career during his investigations of colour vision. He devised a colour top with adjustable sectors of tinted paper to test the three-colour hypothesis of Thomas Young and later invented a colour box that made it possible to conduct experiments with spectral colours rather than pigments. His investigations of the colour theory led him to conclude that a colour photograph could be produced by photographing through filters of the three primary colours and then recombining the images. He demonstrated his supposition in a lecture to the Royal Institution of Great Britain in 1861 by projecting through filters a colour photograph of a tartan ribbon that had been taken by this method. In addition to these wellknown contributions, a number of ideas that Maxwell put forward quite casually have since led to developments of great significance. The hypothetical intelligent being known as Maxwell's demon was a factor in the development of information theory. Maxwell's analytic treatment of speed governors is generally regarded as the founding paper on cybernetics, and his "equal areas" construction provided an essential constituent of the theory of fluids developed by Johannes Diederik van der Waals. His work in geometrical optics led to the discovery of the fish-eye lens. From the start of his career to its finish, his papers are filled with novelty and interest. He also was a contributor to the ninth edition of Encyclopædia Britannica. In 1871 Maxwell was elected to the new Cavendish professorship at Cambridge.

He set about designing the Cavendish Laboratory and supervised its construction. Maxwell had few students, but they were of the highest <u>calibre</u> and included William D. Niven, <u>John Ambrose (later Sir John Ambrose) Fleming</u>, Richard Tetley Glazebrook, <u>John Henry Poynting</u>, and Arthur Schuster. During the Easter term of 1879 Maxwell took ill on several occasions; he returned to Glenlair in June, but his condition did not improve. He died on November 5, after a short illness. Maxwell received no public honours and was buried quietly in a small churchyard in the village of Parton, in <u>Scotland</u>.

Grammar

I-Definition of passive voice :

- We put the full object at the beginning of the sentence and do not mention the subject unless it is necessary.

- We put " is " for the singular and " are " for the plural of <u>the present simple.</u>
- We put "was " for the singular and "were " for the plural of the past simple.

- put " be " after: to, shall, should, must, may, might, will, would, can, could.

- put " been " after: have, has, had.
- put " being " after: am, is, are, was, were.

- Converts : "Have "to "Has "and " are "to " is " and " were "to " was ".

If the infinitive is singular, and vice versa, if the object is plural

Examples: <u>active voice --- passive voice</u>

-I write my homework everyday. --- My homework is written everyday.

-The governments prepared our schools very well. --- Our schools were prepared very well.

-Students should respect teachers. ---- Teachers should be respected.

-We have finished the English exam. --- The English exam has been finished.

-We are playing many sports in the club. --- Many sports are being played in the club.

II- Conditional tool (If)

-With the present simple we take " will + Verb "

-With **<u>the past simple</u>** we take "**would + Verb** "

-With <u>the past perfect</u> we take " would have + verb + ed "

Examples:

-If she studies hard, she will pass the exam.

-If you studied hard, you would pass the exam.

-If you had studied hard, you would have passed the exam.

III-Meanings of words in Araic:

Words	In arabic	Words	In Arabic	Words	In arabic
In case	في حالة	In need	محتاج	In short	باختصار
In cash	نقدا	In vain	بدون جدوى	In fact	في الواقع
Anyway	على أي حال	Anyone	أي شخص	Anyhow	بأية حال
Anything	أي شيء	Anytime	في أي وقت	Anywhere	في أي مكان
Anymore	أي أكثر من ذلك	Come in	يدخل	Come up	يصعد
Come	يأتي	Come out	يخرج	Come down	ينزل