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LIST OF IMPORTANT SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS

For All Government Exams

Current Affairs and General Awareness section is one of the most important and high scoring sections of any competitive exam. Therefore, we regularly provide you with Free Static GK E-book for your preparation. In this section, questions related to Scientific Instruments and their uses are frequently asked. Hence it becomes very important for all the candidates to be aware about all the important **Scientific Instruments and their uses**.

In all the competitive exams, every mark counts and even 1 mark can be the difference between success and failure. Therefore, to help you get these important marks we have created a Free Static GK E-book on the List of Scientific Instruments and their Uses.

The comprehensive list of all the Important Scientific Instruments along with their Uses is given in a tabular format in the following pages of this Free Static GK E-book on Scientific Instruments and their Uses.

Sample Questions -

Q. "Chronometer" is used to?

- (a) Determine longitude of a vessel at sea
- (b) Measure heat Radiation
- (c) Converts mechanical energy into electrical energy
- (d) None of the above

Answer: Option A – Determine longitude of a vessel at sea

Q. "Pyrometer" is used to measure-

- (a) Heart Beat
- (b) Water Pressure
- (c) Very High Temperature
- (d) Speed of Light

Answer: Option C – Very High Temperature

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Instruments	Usage
Altimeter	Measures altitude (Used in Aircraft)
Ammeter	Measures strength of electric current
Anemometer	Measures force and velocity of Wind and directions.
Audiometer	Measures Intensity of Sound
Barograph	Continuous recording of atmospheric pressure
Barometer	Measures atmospheric pressure
Binoculars	To view distant objects
Bolometer	To measure heat Radiation
Callipers	Measures inner and outer diameter of bodies
Calorimeter	Measures quantities of heat
Carburettor	Used for charging air with petrol vapours in an internal combustion engine.
Cardiogram	Traces movement of heart; recorded on a Cardiogram (ECG)
Cardiogram (ECG)	Traces movements of the heart recorded on a Cardiograph
Cathetometer	Determines heights, measurement of levels, etc. In scientific experiments
Chronometer	Determine longitude of a vessel at sea
Cinematograph	Used for projecting pictures on the screen.
Colorimeter	Compares Intensity of colours
Commutator	To change / reverse the direction of electric current. Also used to convert AC into DC
Crescograph	Used for measuring growth in plants.

Cryometer	It is a type of thermometer used to measure very low temperatures usually close to Zero degree C
Cyclotron	A charged particle accelerator which can accelerate charged particles to high energies
Dilatometer	Measures changes in volume of substances
Dynamo	Converts mechanical energy into electrical energy
Dynamo	Coverts mechanical energy into electrical energy
Dynamometer	Measures electrical power
Electro Encephalon	Measures and records electrical activity of brain Gramog (EEG)
Electrometer	It measures very small but potential difference in electric currents
Electron microscope	It is used to obtain a magnifying view of very small objects capable of magnifying up to 20,000 times
Electron microscope	Used to obtain a magnifying view of very small objects (20,000 times).
Electroscope	Detects presence of an electric charge
Endoscope	To examine internal parts of the body
Fathometer	Measures depth of the ocean
Flux meter	Measures magnetic flux
Galvanometer	Measures electric current
Gramophone	Used to reproducing recorded sound.
Hydrometer	Measures the relative density of liquids
Hydrophone	Measures sound under water

Hygrometer	Measures level of humidity
Hygroscope	Shows the changes in atmospheric humidity
Hypsometer	To determine boiling point of liquids
Kymograph	Graphically records physiological movement (e.g., Blood Pressure / Heartbeat)
Lactometer	Measures the relative density of milk
Mach meter	It determines the speed of an aircraft in terms of the speed of sound
Magnetometer	It is used to compare magnetic movements of magnets and fields.
Manometer	Measures the pressure of gases
Micrometre	It measures distances / angles.
Microphone	Converts sound waves into electrical vibrations
Microscope	To obtain a magnified view of small objects
Nephelometer	Measures the scattering of light by particles suspended in a liquid
Odometer	An instrument attached to the wheel of a vehicle, to measure the distance travelled.
Ohmmeter	To measure electrical resistance in ohms
Ondometer	Measures the frequency of electromagnetic waves, especially in the radio- frequency band.
Optometer	Used for testing the refractive power of the eye.

Otoscope	Used for visual examination of the eardrum.
Periscope	To view objects above sea level (used in submarines)
Phonograph	Used for reproducing sound.
Photometer	Compares the luminous intensity of the source of light.
Polygraph	Instrument that simultaneously records changes in physiological processes such as heartbeat, blood-pressure and respiration; used as a lie detector.
Pycnometer	It determines the density and coefficient of expansion of liquids.
Pyrheliometer	Measures direct beam solar irradiance. Sunlight enters the instrument through a window and is directed onto a thermopile which converts heat to an electrical signal that can be recorded.
Pyrometer	Measure very high temperature.
Quadrant	Measures altitude and angles in navigation and astronomy.
Radar	It is used to detect the direction and ranges of an approaching aeroplane by means of radio wave, (Radio, Angle, Detection, and ranges).
Radio Micrometre	Measures heat radiation
Rain Gauge	Measures Rainfall.
Refractometer	Measure refractive indices.
Salinometer	Determines the salinity of solutions

Sextant	It is used by navigators to find the latitude of a place by measuring the elevation above the horizon of the sun or another star; also used to measure the height of very distant objects.
Seismograph	Used for recording the intensity and origin of earthquakes shocks.
Spectrometer	Spectroscope equipped with calibrated scale to measure the position of spectral lines (Measurement of refractive indices).
Spectroscope	To observe or record spectra.
Speedometer	An instrument used for measuring speed of the vehicle.
Spherometer	Measures curvature of spherical objects.
Sphygmomanometer	Measures blood pressure.
Sphygmometer	Measures Pulse Beat
Stereoscope	To view two- dimensional pictures.
Stethoscope	It is used by doctors to hear and analyse heart and lung sounds.
Stroboscope	To view rapidly moving objects.
Tacheometer	A theodolite adapted to measure, elevations and bearings during survey
Tachometer	It is used to determine speed, especially the rotational speed of a shaft (used in aeroplane and motor-boats).
Tangent Galvanometer	It measures the strength of direct current

Telemeter	Records physical happening at a distant place
Teleprinter	Receives and sends typed messages from one place to another
Telescope	To view distant objects in space
Thermometer	It measures temperature
Thermostat	It regulates the temperature at a particular point
Tonometer	To measure the pitch of a sound
Transformer	An apparatus used for converting high voltage to low and vice-versa without change in its frequency.
Transponder	It is used to receive a signal and transmit a reply immediately
Udo meter	Rain gauge
Ultrasonoscope	To measure and use ultrasonic sound (beyond hearing); use to make a ecogram to detect brain tumours, heart defects and abnormal growth
Vemier	Measures small sub-division of scale
Venturi meter	To measure the rate of flow of liquids
Vernier	Measures Small sub-division of scale.
Viscometer	Measures the viscosity of liquids
Voltmeter	To measure electric power potential difference between two points
Wattmeter	To measure the power of electric current
Wave meter	To measure the wavelength of a radio wave

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