

GLOSSARY

Click on the term or the definitions to hear the words and explanations of the key terms on this unit.

STRUCTURE: a group of connected elements capable of supporting weight. Structures have horizontal girders¹ for the load² and pillars³ to support it.



¹ **Girder:** a beam, bar or board which supports the load in a structure.

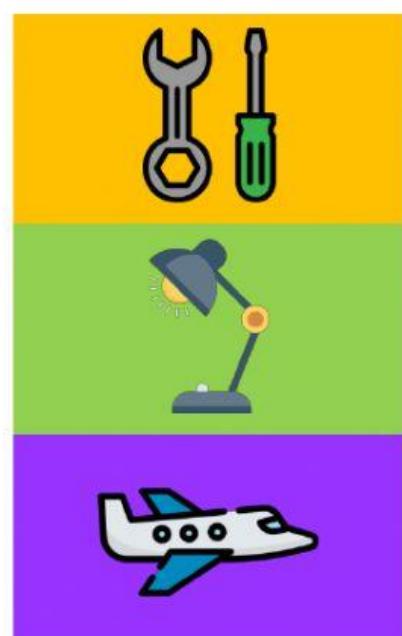
² **Load:** a weight to be moved by a machine or supported by a structure.

³ **Pillar:** a vertical post or rod which supports the girder in a structure.

MACHINE: a device made of different materials that help us complete tasks with less effort. We can classify machines in two ways:

a) Depending on the **type of energy** they use:

- **MANUAL MACHINE:** a machine which uses human or animal energy to work.
- **ELECTRICAL MACHINE:** a type of machine which uses electrical energy to work.
- **THERMAL MACHINE:** a type of machine which uses the energy obtained by burning fuel.

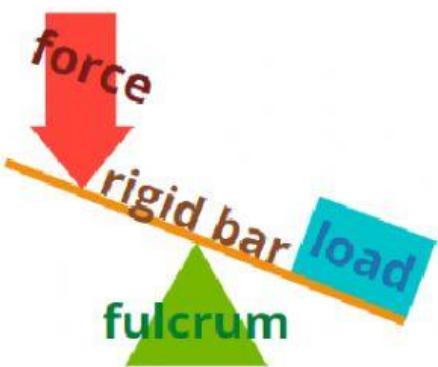


b) According to the **number of parts they have**:

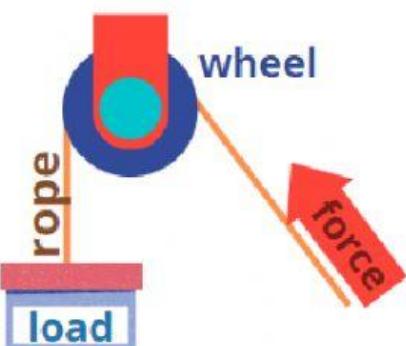
- **Simple machine:** a machine made from only one or very few parts.



INCLINED PLANE: a simple machine with an inclined board along its smooth surface, used to slide or drag objects.



LEVER: a simple machine made up of a **rigid bar** which moves up and down over a fixed point (named "**fulcrum**") to transmit and increase the force applied.

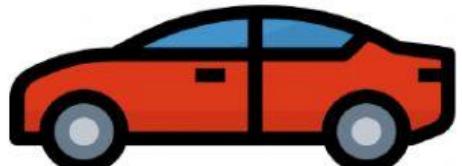


PULLEY: a simple machine made up of a **wheel** with a groove* through which a **rope** moves.

* **Groove:** part of the wheel that fixes the rope to it.



- **COMPLEX MACHINE:** a machine made from many different parts.



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