What Kind of Energy?

Most processes in the world use some form of energy. Whether it be cooking, a speaker blaring music, or x-rays, there are many different forms of energy. Energy cannot be created or destroyed, (it must come from somewhere!) so many processes also involve transforming one energy type to another.

Read each sentence and figure out what kind of energy is involved (and if applicable, whether there is a transformation from one energy type to another). Choose from: light energy, sound energy, thermal energy (heat), chemical energy (eg. food), mechanical energy (motion), gravitational energy, and electrical energy.

1. Kakeka went fishing and caught some trout. She wants to cook it for her family. What kind of energy does cooking require?

2. Sam lives in a very sunny spot and wants to power their house. They decide to use a renewable source of energy, solar panels! What is the energy conversion here?

3. Throckmorton the skateboarder is jamming out on instruments with his friends. What kind of energy does this use and produce?

4. Simone and Cassie went birdwatching one night, where they saw an owl hunting for mice. What kind of energy is the owl looking for?

5. Hope hurt her leg and thinks it’s broken. She goes to get an x-ray done. What kind of energy does the x-ray make use of?

6. A rock falls into a pond and causes ripples. What is the energy conversion here?

7. Chyanne and Mason are going bungee jumping! What kind of energy is acting here?

Computers use electricity, a form of energy, and convert it into different forms of energy. A computer screen produces light energy, speakers produce sound energy and circuitry produces heat energy. That’s why computers have a fan, in order to cool it off.