

## Glossary

**aardvark** nocturnal African burrowing mammal

**abbreviations**

**agencies**

$\alpha$  alpha

**amethyst** purple variety of quartz

**animals**

**aquamarine** light blue variety of beryl

**aragonite** a crystal form of calcium carbonate

**armadillo** nocturnal insectivore with large claws

**artichoke** a variety of thistle cultivated as food

**bakerite** a borosilicate mineral

**beryl** composed of beryllium aluminium cyclosilicate

$\beta$  beta

**bilinite** an iron sulfate mineral

**biotite** a common phyllosilicate mineral

**Brussels sprout** small leafy green vegetable buds

**cabbage** vegetable with thick green or purple leaves

**calcite** a crystal form of calcium carbonate

**cauliflower** type of cabbage with edible white flower head

**chalcedony** cryptocrystalline variety of quartz

$\chi$  chi

**chicken** a domestic fowl

**citrine** yellow variety of quartz

**♣** club

**cobaltite** a sulfide mineral composed of cobalt, arsenic and sulfur

**corundum** crystalline form of aluminium oxide

**courgette** immature fruit of a vegetable marrow

**cyanotrichite** a hydrous copper aluminium sulfate mineral

$\delta$  delta

**diamond** a metastable allotrope of carbon

◇ diamond

**dolomite** an anhydrous carbonate mineral

**duck** a waterbird with webbed feet

$\epsilon$  epsilon

$\eta$  eta

$f$  function

$\gamma$  gamma

**goose** a large waterbird with a long neck, short legs, webbed feet and a short broad bill

**Greek symbols**

♥ heart

**hedgehog** small nocturnal mammal with a spiny coat and short legs

**HTML (hypertext markup language)** the standard markup language for creating web pages

$\iota$  iota  
 $\kappa$  kappa  
 $L$  Lagrangian function  
 $\lambda$  lambda  
**Latin symbols**  
**lettsumite**  
**markup languages**  
**marrow** long white-fleshed gourd with green skin  
**MathML (mathematical markup language)** markup language for describing mathematical notation  
**minerals**  
 $\mu$  mu  
**NASA** National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
 $\nu$  nu  
**Ofcom** Office of Communications  
**Ofsted** Office for Standards in Education  
 $\omega$  omega  
 $o$  omicron  
**parrot** mainly tropical bird with bright plumage  
 $\phi$  phi  
 $\pi$  pi  
**pictographs**  
 $\psi$  psi  
**quartz** hard mineral consisting of silica  
**quetzalcoatlite** a rare tellurium oxysalt mineral  
 $\rho$  rho  
**sea lion** a large type of seal  
**seal** sea-dwelling fish-eating mammal with flippers  
 $\sigma$  sigma  
♠ spade  
**spinach** green, leafy vegetable  
**SVG (scalable vector graphics)** XML-based vector image format  
**swan** a large waterbird with a long flexible neck, short legs, webbed feet and a broad bill  
**symbols**  
 $t$  time variable or parameter  
 $\tau$  tau  
 $\theta$  theta  
 $v$  upsilon  
 $\varepsilon$  epsilon (variant)  
 $\varkappa$  kappa (variant)  
 $\varphi$  phi (variant)  
 $\varpi$  pi (variant)  
 $\varrho$  rho (variant)  
 $\varsigma$  sigma (variant)  
 $\vartheta$  theta (variant)

**vaterite** a crystal form of calcium carbonate

**vegetables**

**vulcanite** a rare copper telluride mineral

*x* first unknown variable or horizontal co-ordinate

**XHTML (extensible hypertext markup language)** XML version of HTML

ξ xi

**XML (extensible markup language)** a markup language that defines a set of rules for encoding documents

*y* second unknown variable or vertical co-ordinate

*z* third unknown variable or co-ordinate

**zander** large freshwater perch

**zebra** wild African horse with black-and-white stripes

ζ zeta

**zucchini**