Physical vs. Chemical Changes

Physical Change:

- 1) Atoms do not rearrange (switch partners).
- 2) Only physical properties change. Chemical properties do not change.
- 3) Physical changes are generally **easy to reverse**.
- 4) No energy is produced by the substance.

Example: An ice cube (H₂0) melts in the sun and turns into water (H₂0).

Chemical Change:

- 1) Atoms are rearranged into different molecules. There will be a new chemical formula .
- 2) Both physical and chemical properties are changed.
- 3) Changes are **not reversible** without another reaction.
- 4) **Energy** is often **produced** (fire or heat, for example).

Here are two examples:

1. Two hydrogen atoms and one oxygen atom combine to make a water molecule.

	2 Hydrogen	+	1 Oxygen	=	Water
Physical Properties					
Chemical Properties					

2. One sodium atom and one chlorine atom combine to make a molecule of table salt.

	Sodium	+	Chlorine =	Salt
Physical Properties				
Chemical Properties				

Identify each of the following as a Physical or Chemical Change.

Put a P next to Physical Changes Put a C next to Chemical Changes

1. A piece of wood burns to form ash.	
2 Water evaporates into steam	
3 A niece of cork is cut in balf	
4. A bicycle chain rusts.	
5. Food is digested in the stomach.	
6. Water is absorbed by a paper towel.	
7. Hydrochloric Acid reacts with zinc.	
8. A piece of an apple rots on the ground.	
9. A tire is inflated with air.	
10. A plant turns sunlight, CO2, and water	
into sugar and oxygen.	
11. Sugar dissolves in water.	
12. Eggs turn into an omelette.	
13. Milk sours.	
14. A popsicle melts.	
15. Turning brownie mix into brownies.	

Choose 2 of the above examples and explain why you chose chemical or physical. Please choose one of each type of change. Back up your explanation.

