

## Thermoplastic and Thermosetting Polymers

14.13 This question asks for comparisons of thermoplastic and thermosetting polymers.

(a) Thermoplastic polymers soften when heated and harden when cooled, whereas thermosetting polymers, harden upon heating, while further heating will not lead to softening.

(b) Thermoplastic polymers have linear and branched structures, while for thermosetting polymers, the structures will normally be network or crosslinked.