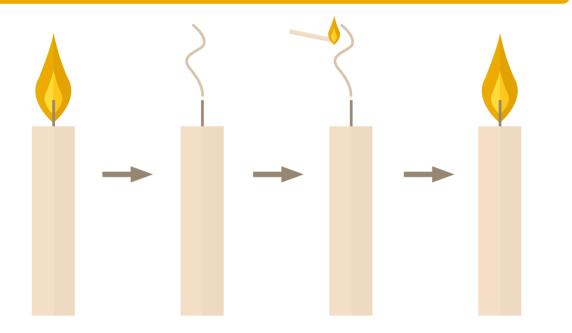
CHEMISTRY ADVENT 2015 10

THE RELIGHTING CANDLE TRICK



Here's a fun trick for the Christmas dinner table: if you blow out a candle, then hold a lit match in the 'smoke trail' coming off the extinguished flame, the candle will relight. The 'smoke trail' is actually wax vapour, and putting a lit match into it simply relights the fuel, giving the illusion of the flame 'jumping' back down to the candle wick.

GENERAL EQUATION FOR WAX COMBUSTION



 $C_{25}H_{52(g)} + 38O_{2(g)} \rightarrow 25CO_{2(g)} + 26H_{2}O_{(g)}$

© COMPOUND INTEREST 2015 - WWW.COMPOUNDCHEM.COM | @COMPOUNDCHEM Shared under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives licence.

