

SNC1

Electrical Resistance 274306

Name: Sally

1. Electrical current is measured in amps.
2. Electrical potential difference (voltage) is measured in volt.
3. A poor conductor in a circuit is referred to as a resistor.
4. In nichrome there are few loosely held electrons.
5. The atoms of nichrome vibrate causing it to heat up (increase its temperature).
6. The resistance across a copper connecting wire is close to zero.
7. Electrical resistance equals the voltage difference across the resistor divided by the current through it.
8. The SI unit of resistance is the ohm, symbol  $\Omega$ .
9. Electric current will flow through your body if a large voltage exists across your body.
10. Convulsions in a human can occur if as little as 0.1 Amperes of current flow.
11. Death in a human can occur if as little as 0.1 Amperes of current flow.

After viewing the video, answer the following questions:

12. Classify the following as GOOD resistors or POOR resistors;

water = \_\_\_\_\_

light bulb = \_\_\_\_\_

copper wire = \_\_\_\_\_

nichrome wire = \_\_\_\_\_

13. Two light bulbs are connected to a 1.5 V dry cell battery one at a time. One bulb is noticeably brighter than the other. Explain.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_


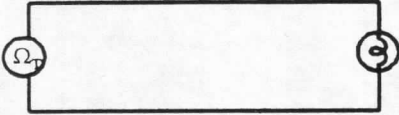
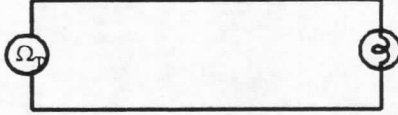
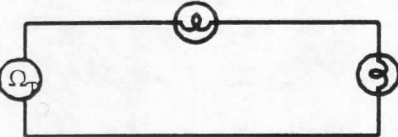
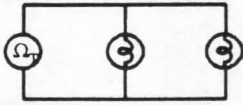
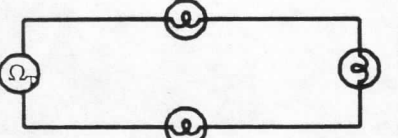
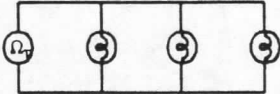
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# TOTAL RESISTANCE OF CIRCUITS

Set up the following circuits.

Use the multimeter as an Ohmmeter to measure their total resistance.

Answer the questions on the following page.

Total Resistance			
Series Circuits	Total Resistance (Ohms) ( $\Omega$ )	Parallel Circuits	Total Resistance (Ohms) ( $\Omega$ )
RESISTANCE OF LEADS ONLY			$\Omega_T =$
	$\Omega_T =$		$\Omega_T =$
	$\Omega_T =$		$\Omega_T =$
	$\Omega_T =$		$\Omega_T =$

Use the results from the notes and your table to answer the following;

1) What is the resistance?

2) What is the resistance of just a lead (or conductor)? \_\_\_\_\_  $\Omega$

3) Is it easy or hard for a battery to push coulombs through a lead wire?

4) As more lights are connected in **SERIES**:

A) the total resistance of the circuit becomes \_\_\_\_\_ so we say the load becomes \_\_\_\_\_

B) the (easier/harder/the same) for the battery to push coulombs through the circuit.

C) the current in the circuit becomes \_\_\_\_\_.

5) A short circuit could just be described as a circuit which has \_\_\_\_\_ resistance and causes the current to \_\_\_\_\_ rise when the switch is closed.

6) As more lights are connected in **PARALLEL**:

- A) the total resistance of the circuit becomes \_\_\_\_\_ so we say the load becomes \_\_\_\_\_.
- B) it is (easier/harder/the same) for the battery to push coulombs through the circuit.
- C) the \_\_\_\_\_ the current in the main circuit.

7) An Overload is a parallel circuit which has very \_\_\_\_\_ total resistance because of too many loads connected. This causes the current to \_\_\_\_\_ rise as more loads are connected..

8) If several appliances (like a stereo, CD player, lamp, and a computer) are all connected to one extension cord or "power bar" an Overload circuit can be created.

A) Compare the voltage of the electricity going through each appliance in an overload circuit to the voltage if only one appliance were connected. The voltage is \_\_\_\_\_ in the overload circuit.

B) Compare the current going through the extension cord in an overload circuit to the current expected if just one appliance were connected. The current is \_\_\_\_\_ in the overload circuit.

9) Household plugs offer some resistance to current flow because the connections are never completely clean and tight. From your knowledge of what happens when current flows through a site of resistance, which part of such an overload circuit would be most likely to overheat and cause a fire?

## Fuses & Circuit Breakers

1) A short circuit causes the current to \_\_\_\_\_ rise when the switch is closed. It is the result of a path with \_\_\_\_\_ resistance around the light bulb.

2) Fuses (and Circuit Breakers) are connected in \_\_\_\_\_ to the rest of the circuit, because if too much current flows, the fuse will \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ the current.

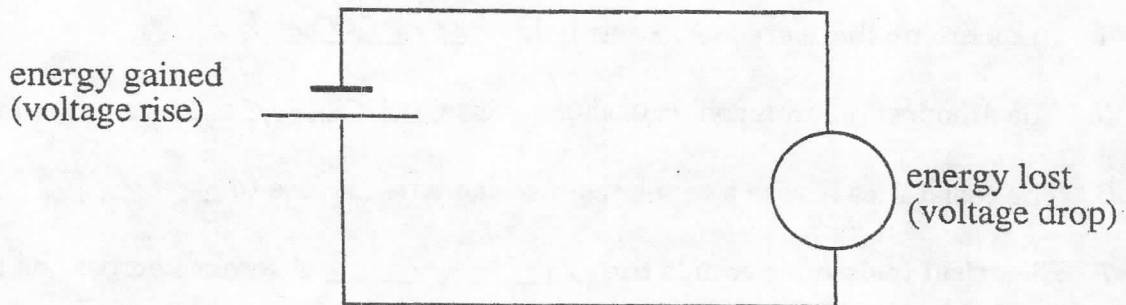
3) The more lights that are connected in **SERIES**, the less likely a \_\_\_\_\_ circuit will occur.

4) The more lights that are connected in **PARALLEL**, the more likely an \_\_\_\_\_ circuit will occur.

## ELECTRICAL RESISTANCE AND OHM'S LAW

**Electrical resistance** is the ability to impede the flow of electrons in conductors.

When electrons flow through a conductor, the electrical resistance causes a loss of electric potential (voltage). There is a "difference" in the amount of electric potential after the electrons have flowed through the conductor.



The symbol for electrical resistance is **R**.  
The SI unit for electrical resistance is the ohm,  $\Omega$ .

### Ohm's Law

In 1827, George Ohm (1789-1854) discovered the relationship that exists between the potential difference across a conductor (such as copper wire) and the electric current flowing through it:

"The potential difference between two points on a conductor is proportional to (directly related) to the electric current flowing through the conductor."

Electric Potential = Electric Current x Electrical Resistance  
(Voltage drop)

$$\begin{array}{rcccc} \mathbf{V} & = & \mathbf{I} & \times & \mathbf{R} \\ \text{Volts (V)} & = & \text{Amperes (A)} & \times & \text{Ohms } (\Omega) \end{array}$$

*Example:*

A 100-Watt lightbulb has a tungsten filament with a resistance of  $144 \Omega$  and a current of  $0.833 \text{ A}$  flowing through it. What is the **voltage drop**?