



Physics. *You work it out.*

Electricity

GCSE overview

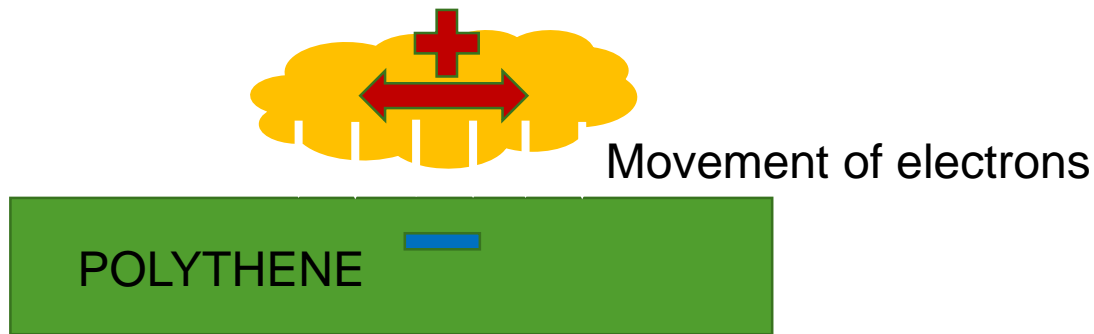
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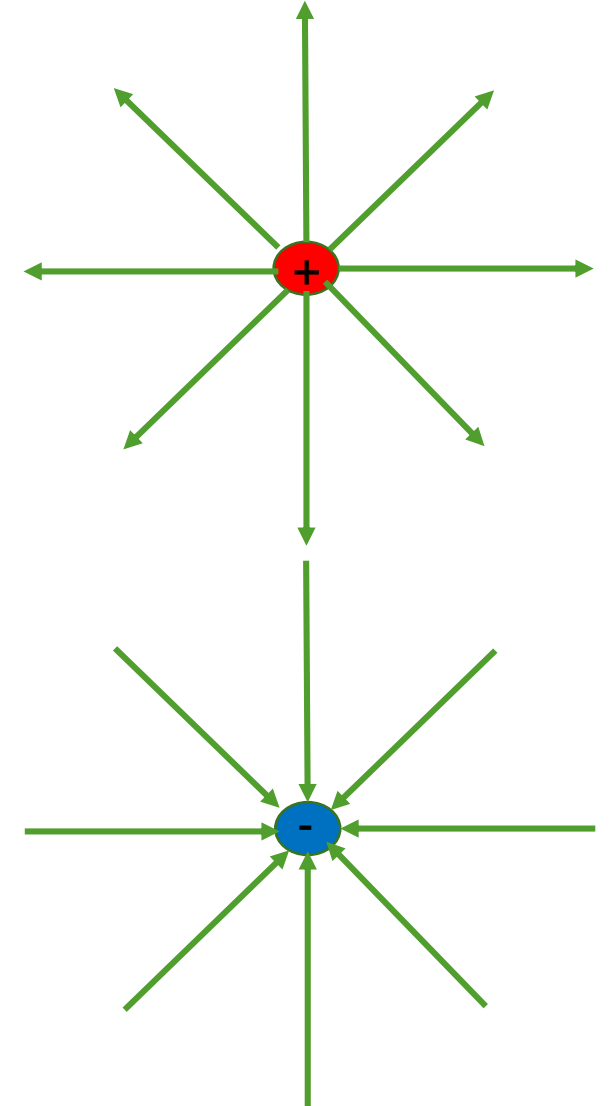
Electrostatics

- › Electrons are negative & can move (the rest of the atom stays still)
- › Friction allows some electrons to move from one object to another – charging by friction.
 - The object which loses electrons becomes positive.
 - The object which gains electrons becomes negative.



Electrostatics

- › Electric field lines point in the direction a +ve charge would accelerate.
 - The closer the lines, the stronger the field
 - Electrons would accelerate the opposite way.
 - Example: Field outside a charged metal sphere.
 - If field is strong enough, it can pull electrons out of atoms, and speed them up so that they can knock electrons out of other atoms – this sudden flow of electrons is a spark.





Electrical quantities

Name	Symbol	Unit	Equations	Isaac chapter	Description (Pizza delivery analogy)
Charge	Q	coulomb (C)	$Q = It$	21	Electric stuff = motorcycles
Current through	I	amp (A)			Delivery rate of electric stuff = no of motorcycles sent each hour
Voltage (or pd) across	V	volt (V)	$V = E/Q$	26	Energy content of charge = no of pizzas on each motorcycle
Power	P	watt (W)	$P = E/t$ $P = IV$ $P = I^2R$	26 26 27	Delivery rate of energy = pizzas delivered each hour
Energy	E	joule (J)	$E = Pt$ $E = VIt$	26	Number of pizzas delivered
Resistance	R	ohm (Ω)	$V = IR$ Series: $R_t = R_1 + R_2$	24	Obstruction to charge flow ('voltage needed to push an amp')

Energy can also be measured in kilowatt-hours (kWh) = Power in kW x Time in hours



Equation practice – fill in the gap

You know these		Work this out
Voltage = 6.0V	Current = 0.03A	Resistance
Voltage = 6.0V	Current = 0.03A	Power
Resistance = 300Ω	Current = 0.05A	Power
Charge = 150C	Time = 50s	Current
Current = 0.30A	Time = 3 minutes	Charge
Energy = 120J	Charge = 40C	Voltage
Current = 6A, Voltage = 12V	Time = 5 minutes	Energy

If electricity is 18p per kWh, how much does it cost to run a 3kW heater for 8 hours overnight?



Equation practice – fill in the gap

You know these		Work this out	Isaac chapter
Voltage = 6.0V	Current = 0.03A	Resistance $R = V/I = 6/0.03 = 200\Omega$	24
Voltage = 6.0V	Current = 0.03A	Power $P = IV = 0.03 \times 6 = 0.18W$	26
Resistance = 300Ω	Current = 0.05A	Power $P = I^2R = 0.05^2 \times 300 = 0.75W$	27
Charge = 150C	Time = 50s	Current $I = Q/t = 150/50 = 3.0A$	22
Current = 0.30A	Time = 3 minutes	Charge $Q = It = 0.30 \times (3 \times 60) = 54C$	22
Energy = 120J	Charge = 40C	Voltage $V = E/Q = 120/40 = 3.0V$	26
Current = 6.0A Voltage = 12V	Time = 5 minutes	Energy $E = VIt = 12 \times 6.0 \times (5 \times 60) = 21\,600J$	26

If electricity is 18p per kWh, how much does it cost to run a 3kW heater for 8 hours overnight?
Energy = 3kW x 8 hours = 24kWh. Cost = 24 x 18p = 432p = £4.32



Circuit rules

Don't forget: $V=IR$, $P=IV$

	in Parallel	in Series
Currents THROUGH components	add up to give battery current	all same as battery current
Voltage ACROSS components	all same as battery voltage	add up to give battery voltage
Resistance of combination	is smaller than resistance of smallest resistor	is the sum of the resistances

Current can split at junctions, and is NOT shared between components in series.

Voltage does NOT split at junctions, but is shared between components in series.

Two motorcycles approach a junction, each with six pizzas.

At the junction, one goes left, one goes right – they still have six pizzas each.

Current flowing out of a component = current flowing in.

Pizza delivery customers do not eat motorcycles.

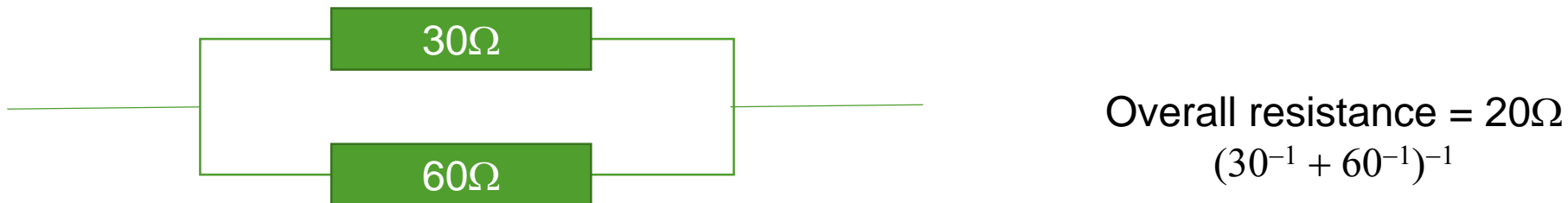


Resistors

› Resistors in Series – Add the resistances



› Resistors in Parallel – the overall resistance is less than the lower resistor

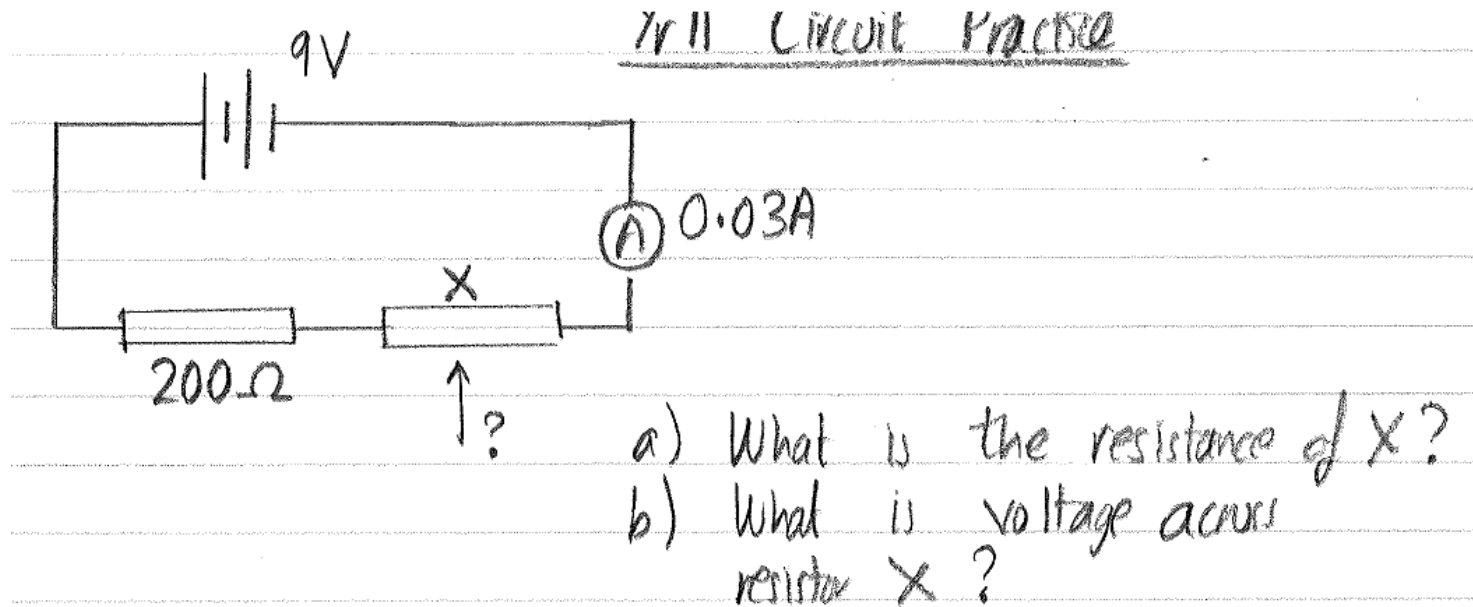




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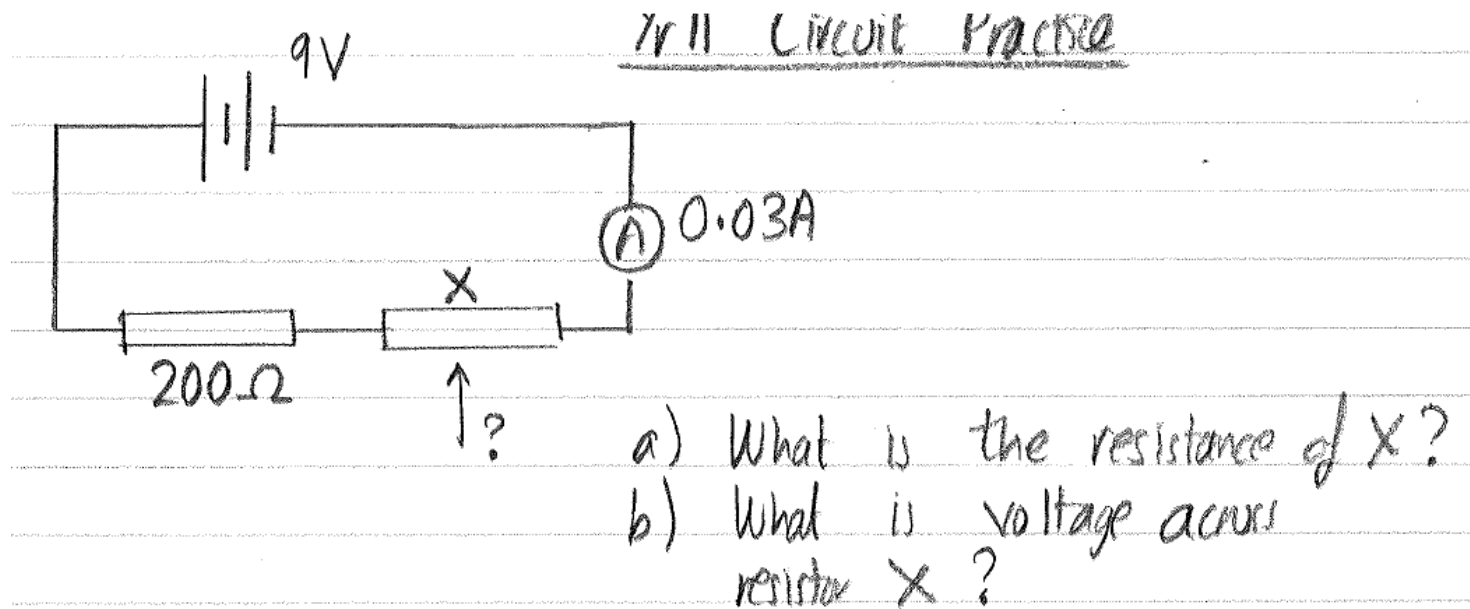
Isaac chapter 23, 24



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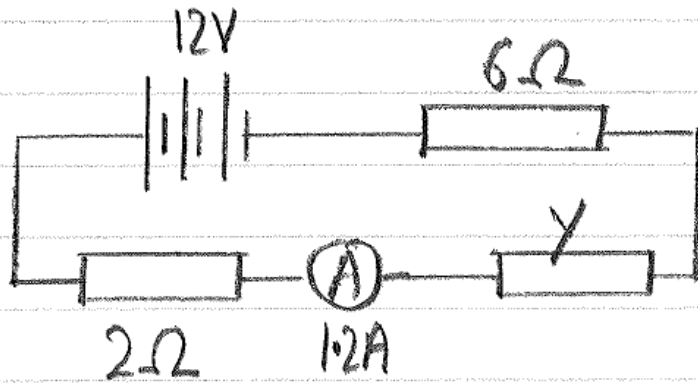
- a) Resistance of whole circuit = V/I
 $= 9/0.03 = 300\Omega$,
so $X + 200\Omega = 300\Omega$,
thus $X = 100\Omega$.
- b) $V=IR$
 $= 0.03 \times 100 = 3V$



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a) What is voltage across 6Ω resistor?

b) What is resistance of Y?

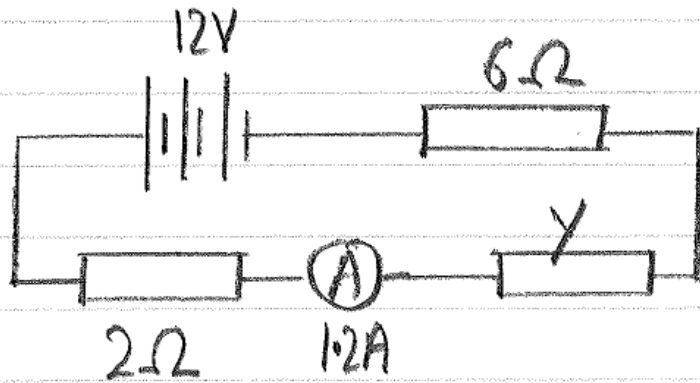
Isaac chapter 23, 24



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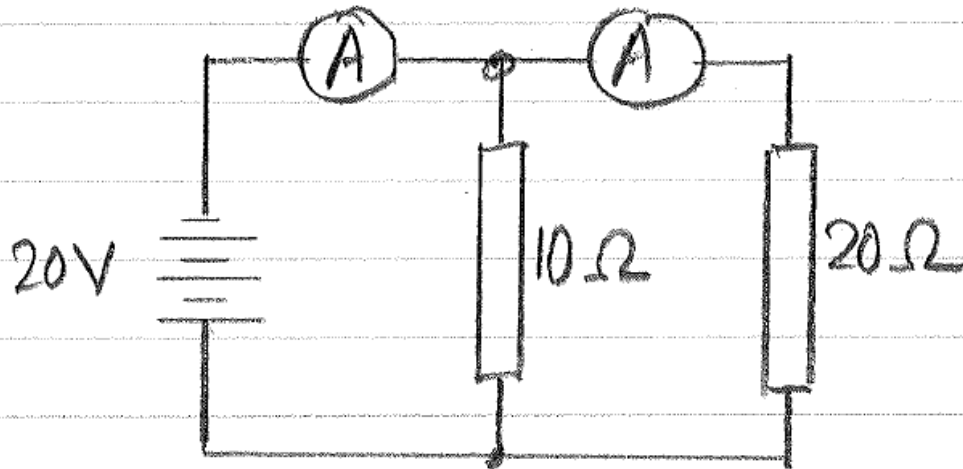
- a) $V = IR$
 $= 1.2 \times 6 = 7.2V$
- b) Resistance of whole circuit $R = V/I$
 $= 12 / 1.2 = 10\Omega$
So, $6 + 2 + Y = 10$
So $Y = 2\Omega$.



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a) Calculate the current through each resistor

b) What will the ammeters read?

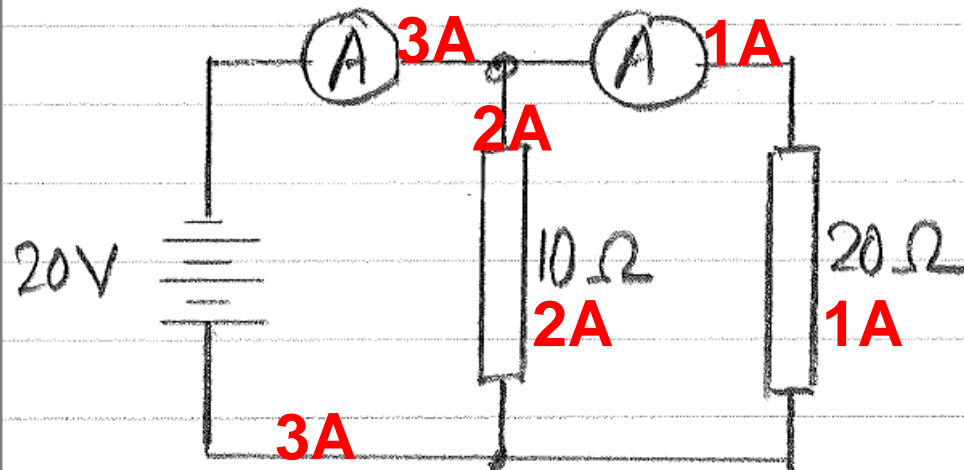
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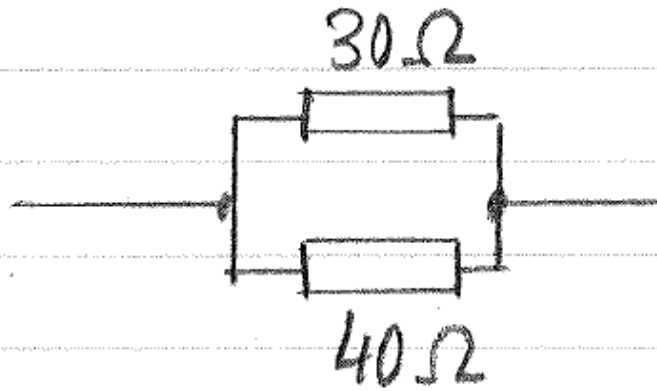


a) Calculate the current through each resistor

b) What will the ammeters read?

- a) $I = V/R$
 $= 20 / 10 = 2A$ for left resistor
 $= 20 / 20 = 1A$ for right resistor
- b) Right ammeter = 1A
Left ammeter = 2A
+ 1A = 3A

A final test



Choose an answer :

the overall resistance is

A more than $40\ \Omega$

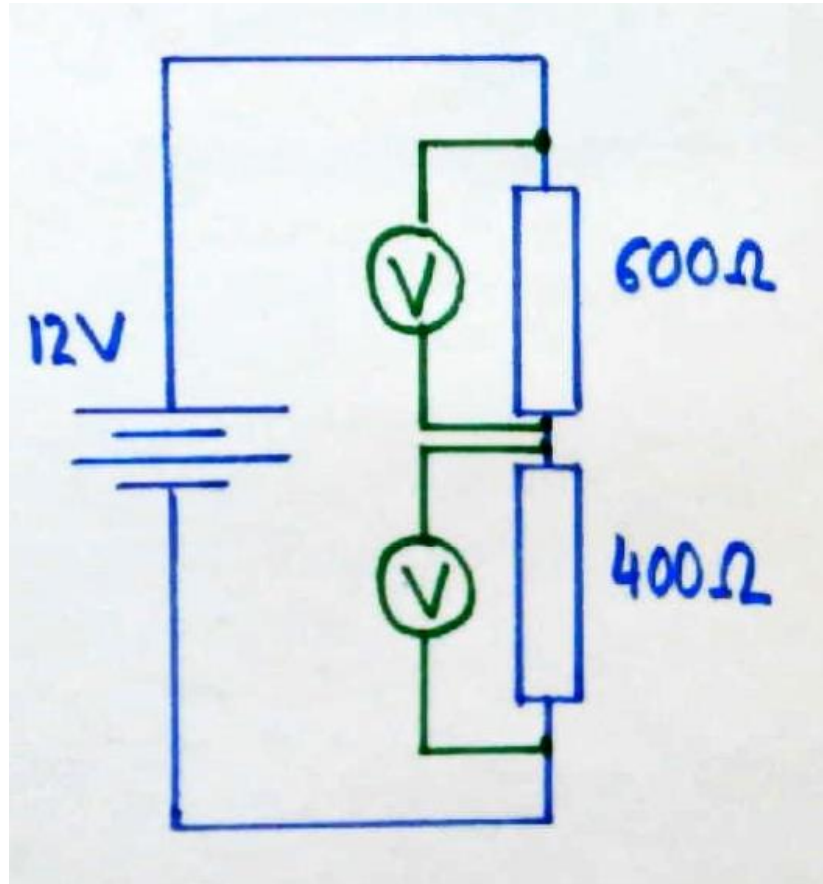
B between $30\ \Omega$ and $40\ \Omega$

C exactly $30\ \Omega$

D less than $30\ \Omega$



Potential dividers



What are the voltages?

Method 1 –

Total resistance = 1000Ω

Top resistor has $600/1000=0.6$ of the total

Top voltmeter = $12V \times 0.6 = 7.2V$

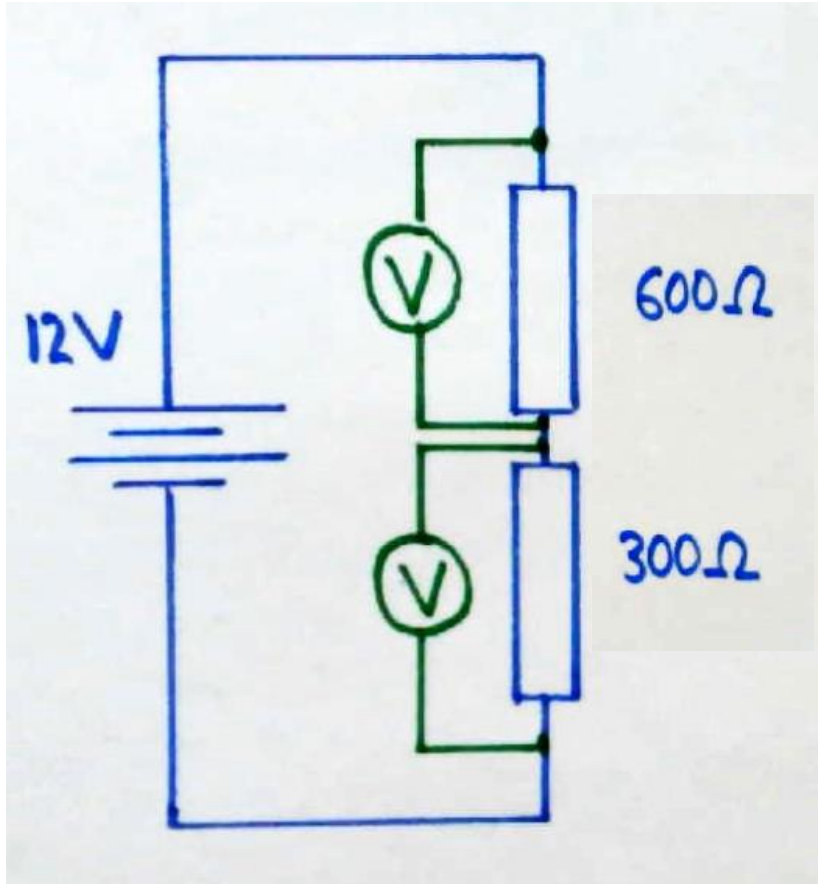
Method 2 –

Total resistance = 1000Ω

Current = $V/R = 12 / 1000 = 0.012A$

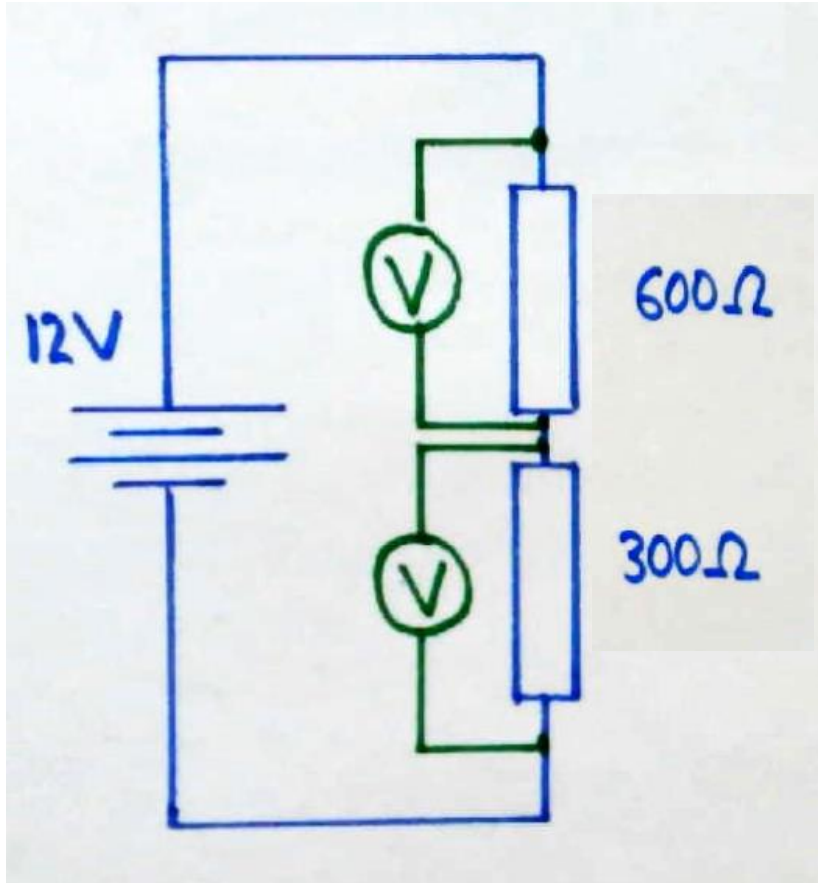
Top voltmeter $V = IR = 0.012 \times 600 = 7.2V$

Potential dividers



What are the voltages now?

Potential dividers



What are the voltages now?

Method 1 –

Total resistance = 900Ω

Top resistor has $600/900 = 2/3$ of the total

Top voltmeter = $12V \times 2/3 = 8.0V$

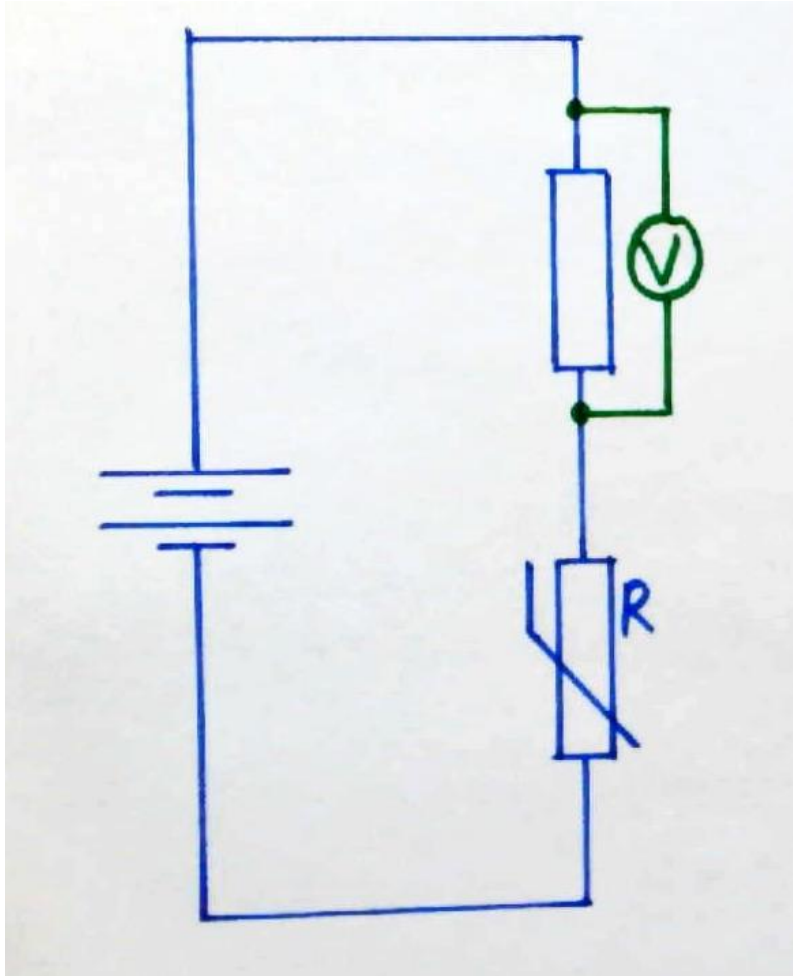
Method 2 –

Total resistance = 900Ω

Current = $V/R = 12 / 900 = 0.013A$

Top voltmeter $V = IR = 0.013 \times 600 = 8.0V$

A measurement puzzle



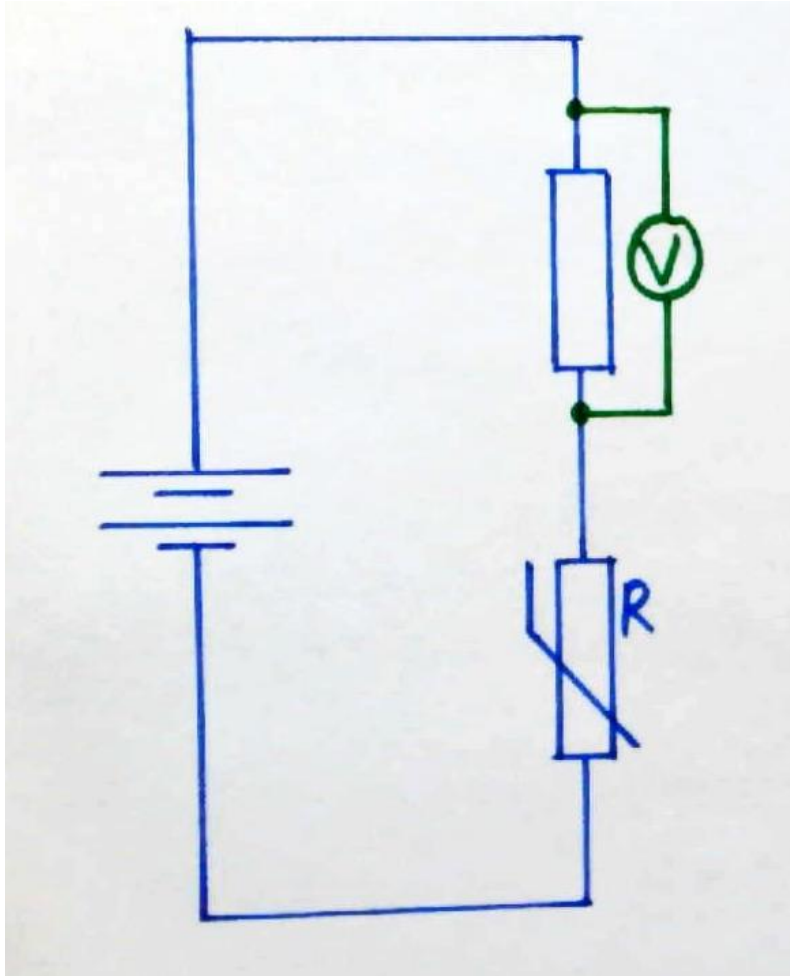
When R is heated

a) what happens to resistance R?

b) what happens to the current?

c) what happens to the voltmeter reading?

A measurement puzzle



When R is heated

a) what happens to resistance R?

Thermistor resistance **DECREASES**

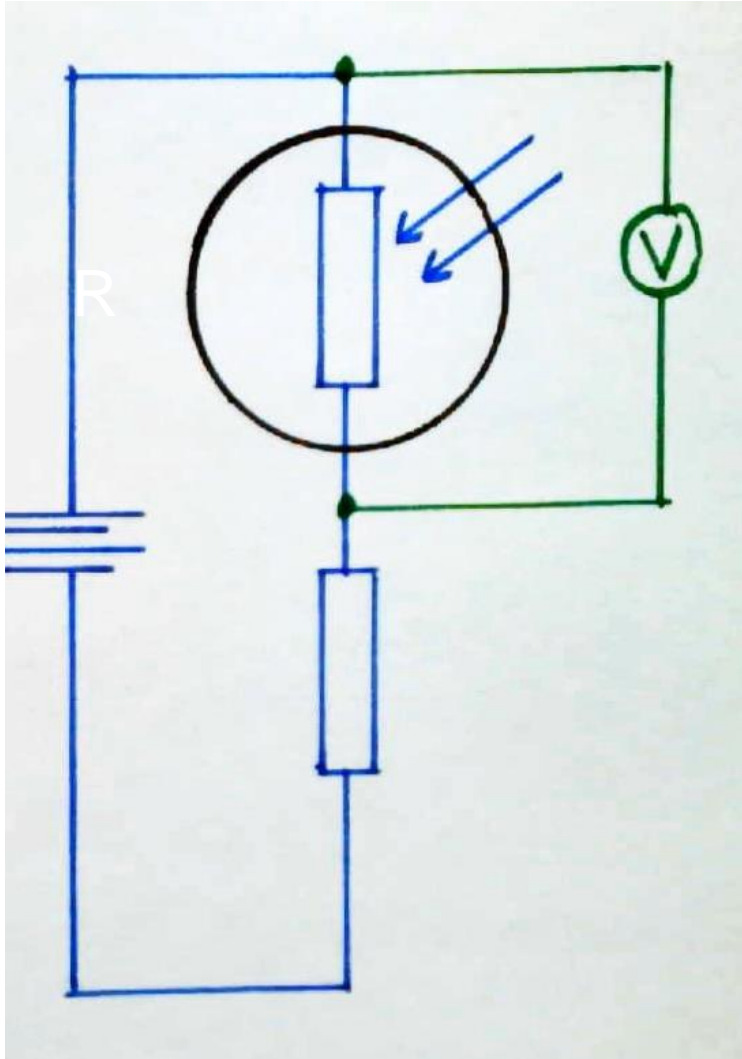
b) what happens to the current?

Less resistance, so **MORE** current

c) what happens to the voltmeter reading?

More current, so **MORE** voltage

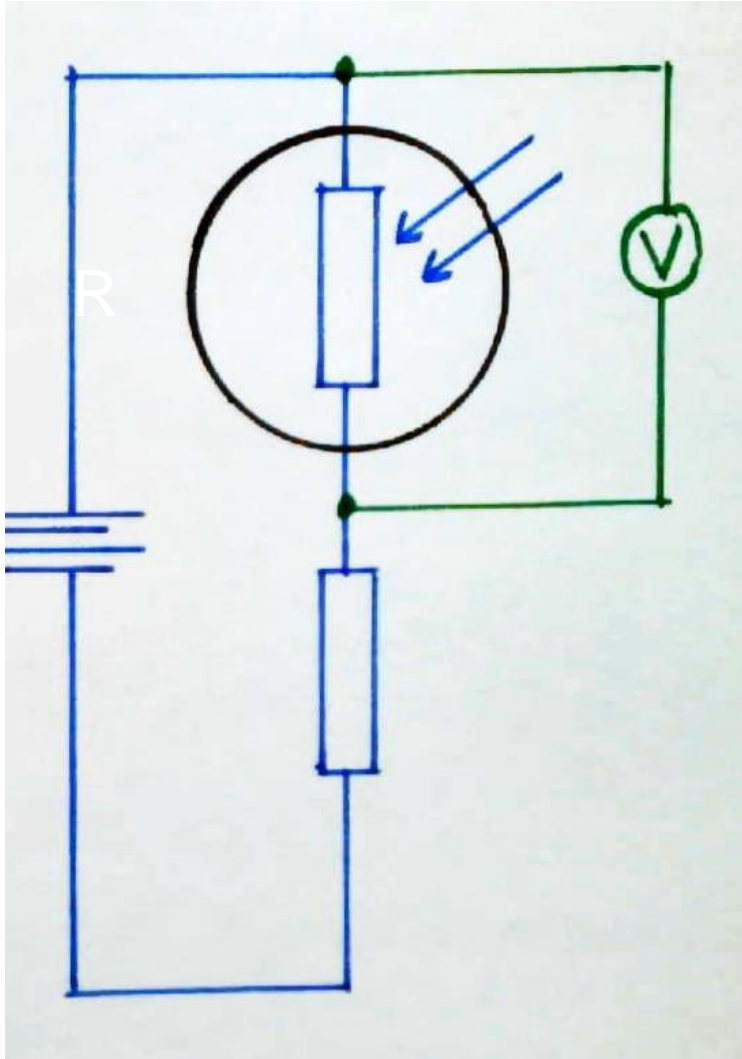
A measurement puzzle



When R is covered up

- a) What happens to the resistance R?
- b) What happens to the current?
- c) What happens to the voltmeter reading?

A measurement puzzle



When R is covered up

- a) What happens to the resistance R?
LDR resistance increases in the dark
- b) What happens to the current?
More resistance, so less current
- c) What happens to the voltmeter reading?
LDR is larger share of total resistance, so voltmeter reading increases

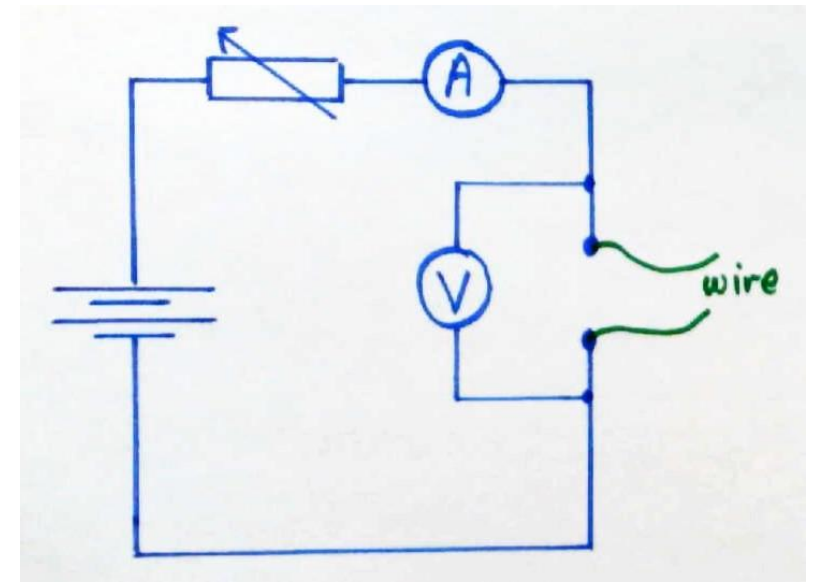


Practical – resistance of wire

- › Draw the circuit
- › What would you plot?
- › How do you determine resistance?
- › You get poor results because you let the wire heat up – systematic/random?
- › You get poor results because you use an ammeter with a RESOLUTION of 0.01A – systematic/random

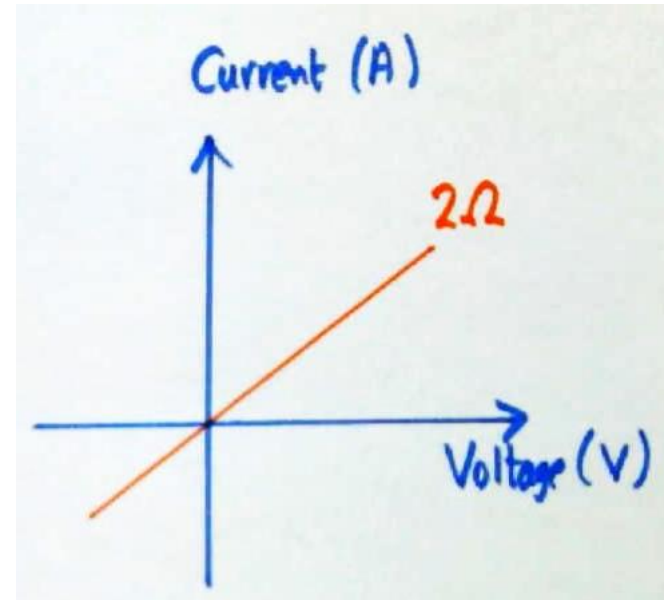
Practical – resistance of wire

- › Draw the circuit
- › What would you plot?
Resistance/ Ω \uparrow vs Length/m \rightarrow
- › How do you determine resistance? $R = V/I$
- › You get poor results because you let the wire heat up – systematic/random?
Systematic – always causes resistance to be too high
- › You get poor results because you use an ammeter with a RESOLUTION of 0.01A – systematic/random
Random – sometimes over-read sometimes under-read



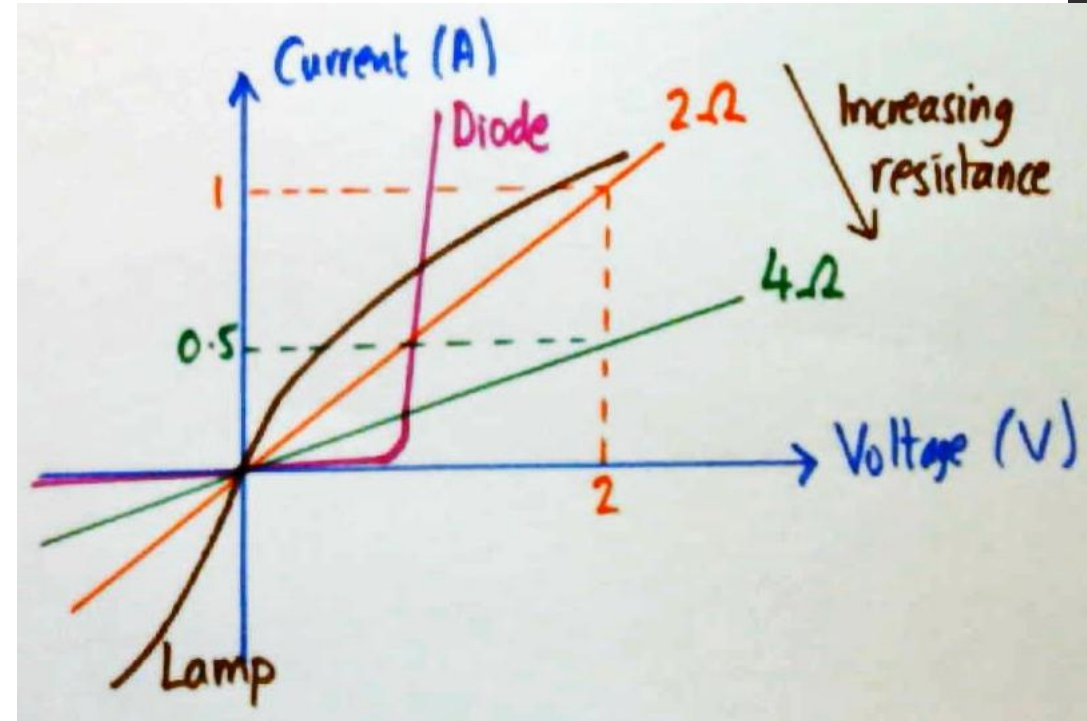
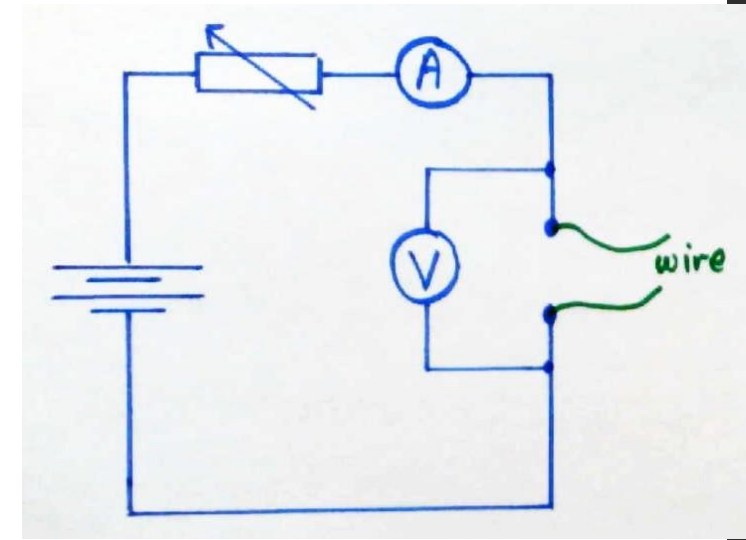
Practical - characteristics

- › Measuring current through a component for different voltages
- › What is the independent variable?
- › What is the dependent variable?
- › Draw the circuit
- › What curves do you get for
 - a 2Ω resistor
 - a 4Ω resistor
 - a filament lamp (is it Ohmic?)
 - a diode



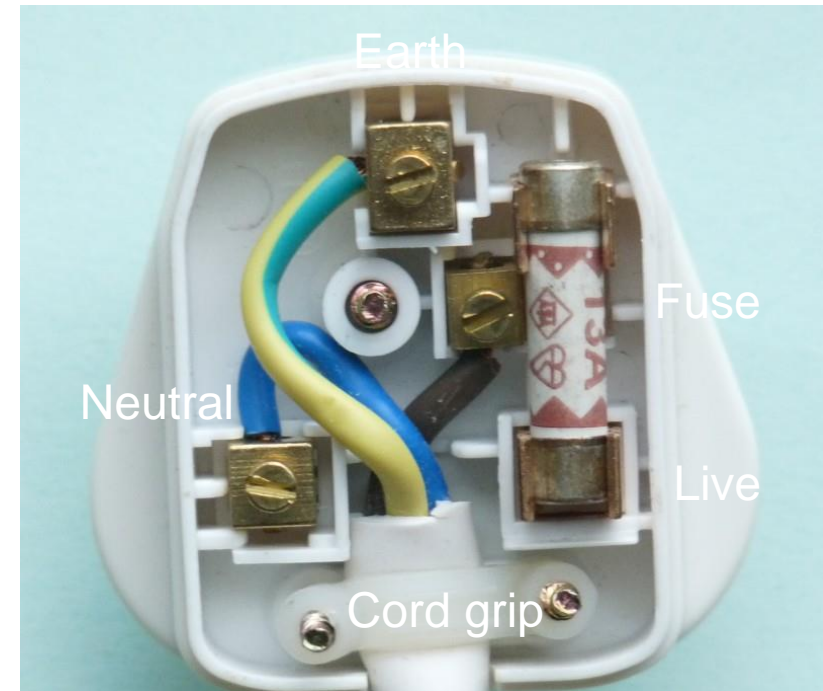
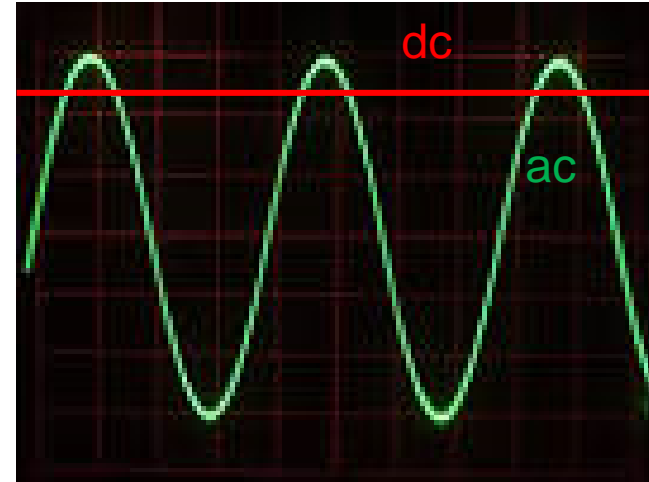
Practical - characteristics

- › Measuring current for different voltages
- › What is the independent variable? Voltage
- › What is the dependent variable? Current
- › Draw the circuit
- › What curves do you get for
 - a 2Ω resistor
 - a 4Ω resistor
 - a filament lamp (is it Ohmic?)
 - a diode



Electricity in the home

- › Alternating current
 - Live = brown – voltage varies from -330 to +330V at 50Hz, we describe it as 230V
 - Neutral = blue – nearly 0V
 - Earth = green/yellow – 0V always
- › Fuse has narrow wire which **MELTS** if current is too high (e.g. direct flow from live to earth)
- › Plug fuses available in 3A, 5A, 13A values.
 - Choose the next one up
 - Choose the fuse for a 1000W floodlamp



Electricity in the home

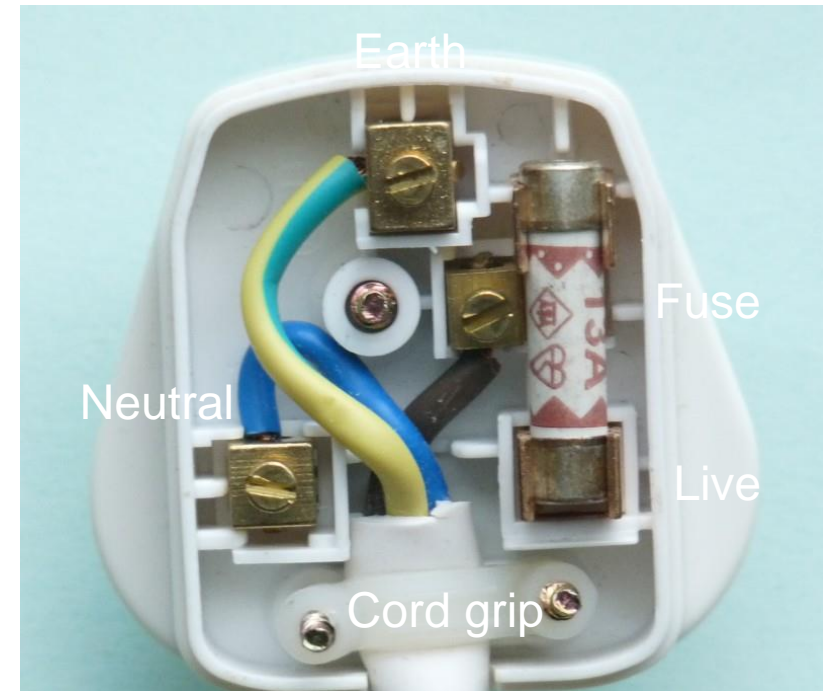
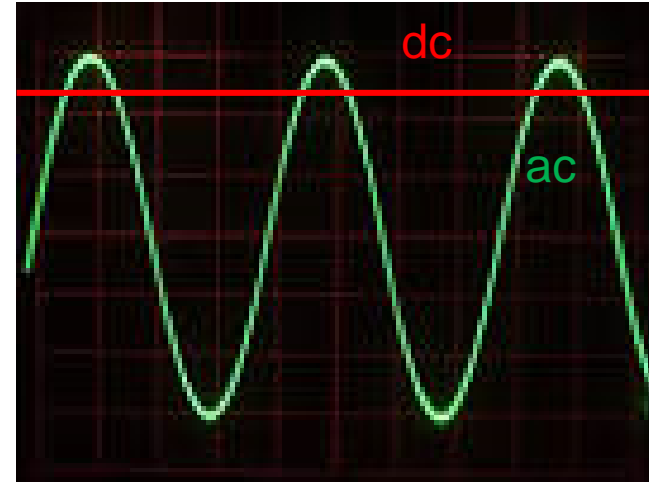
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› Fuse has narrow wire which **MELTS** if current is too high (e.g. direct flow from live to earth)

› Plug fuses available in 3A, 5A, 13A values.

- Choose the next one up
- Choose the fuse for a 1000W floodlamp
- $I = P/V = 1000 / 230 = 4.35A$
- Choose 5A fuse





Links

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