

# Physics 11

## Circuits Unit Test Solutions

1. a.  b.  c.  d.
2. a.  b.  c.  d.
3. a.  b.  c.  d.
4. a.  b.  c.  d.
5. a.  b.  c.  d.
6. a.  b.  c.  d.
7. a.  b.  c.  d.
8. a.  b.  c.  d.
9. a.  b.  c.  d.
10. a.  b.  c.  d.
11. a.  b.  c.  d.
12. a.  b.  c.  d.
13. a.  b.  c.  d.
14. a.  b.  c.  d.
15. a.  b.  c.  d.
16. a.  b.  c.  d.
17. a.  b.  c.  d.
18. a.  b.  c.  d.
19. a.  b.  c.  d.
20. a.  b.  c.  d.

**1. Problem**

Which device can be used to measure the current in a circuit?

- a. ammeter
- b. voltmeter
- c. potentiometer
- d. ohmmeter

**Solution**

Current can be measured by an ammeter.

**2. Problem**

Car batteries are rated in “amp-hours”. This is a measure of their

- a. power
- b. energy capacity
- c. electric charge
- d. current

**Solution**

The amp-hour comes from multiplying current and time and is therefore a unit of electric charge.

**3. Problem**

A battery is rated at 4.8 V and 2300 mAh. How much energy does the battery store at full charge?

- a. 66.8 kJ
- b. 40 kJ
- c. 79.2 kJ
- d. 60.3 kJ

**Solution**

Convert to SI units and multiply the voltage by the charge:

$$E = QV = (2300 \text{ mAh} \times 3.6 \text{ C/mAh})(4.8 \text{ V}) = 40 \text{ kJ}$$

**4. Problem**

What voltage is applied across a  $7.3\Omega$  resistor if the current is 7.6 A?

- a. 55 V
- b. 1 V
- c. 14 V
- d. 30 V

**Solution**

Use Ohm's law:

$$V = IR = (7.6 \text{ A})(7.3 \Omega) = 55 \text{ V}$$

**5. Problem**

A lamp draws a current of 7.2 A when it is connected to a 5.2 V source. What is the resistance of the lamp?

- a. 5.6 Ω
- b. 0.72 Ω
- c. 20 Ω
- d. 37 Ω

**Solution**

Use Ohm's law:

$$R = \frac{V}{I} = \frac{5.2 \text{ V}}{7.2 \text{ A}} = 0.72 \Omega$$

**6. Problem**

A lamp with a resistance of 6.8 Ω is placed across a potential difference of 8.5 V. What is the current through the lamp?

- a. 0.8 A
- b. 0.94 A
- c. 1.2 A
- d. 58 A

**Solution**

Use Ohm's law:

$$I = \frac{V}{R} = \frac{8.5 \text{ V}}{6.8 \Omega} = 1.2 \text{ A}$$

**7. Problem**

A voltage source of 9.5 V delivers a current of 8 A to an electric motor that is connected across its terminals. What power is consumed by the motor?

- a. 68 W
- b. 1.2 W
- c. 76 W
- d. 58 W

**Solution**

Use the formula for the power in a circuit:

$$P = IV = (8 \text{ A})(9.5 \text{ V}) = 76 \text{ W}$$

**8. Problem**

A space heater with a resistance of  $5.4\ \Omega$  operates at a voltage of 116 V. How much energy does the space heater use in 8.1 hours?

- a. 20 kWh
- b. 18 kWh
- c. 13 kWh
- d. 16 kWh

**Solution**

Find the power of the device using  $P = IV = V^2/R$  and multiply by the time. Remember to convert all units.

$$E = Pt = \frac{V^2}{R}t = \frac{(116\text{ V})^2}{5.4\ \Omega}(8.1\text{ h}) = 20000\text{ Wh} = 20\text{ kWh}$$

**9. Problem**

As more resistors are added in **series** to a constant voltage source, the power supplied by the source

- a. increases.
- b. decreases.
- c. remains the same.
- d. not enough information.

**Solution**

The total resistance increases, causing the total current to decrease. Since the voltage is constant and  $P = IV$ , the power decreases.

**10. Problem**

Three resistors are connected in **series**. Their resistances are  $71\ \Omega$ ,  $95\ \Omega$ , and  $86\ \Omega$ . What is the equivalent resistance of the resistors?

- a.  $110\ \Omega$
- b.  $410\ \Omega$
- c.  $370\ \Omega$
- d.  $250\ \Omega$

**Solution**

The equivalent resistance of resistors in series is the sum of the resistances.

$$R = R_1 + R_2 + R_3 = 252\ \Omega$$

**11. Problem**

When different resistors are connected in series, it is true that

- a. the same current flows in each one.
- b. the total resistance is equal to the greatest resistance of any individual resistor.
- c. the potential difference across each is the same.
- d. the power dissipated in each is the same.

**Solution**

The current is the same in resistors in series.

**12. Problem**

You have a  $5\Omega$  light bulb and a  $10\Omega$  light bulb. You make a circuit that places them in series across a battery. Which light bulb is brighter?

- a. The  $5\Omega$  bulb is brighter.
- b. The  $10\Omega$  bulb is brighter.
- c. Both bulbs glow at the same brightness.
- d. It depends on the voltage.

**Solution**

The current through both bulbs is the same since they are placed in series. However, the voltage drop is greater for the greater resistance. Since  $P = IV$ , and  $V$  is greater for the greater resistance, the  $10\Omega$  light bulb is brighter.

**13. Problem**

A total of 713 resistors, all with resistance  $277\Omega$ , are connected in **parallel**. What is the equivalent resistance of the resistors?

- a.  $0.3\Omega$
- b.  $0.24\Omega$
- c.  $0.39\Omega$
- d.  $0.49\Omega$

**Solution**

The equivalent resistance of resistors in parallel when they all have the same resistance  $R_i$  is

$$R = \left( \frac{1}{R_i} + \frac{1}{R_i} + \frac{1}{R_i} + \dots \right)^{-1} = \frac{R_i}{713} = 0.39\Omega$$

**14. Problem**

A total of 654 Christmas light bulbs, all with resistance  $350\Omega$ , are connected in **series**. What is the equivalent resistance of the lights?

- a.  $190\text{ k}\Omega$
- b.  $160\text{ k}\Omega$
- c.  $130\text{ k}\Omega$
- d.  $230\text{ k}\Omega$

**Solution**

The equivalent resistance of resistors in series when they all have the same resistance  $R_i$  is

$$R = R_i + R_i + R_i + \dots + R_i = 654R_i = 230\text{ k}\Omega$$

**15. Problem**

Two resistors are connected in **parallel**. Their resistances are  $441\ \Omega$  and  $335\ \Omega$ . A battery applies  $6.6\text{ V}$  to the combination. What is the current through the  $441\ \Omega$  resistor?

- a.  $13\text{ mA}$
- b.  $15\text{ mA}$
- c.  $22\text{ mA}$
- d.  $26\text{ mA}$

**Solution**

The full voltage of the battery is applied to both resistors. The current through the first resistor is

$$I = \frac{V}{R} = \frac{6.6\text{ V}}{441\ \Omega} = 15\text{ mA}$$

**16. Problem**

Two resistors are connected in **series**. Their resistances are  $6\ \Omega$  and  $8\ \Omega$ . A difference in potential of  $73\text{ V}$  is applied to the combination. What is the current through the  $8\ \Omega$  resistor?

- a.  $6.3\text{ A}$
- b.  $5.8\text{ A}$
- c.  $5.2\text{ A}$
- d.  $7.9\text{ A}$

**Solution**

The equivalent resistance of resistors in series is the sum of the resistances.

$$R = R_1 + R_2 + R_3 = 14\ \Omega$$

The current is the same through all components in series and its value is

$$I = \frac{V}{R} = \frac{73\text{ V}}{14\ \Omega} = 5.2\text{ A}$$

**17. Problem**

Two resistors are connected in **parallel**. Their resistances are  $18\ \Omega$  and  $39\ \Omega$ . A battery applies  $39\text{ V}$  to the combination. What is the current drawn from the battery?

- a.  $5.6\text{ A}$
- b.  $2.1\text{ A}$
- c.  $4.7\text{ A}$
- d.  $3.2\text{ A}$

**Solution**

The equivalent resistance of resistors in parallel is

$$R = \left( \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3} \right)^{-1} = 12.3157895\ \Omega$$

The current drawn from the battery is

$$I = \frac{V}{R} = \frac{39\text{ V}}{12.3157895\Omega} = 3.2\text{ A}$$

**18. Problem**

Three resistors are connected in **parallel**. Their resistances are  $39\Omega$ ,  $74\Omega$ , and  $64\Omega$ . What is the equivalent resistance of the resistors?

- a.  $12\Omega$
- b.  $18\Omega$
- c.  $16\Omega$
- d.  $14\Omega$

**Solution**

The equivalent resistance of resistors in parallel is

$$R = \left( \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3} \right)^{-1} = 18\Omega$$

**19. Problem**

A  $800\text{ mA}$  current flows into a parallel combination of a  $44\Omega$  and a  $50\Omega$  resistor. What current flows through the  $44\Omega$  resistor?

- a.  $850\text{ mA}$
- b.  $680\text{ mA}$
- c.  $580\text{ mA}$
- d.  $430\text{ mA}$

**Solution**

The total current is equal to the sum of the current through each resistor

$$I = I_1 + I_2$$

The voltage across each resistor is the same and  $V = IR$  so

$$I_1 R_1 = I_2 R_2$$

Combining the two equations and solving for  $I_1$  gives

$$I_1 = \left( \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} \right) I = 430\text{ mA}$$

**20. Problem**

When a battery with an emf of 5 V supplies a 9.8 A current, its terminal voltage is 4.4 V. What is the internal resistance of the battery?

- a. 0.047  $\Omega$
- b. 0.033  $\Omega$
- c. 0.055  $\Omega$
- d. 0.061  $\Omega$

**Solution**

The terminal resistance is related to the emf by  $V_{terminal} = \mathcal{E} - Ir$ . Therefore,

$$r = \frac{\mathcal{E} - V_{terminal}}{I} = 0.061 \Omega$$