

# Subject Name (SUBJECT001) - Sample Term Solution

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Month Day, Year

## Question 1(a) [3 marks]

Write a Java program to find the maximum of three numbers.

### Solution

To find the **maximum** of three numbers, we use **conditional statements** (if-else) to compare values. The program takes three numbers as input and returns the “largest value” among them.

**Java Program:**

**Listing 1.** Find Maximum of Three Numbers

```
1 public class MaxOfThree {
2     public static void main(String[] args) {
3         int a = 25, b = 40, c = 15;
4         int max;
5
6         // Compare first two numbers
7         if (a > b) {
8             max = a;
9         } else {
10            max = b;
11        }
12
13        // Compare result with third number
14        if (c > max) {
15            max = c;
16        }
17
18        System.out.println("Maximum number is: " + max);
19    }
20 }
```

### Output:

Maximum number is: 40

### Key Points:

- **Logic:** First compare a and b, store larger in max
- **Second Comparison:** Compare max with c to get final maximum
- **Alternative:** Can use `Math.max(a, Math.max(b, c))` for concise code

### Mnemonic

“MAX: Compare in pairs, update Maximum At eXamination”

## Question 1(b) [4 marks]

Calculate the cutoff frequency of an RC low-pass filter with  $R = 1.5 \text{ k}\Omega$  and  $C = 100 \text{ nF}$ . Also find the output voltage if input is 10V at cutoff frequency.

### Solution

#### Given Data:

- Resistance:  $R = 1.5 \text{ k}\Omega = 1500 \Omega$
- Capacitance:  $C = 100 \text{ nF} = 100 \times 10^{-9} \text{ F}$
- Input Voltage:  $V_{in} = 10 \text{ V}$

**Step 1: Calculate Cutoff Frequency** The cutoff frequency formula for RC low-pass filter is:

$$f_c = \frac{1}{2\pi RC}$$

Substituting values:

$$f_c = \frac{1}{2\pi \times 1500 \times 100 \times 10^{-9}}$$

$$f_c = \frac{1}{2\pi \times 1.5 \times 10^{-4}}$$

$$f_c = \frac{1}{9.42 \times 10^{-4}} = 1061.57 \text{ Hz} \approx 1.06 \text{ kHz}$$

**Step 2: Calculate Output Voltage at Cutoff** At cutoff frequency, output voltage is **0.707 times** (or  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ ) the input voltage:

$$V_{out} = 0.707 \times V_{in} = 0.707 \times 10 = 7.07 \text{ V}$$

#### Results:

- Cutoff Frequency:**  $f_c = 1.06 \text{ kHz}$
- Output Voltage:**  $V_{out} = 7.07 \text{ V}$  at cutoff
- Attenuation:**  $-3 \text{ dB}$  at cutoff frequency
- Phase Shift:**  $-45^\circ$  at cutoff frequency

### Mnemonic

"RC-Formula:  $f_c = 1/(2\pi RC)$ ,  $V_{out} = 0.707 V_{in}$  at  $f_c$ "

## Question 1(c) [7 marks]

Compare active and passive electronic components with suitable examples.

### Solution

Electronic components are classified into **active** and **passive** categories based on their ability to control or amplify electrical energy.

**Table 1.** Active vs Passive Components Comparison

| Characteristic  | Active Components   | Passive Components                             |
|-----------------|---|--|
| Energy Source   | Require external power source   | Do not require external power                  |
| Control Ability | Can control/amplify current flow  | Cannot amplify, only regulate                  |
| Directionality  | Usually unidirectional  | Bidirectional                                  |
| Power Gain      | Provide power gain ( $> 1$ )  | Power gain is always $\leq 1$                  |
| Examples        | Transistors (BJT, FET), Diodes (LED, Zener), ICs (Op-Amp, 555 Timer), SCR | Resistors, Capacitors, Inductors, Transformers |
| Function        | Amplification, switching, oscillation, rectification                      | Resistance, capacitance, inductance, filtering |
| Linearity       | Can be linear or non-linear   | Generally linear                               |

#### Active Components in Detail:

- **Transistors:** Used for amplification and switching. BJT uses current control, FET uses voltage control.
- **Diodes:** Allow current in one direction. LED emits light, Zener regulates voltage.
- **ICs:** Integrated circuits like 555 timer (oscillator), op-amps (amplifier).
- **Power Requirement:** All active components need DC bias/supply to operate.

#### Passive Components in Detail:

- **Resistors:** Oppose current flow, dissipate power as heat. Value in  $\Omega$ .
- **Capacitors:** Store energy in electric field. Value in Farads (F), blocks DC, passes AC.
- **Inductors:** Store energy in magnetic field. Value in Henry (H), opposes AC changes.
- **Transformers:** Transfer energy between circuits via magnetic coupling.

**Key Distinction:** The fundamental difference is that active components can “inject power” into a circuit (amplification), while passive components can only “absorb or store” energy, never increase it.

#### Mnemonic

“ACTIVE = Amplify, Control, Transform; PASSIVE = Resist, Store, Filter”

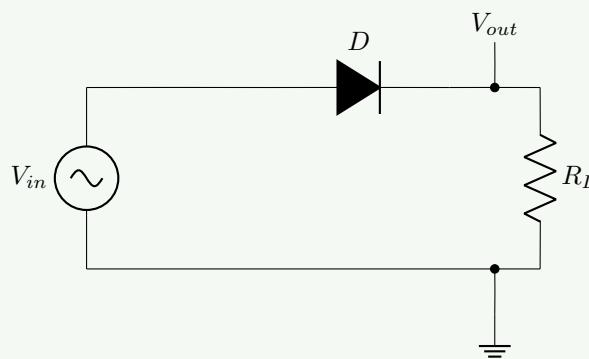
## Question 1(c OR) [7 marks]

Draw and explain the working of a half-wave rectifier circuit with input and output waveforms.

#### Solution

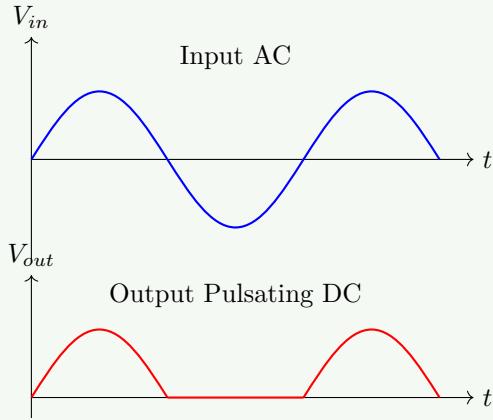
A **half-wave rectifier** converts AC voltage to pulsating DC by allowing only one half-cycle (positive or negative) of the input AC waveform to pass through.

**Circuit Diagram:**



**Figure 1.** Half-Wave Rectifier Circuit**Working Principle:**

- Positive Half-Cycle:** When input AC is positive, diode is forward-biased (conducts). Current flows through load resistor  $R_L$ , producing output voltage.
- Negative Half-Cycle:** When input AC is negative, diode is reverse-biased (blocks). No current flows, output voltage is zero.
- Result:** Only positive half-cycles appear at output, creating pulsating DC.

**Waveform Representation:****Figure 2.** Input and Output Waveforms**Key Parameters:**

- Efficiency:**  $\eta = 40.6\%$  (theoretical maximum)
- Ripple Factor:**  $r = 1.21$  (high ripple content)
- Peak Inverse Voltage (PIV):**  $PIV = V_m$  (maximum reverse voltage across diode)
- DC Output:**  $V_{DC} = \frac{V_m}{\pi} = 0.318V_m$  where  $V_m$  is peak AC voltage

**Applications:** Half-wave rectifiers are used in low-power applications like battery charging, signal demodulation, and voltage multipliers. They are *not suitable* for high-power applications due to poor efficiency.

**Mnemonic**

“HWR: Half-Wave = Half output, 40.6% efficiency, PIV = Vm”