Chapter 2: Electricity Knowledge organiser

Current

- Current is the amount of charge flowing per second
- The charges that flow in a circuit are **electrons**, they are negatively charged
- Electrons leave the negative end of the cell and travel around the circuit to the positive end of the cell
- Current has the unit of Amps (A) and is measured with an ammeter (which is placed in series or in the main circuit)



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Series circuits

- Series circuits only have one loop
- If one component breaks, the whole circuit stops working
- Current is the same everywhere in a series circuit
- The total potential difference from the battery is shared between the components in a series circuit
- Adding more bulbs decreases the brightness of the bulbs



Resistance

- Resistance is a measure of how easy or how hard it is for charges to pass through a component in a circuit
- Resistance has the unit of ohms (Ω)

- Materials with a high resistance are said to be insulators
- Materials with a low resistance are said to be conductors



- **Potential difference** is the amount of energy transferred by the cell or **battery** to the charges
- The value of potential difference tells us about the force applied to each charge and then the energy transferred by each charge to the component which it passes through
- Potential difference has the unit of volts (V) and is measured with a **voltmeter** (which is placed in parallel to the circuit)

The atom

• The **atom** consists of a central

around the outside in shells

Electrons have a negative

have a positive charge

charged

nucleus with electrons orbiting

• **Protons** are inside the nucleus and

• **Neutrons** are inside the nucleus

and have a neutral charge

Static electricity

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- Static electricity is the caused by the rubbing together of two insulators
- This causes electrons to be transferred, leaving one object with a positive charge, and one object with a negative charge



Like charges will repel, opposite charges will attract



(۶ Key terms Make sure you can write definitions for these key terms. insulator ammeter atom attract battery cell conductors electrons electric charge neutral current potential difference protons repel resistance series voltmeter

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• Resistance is calculate by measuring potential difference and current and using the following equation:

resistance (Ω) = <u>potential difference</u> (V) current (A)

neutrons

parallel