AQA Physics GCSE Student Checklist

P4 Electric circuits

NameClas	is	Date
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Lesson	Aiming for 4		Aiming for 6		Aiming for 8	
P4.1 Current and charge	I can identify circuit components from their symbols.		I can describe the operation of a variable resistor and a diode and their effects on current.		I can explain the nature of an electric current in wires in terms of electron behaviour.	
	I can draw and interpret simple circuit diagrams.		I can calculate the charge transferred by a steady current in a given time.		I can perform a range of calculations, including rearrangement of the equation Q=It.	
	I can construct a simple electrical circuit.		I can construct an electrical circuit and accurately measure the current.		I can measure the current in a circuit accurately and use it to calculate the rate of flow of electrons.	
P4.2 Potential	I can state that resistance restricts the size of a current in a circuit.		I can calculate the potential difference.		I can describe potential difference in terms of work done per unit charge.	
difference and resistance	I can state Ohm's law and describe its conditions.		I can calculate the resistance of a component.		I can rearrange equations for resistance and potential difference.	
	I can measure the current and potential difference in a circuit to determined the resistance.		I can measure the effect of changing the length of a wire on its resistance in a controlled experiment.		I can investigate a variety of factors that may affect the resistance of a metal wire, such as the current through it, length, cross-sectional area, and metal used.	

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P4.3 Component characteristics	I can identify the key characteristics of electrical devices.		I can describe the resistance characteristics of a filament lamp.		I can explain the resistance characteristics of a filament lamp in terms of electrons and ion collisions.	
	I can identify components from simple <i>I–V</i> graphs.		I can describe the characteristics of diode and light-emitting diode.		I can determine the resistance of a component based on information extracted from an <i>I–V</i> graph.	
	I can state the operation of a diode in simple terms.		I can investigate the resistance characteristics of a thermistor and a LDR.		I can compare the characteristics of a variety of electrical components, describing how the components can be used.	
P4.4 Series circuits	I can state that the current in any part of a series circuit is the same.		I can find the potential difference across a component in a circuit by using the p.d. rule.		I can explain, in detail, why the current in a series circuit is the same at all points by using the concept of conservation of charge (electrons).	
	I can calculate the potential difference provided by cell combinations.		I can calculate the current in a series circuit containing more than one resistor.		I can analyse a variety of series circuit to determine the current through, p.d. across, and resistance of combinations of components.	
	I can calculate the total resistance of two resistors placed in series.		I can investigate the resistance of series circuits with several components.		I can evaluate in detail the investigation of series circuits and explain discrepancies.	

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P4.5 Parallel circuits	I can identify parallel sections in circuit diagrams.		I can measure the p.d. across parallel circuits and explain any discrepancies.		I can analyse parallel circuits in terms of current loops.	
	I can state the effect of adding resistors in parallel on the size of the current in a circuit.		I can describe the effect on the resistance in a circuit of adding a resistor in parallel.		I can calculate the current at any point in a circuit.	
	I can state that the p.d. across parallel sections of a circuit is the same.		I can investigate the effect of adding resistors in parallel on the size of the current in a circuit.		I can evaluate in detail an investigation into the effect of adding resistors in parallel on a circuit.	