

Models of Electricity

- 1. Electric circuits can be described using **models**, like a heating system.
- 2. No model is perfect because they are not exactly the same as the real thing.



- 3. Increasing the current in a heating system means more water is flowing through the pipes each second.
- 4. **Increasing the current in a circuit** means more charges flow through the wire each second.
- 5. **Turning up the temperature on a boiler** means more thermal energy is given to the water, and the radiator gets hotter.
- 6. Increasing the voltage by adding batteries means more energy is given to the charges and the bulbs shine brighter.

Series and Parallel Circuits

- 7. A complete circuit has no gaps, so the electricity can flow all around in a loop.
- 8. If the circuit is **incomplete**, the electricity cannot flow.

 If all of the components are connected into one main loop, it is a series circuit.



10. If there's more than one loop with junctions, it's a **parallel circuit**.



Circuit Symbol	Component Name	Function
$\left \frac{1}{1}\right $	Cell	Push charges around the
2	Battery	circuit. Supplies electrical energy
3	Bulb/Lamp	Lights up
4. — A—	Ammeter	Measures current
5. — v —	Voltmeter	Measures voltage
6. M	Motor	Spins around or moves
7.	Switch	Completes the circuit
8. \	Buzzer	Makes a sound

Current

- 11. Current is the rate of flow of charge and is measured in Amperes/Amps(A) by an Ammeter.
- 12. Ammeters are placed in series.
- 13. Current transfers **energy** from one place to another.
- 14. Current can be calculated using the equation:





 $Current = \frac{Charge}{Time}$

- 15. Charge is measured in Coulombs(C) and time is measured in seconds (s).
- 16. The brightness of a bulb is increased by adding cells/ batteries and decreased by adding more bulbs (components).
- 17. Current is the **same everywhere** in a **series** circuit.
- 18. Current **splits** at the **junctions** in a **parallel** circuit.

Voltage

- 19. Voltage is measured in **Volts** (**V**) by a **Voltmeter**.
- 20. Voltmeters are connected **in parallel.**



- 21. **Voltage** is the amount of energy shifted from the power source to the moving charges, or from the charges to the circuit component.
- 22. Adding voltage (adding batteries) increases the current and increases the brightness of bulbs.
- 23. The voltage in a series circuit is shared between components.



24. The voltage across the cell is equal to the voltage on each pathway of a parallel circuit.



