AQA GCSE Physics | 8463

SPECIFICATION POINT 4.2.2

Series and parallel circuits

Mark schemes and examiner comments

Tier	**Higher**
Question groups	**9**
Available paper years	**2003–2021**

Using this booklet

1. Booklet answer numbers match the question booklet.
2. Use the original question number within marking tables.
3. Examiner comments are included where available.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Where a precise marking extract is unavailable, the full source document is included in an appendix. Any missing mark scheme is explicitly identified.

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

Answer 01 · Mark scheme

June 2003 | 3451H | Original Q8 | Legacy

The full source mark scheme begins on page 18. Follow original question 8 in that document.

Answer 02 · Mark scheme

June 2003 | 3462H3 | Original Q6 | Legacy

The full source mark scheme begins on page 40. Follow original question 6 in that document.

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

Answer 03 · Mark scheme

Question 6

question	answers	extra information	mark
6(a)(i)	0.25 (A)		1
6(a)(ii)	75	allow **1** mark for converting 5 minutes to 300 seconds **or** allow **1** mark for correct substitution ie 0.25 × 300 allow **1** mark for an answer 1.25 allow **1** mark only for their (a)(i) × 300 correctly calculated	2
	coulombs or C	do **not** accept c	1
6(b)	any **two** from: • fault not repaired • larger current will (still) flow • aluminium foil will not melt (if a fault) • wiring will overheat / (may) cause a fire	accept if a fault was to occur accept aluminium foil needs a higher current / charge to melt accept idea of fire hazard do **not** accept explode etc	2
Total			**6**

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

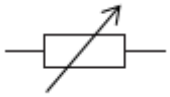
Answer 03 · Mark scheme January 2011 | PHY2H | Original Q6 | Legacy

PHY2H

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

Answer 04 · Mark scheme

Question 4

question	answers	extra information	mark
4(a)(i)	symbol for a diode 	accept 	1
	symbol for a variable resistor 		1
4(a)(ii)	voltmeter is in series **or** voltmeter is not in parallel		1
	ammeter is in parallel **or** ammeter is not in series	accept an answer in terms of how the circuit should be corrected voltmeter and ammeter are wrong way around is insufficient	1
4(b)(i)	0.2 (V)	accept any value between 0.20 and 0.21 inclusive	1
4(b)(ii)	37.5	allow **1** mark for I = 0.008 **or** allow **2** marks for correct substitution, ie 0.3 = 0.008 × R **or** allow **1** mark for a correct substitution using I = 0.8 **or** I = 0.08 **or** I = 0.009 **or** allow **2** marks for answers of 0.375 **or** 3.75 **or** 33(.3)	3

Question 4 continues on the next page . . .

PH2HP

Question 4 continued . . .

question	answers	extra information	mark
4(c)(i)	25	allow **1** mark for obtaining period = 0.04(s)	2
4(c)(ii)	diode has large resistance in reverse / one direction so stops current flow in that / one direction	 allow diodes only let current flow one way / direction allow **1** mark for the diode has half-rectified the (a.c. power) supply	1 1
Total			**12**

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

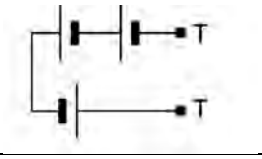
Answer 04 · Mark scheme

January 2013 | PH2HP | Original Q4 | Legacy

PH2HP

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

Answer 05 · Mark scheme June 2016 | PH2HP | Original Q3 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
3(a)	3rd box from the left ticked 		1	AO2 2.3.2j
3(b)	correct symbol drawn in series with other components	symbol must have upper case A	1	AO1 2.3.2c
3(c)(i)	9 + 3 = 12V pd of battery is shared between the variable resistor and fixed resistor	reason only scores if this mark scored accept $V_1 + V_2$ = pd of the battery accept p.d. is shared in a series circuit accept voltage for p.d.	1 1	AO2 2.3.2k AO1 2.3.2k
3(c)(ii)	600 p.d. of supply shared equally when resistors have the same value **or** ratio of the p.d. is the same as the ratio of the resistance	reason only scores if this mark scored	1 1	AO2 2.3.2k AO1

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

Answer 05 · Mark scheme

June 2016 | PH2HP | Original Q3 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
3(c)(iii)	0.015 **or** their (c)(i) ÷ (their (c)(ii) + 200) correctly calculated	allow **2** marks for correct substitution ie 12 = I × 800 **or** their (c)(i) = I × (their (c)(ii) +200) allow **1** mark for total resistance = 800 (Ω) or their (c)(ii) + 200 **or** allow **1** mark for a substitution of 12 = I × 200 **or** their (c)(i) = I × 200 **or** alternative method using the graph V = 3 V (1) 3 = I × 200 (1)	3	AO2 2.3.2k 2.3.2h
Total			**9**	

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

Answer 05 · Mark scheme

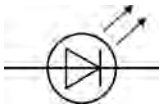
June 2016 | PH2HP | Original Q3 | Legacy



4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

Answer 06 · Mark scheme

June 2017 | PH2HP | Original Q5 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
5(a)(i)		as shown only	1	AO1 2.3.2c
5(a)(ii)	12 (J)	allow **2** marks for correct substitution ie $40 \times 10^{-3} = \frac{E}{300}$ allow **1** mark for obtaining value of P correctly from the graph as 40, 40 x 10^{-3}, 0.04 **or** allow **1** mark for converting time to seconds answers 12000 or 0.2 gain **2** marks an answer 200 gains **1** mark	3	AO2 2.4.2b
5(b)	ions vibrate faster **or** ions vibrate with a bigger amplitude electrons collide more (frequently) with the ions **or** (drift) velocity of electrons decreases	accept atoms for ions throughout accept ions gain energy accept ions vibrate more do not accept ions start to vibrate do not accept ions move around do not accept electrons start to collide there are more collisions is insufficient, unless both electrons and ions are implied	1 1	AO1 2.3.2m

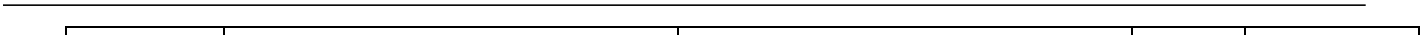
Answer 06 · Mark scheme

5(c)	any **one** from: • they use a smaller current (for the same p.d.) • they are more efficient • they have a lower power input	less energy/power is wasted accept requires less energy ignore use less electricity they last longer is insufficient	1	AO1 2.3.2o
Total			**7**	

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

Answer 06 · Mark scheme

June 2017 | PH2HP | Original Q5 | Legacy



Answer 07 · Mark scheme

November 2020 | 8463/1H | Original Q8

Question 8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.1	$15.7 = \frac{15.8 + 15.3 + \mathbf{X}}{3}$ **X** = 16.0 (Ω)		1 1	AO2 4.2.1.3 RPA 3
08.2	precise results show little variation the 4th result was further away from the mean than the other values	 allow the range of values has increased ignore the 4th result was an anomaly	1 1	AO3 4.2.1.3 RPA 3
08.3	two pairs of values of n and R showing that $n \times R$ = constant third pair of values of n and R showing that $n \times R$ = constant (so) $n \times R$ = constant (showing the student was correct)	eg 2 × 24 = 48, 3 × 16 = 48 4 × 12 = 48, 5 × 9.5 = 47.5 6 × 8 =48 allow 1 mark each for two statements relating the change in number of resistors to the change in (mean total) resistance allow 1 mark for use of data from graph to confirm at least one statement	1 1 1	AO3 4.2.1.3 RPA 3
08.4	multiple paths for charge / electrons to flow total current is greater (for the same potential difference when more resistors are added)	allow current for charge	1 1	AO1 4.2.1.3 RPA 3
Total			**9**	

Answer 08 · Mark scheme

November 2021 | 8463/1H | Original Q7

Question 7

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.1	I = 0.08 (A)	an incorrect value of I from the graph can score all subsequent marks	1	AO2 4.2.4.1
	0.230 = 0.08 × V	allow a correct substitution of an incorrectly/not converted value of P	1	
	$V = \frac{0.230}{0.08}$	allow a correct rearrangement using an incorrectly/not converted value of P	1	
	V = 2.875 (V)	allow a correct calculation using an incorrectly/not converted value of P	1	
	OR			
	I = 0.08 (A) (1)			
	V = 0.08 × 36 (2)			
	V = 2.88 (V) (1)			
	OR			
	0.230 = I^2 × 36 (1)			
	I = 0.08 (A) (1)			
	V = 0.08 × 36 (1)			
	V = 2.88 (V) (1)			
07.2	the product of current and resistance = a constant		1	AO2
	calculation of constant (2.88) using three or more pairs of values		1	AO3 4.2.1.3
		if no other marks scored allow for one mark a statement that doubling one quantity (R or I) halves the other quantity		

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

Answer 08 · Mark scheme

November 2021 | 8463/1H | Original Q7

07.3	current would be (almost) zero (in the variable resistor) (because) the switch has (effectively) zero resistance **or** the potential difference across the variable resistor is (effectively) zero	 the switch's resistance is much lower than the variable resistor allow the switch creates a short circuit	1 1	AO1 AO2 4.2.2 4.2.1.3

Total			**8**

Answer 09 · Mark scheme

November 2021 | 8463/1H | Original Q10

Question 10

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
10.1	(very high p.d. means) very low currents		1	AO1 4.2.4.3
	which means less (thermal) energy is transferred to surroundings	allow less power loss in cables	1	
	which increases the efficiency of power transmission		1	
10.2	electric field strength is very high		1	AO1 4.2.5.2
	causing the air to become ionised	allow the air breaks down allow the air becomes a conductor allow the air conducts charge	1	
	(the kite / string) conducts charge to the person / earth	ignore answers referring to the kite touching the power cables	1	
10.3	straight line passing through the origin		1	AO3 4.2.5.2
	line drawn below existing line for all values		1	
10.4	the potential difference across the wires/cable is the same		1	AO1 4.2.2 4.2.1.4
	(but) the resistance of the steel wire is greater (and so less current in the steel)		1	
Total			**10**	

ASSESSMENT and QUALIFICATIONS ALLIANCE

Mark scheme June 2003

GCSE

Physics

3451

Foundation

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Kathleen Tattersall: *Director General*

INFORMATION FOR EXAMINERS

1. General

The mark scheme for each question shows:

- the marks available for each part of the question;
- the total marks available for the question;
- the typical answer or answers which are expected;
- extra information to help the Examiner make his or her judgement and help to delineate what is acceptable or not worthy of credit or, in discursive answers, to give an overview of the area in which a mark or marks may be awarded.

The extra information is aligned to the appropriate answer in the left-hand part of the mark scheme and should only be applied to that item in the mark scheme.

At the beginning of a part of a question a reminder may be given, for example:
where consequential marking needs to be considered in a calculation;
or the answer may be on the diagram or at a different place on the script.

In general the right hand side of the mark scheme is there to provide those extra details which confuse the main part of the mark scheme yet may be helpful in ensuring that marking is straightforward and consistent.

2. Emboldening

2.1 In a list of acceptable answers where more than one mark is available 'any **two** from' is used, with the number of marks emboldened. Each of the following lines is a potential mark.

2.2 A bold **and** is used to indicate that both parts of the answer are required to award the mark.

2.3 Alternative answers acceptable for a mark are indicated by the use of **or**. (Different terms in the mark scheme are shown by a / ; e.g. allow smooth / free movement.)

3. Marking points

3.1 Marking of Quality of Written Communication

Examiners are reminded of the need to assess QoWC by the following statement appearing in the appropriate parts of the mark scheme:

The answer to this question requires ideas in good English in a sensible order with correct use of scientific terms. Quality of written communication should be considered in crediting points in the mark scheme.

The maximum marks available to a candidate whose answer is not well expressed will be (the number of marks available –1).

3.2 Marking of lists

This applies to questions requiring a set number of responses, but for which candidates have provided extra responses. The general principle to be followed in such a situation is that 'right + wrong = wrong'.

Each error/contradiction negates each correct response. So, if the number of error/contradictions equals or exceeds the number of marks available for the question, no marks can be awarded.

However, responses considered to be neutral (indicated as * in example 1) are not penalised.

Example 1: What is the pH of an acidic solution? (1 mark)

Candidate	Response	Marks awarded
1	4,8	0
2	green, 5	0
3	red*, 5	1
4	red*, 8	0

Example 2: Name two planets in the solar system. (2 marks)

Candidate	Response	Marks awarded
1	Pluto, Mars, Moon	1
2	Pluto, Sun, Mars, Moon	0

3.3 Use of chemical symbols/formulae

If a candidate writes a chemical symbol/formula instead of a required chemical name, full credit can be given if the symbol/formula is correct and if, in the context of the question, such action is appropriate.

3.4 The marking of quantitative relationships

Full credit can be given for a correct quantitative relationship expressed in:

- named units;
- physical quantities;
- standard symbols;
- a combination of physical quantities and units.

No credit can be given for any quantitative relationship expressed in terms of:

- a combination of physical quantities, units and symbols;
- a diagram, e.g. the ohm's law triangle, unless the rest of the answer shows clearly that the candidate understands the relationships involved.

3.5 Marking procedure for calculations

3.5.1 Full marks can be given for a correct numerical answer, as shown in the column 'answers', without any working shown. However, if the answer is incorrect, mark(s) can be gained by correct substitution/working and this is shown in the 'extra information' column.

3.5.2 Where calculations are based on incorrectly recalled relationships, neither the incorrectly recalled relationship, nor the resulting calculation based on the incorrect relationship, will be credited.

3.6 Interpretation of 'it'

Answers using the word 'it' should be given credit only if it is clear that the 'it' refers to the correct subject.

3.7 Errors carried forward

There should be no error carried forward from a previous answer which has been based on wrong science. Any error in the answers to a structured question should be penalised once only.

Examples

(a) A candidate who calculates average speed using speed = time/distance **and** then proceeds to use this incorrect answer to calculate an acceleration based on the correct quantitative relationship should be given credit for the use of the correct acceleration relationship but none for either numerical answer.

(b) A candidate who incorrectly calculates average speed using speed = distance/time and then proceeds to use this incorrect value to calculate an acceleration based on the correct quantitative relationship, should be given credit for the use of both correct quantitative relationships **and** for the correct substitution and use of the incorrect value in the calculation of the rate of acceleration.

Papers should be constructed in such a way that the number of times errors can be carried forward are kept to a minimum. Allowances for errors carried forward are most likely to be restricted to calculation questions and should be shown by the abbreviation e.c.f. in the marking scheme.

3.8 Phonetic spelling

The phonetic spelling of correct scientific terminology should be credited **unless** there is a possible confusion with another technical term.

3.9 Brackets

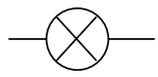
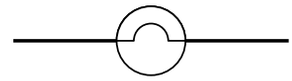
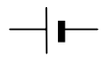
(…..) is used to indicate information which is not essential for the mark to be awarded but is included to help the examiner identify the sense of the answer required.

3.10 Unexpected Correct Answers not in the Mark Scheme

The Examiner should use professional judgement to award credit where a candidate has given an unexpected correct answer which is not covered by the mark scheme. The Examiner should consult with the Team Leader to confirm the judgement. The Team Leader should pass this answer on to the Principal Examiner with a view to informing all examiners.

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3451/F Q1

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	circuit symbol for a lamp correct 	accept  accept any standard of drawing providing circuit would work	1
	circuit symbol for a cell correct 		1
	2 lamps drawn in parallel with 3 cells	polarity of cells must be correct (+ to –) but cells may be either way around	1
(b)	4.5		1
(c)	the same as	accept any clear indication of the correct answer	1
total			5

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3451/F Q2

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	gas		1
(b)	fuel burning stations produce electricity at any time / all the time	accept fuel available all the time	1
	wind generator can only produce when the wind is strong enough	accept it's not always windy	1
(c)	no fuel is burnt **or** no fuel is used **or** uses only energy from wind **or** does not emit harmful gases / soot / smoke	do **not** accept wind is natural / environmentally friendly / renewable answer must be in terms of wind, **not** negative of fuel burning specific examples of gases CO_2, SO_2, acid rain and greenhouse gases can be accepted ozone negates credit	1
total			4

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3451/F Q3

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	microwaves		1
(ii)	infra red		1
(iii)	ultrasonic		1
(b)(i)	B		1
(ii)	A		1
(c)	disturbance / vibration / movement direction	accept motion / force do **not** accept energy	1 1
(d)	sound wave	accept any clear indication of the correct answer	1
total			8

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3451/F Q4

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	heat		1
(ii)	temperature increases **or** (cause) convection (currents)	accept gets warmer accept gets hotter	1
(iii)	60% **or** 0.6	60 without % scores **1** mark 0.6 with a unit scores **1** mark 60 with incorrect unit scores **1** mark **or** correct substitution $\frac{120}{200}$ for **1** mark	2
(b)	street more (energy transferred as) light **or** less (energy transferred as) heat **or** useful energy output the highest	 can only score this mark if first mark scored all efficiencies calculated correctly score 2nd mark point	1 1
total			6

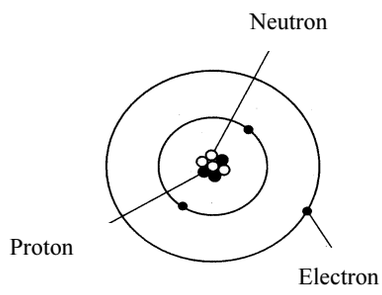
4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3451/F Q5

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	MN	accept 5.8, 8 seconds must include unit	1
(b)	LM	accept 0.8, 5.8 seconds must include unit	1
(c)(i)	0.8		1
(ii)	drinking alcohol		1
(d)	straight (by eye) line starting at 0.8 seconds line drawn steeper than LM starting before L	 ignore lines going beyond 2 seconds but line must exceed 2.5 metres per second before terminating	1 1
total			6

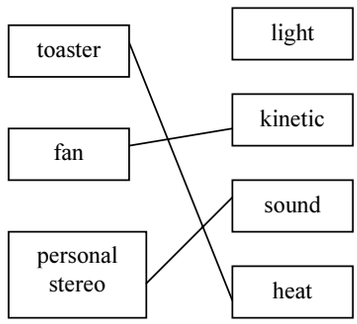
4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3451/F Q6

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	each correct label scores 1 mark  		3
(ii)	neutron		1
(iii)	7 number of protons and neutrons **or** number of nucleons **or** number of particles in the nucleus	 accept number of particles in the centre only if first answer = 7	1 1
(b)(i)	50 ± 5		1
(ii)	50 ± 5	accept their (b)(i)	1
(iii)	less	accept any way of indicating the correct answer	1
total			9

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3451/F Q7

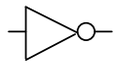
question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	each correct line scores 1 mark  	if more than 3 lines are drawn mark incorrect ones first, to a maximum of 3 lines	3
(b)	toaster	accept 1.2 kW	1
(c)(i)	400		1
(ii)	£24 **or** 2400p	full credit for their (c)(i) × 6p for full credit the correct numerical answer must have the correct unit an answer of 24 or 2400 with no unit or the incorrect unit scores **1** mark (c)(i) × 6 incorrectly evaluated scores **1** mark	2
(d)	6	allow 6000 for **1** mark allow 3 × 2 for **1** mark	2
total			9

3451/F Q8

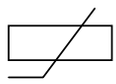
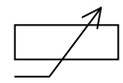
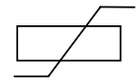
question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	point where the rays cross	do not credit if ambiguous	1
(ii)	converging (lens)	do **not** accept convex	1
(b)(i)	point where the rays appear to diverge from	this should appear to be within 10mm in front of the back of the arrows on the approximate centre line need not be accurately constructed using a ruler	1
(ii)	diverging (lens)	do **not** accept concave	1
(c)	converging film smaller than nearer to	accept any clear indication of the correct response e.g. ticking, ringing, writing in after a mistake	1 1 1 1
(d)(i)	(image) bigger than object / enlarge	accept just 'made bigger'	1
(ii)	it / real image can be put on a screen **or** real image on the opposite side of the lens to the object	accept 'not an imaginary or virtual image' assume 'it' refers to a real image do **not** credit 'it can be seen'	1
(e)	**either** (the converging lens is) thick in the middle thin(ner) at the edge **or** (both) sides bend outwards (1) in the middle (1) **or** one side bends in the middle (1) more than the other side bends inwards (in the middle) (1)	thickest in the middle gains **2** marks convex gains **2** marks suitable diagrams gains **2** marks	1 1
total			12

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3451/F Q9

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	off off on	all correct	1
(ii)	AND (gate)	accept and (gate)	1
(iii)	on on on	all correct	1
(iv)	OR (gate)	accept or (gate)	1
(b)(i)	1 0 **or** 0 1 0 1 1 0	do **not** credit on / off responses	1
(ii)		accept mirror image accept  accept with either or both parts shaded accept line through as shading	1
(c)		accept off for 0 and on for 1 throughout	
	0 0	both correct	1
	0 1	both correct	1
	1 1	both correct	1
	1 1	both correct	1

3451/F Q9 continued

(d)(i)		accept mirror image **or** inverted do **not** credit  **or**  or similar	1
(ii)	resistance decreases / increases / changes current (through it) increases / decreases / changes **or** temperature changes / increases / decreases (1) resistance changes / decreases / increases (1) (NTC thermistor) both marks independent but must be compatible to score **2** marks	accept 'voltage across it decreases' for **2** marks but only if it is made clear that this refers to a thermistor in series	1 1
total			13

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3451/F Q10

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	friction	accept any way of indicating the correct answer	1
(ii)	gravity	accept any way of indicating the correct answer	1
(b)(i)	accelerates **or** speed / velocity increases	accept faster and faster (**1** mark) do **not** accept faster pace / falls faster or suggestions of a greater but constant speed	1
	downwards / falls	accept towards the Earth / ground this may score in part (b)(ii) if it does not score here and there is no contradiction between the two parts	1
(ii)	constant speed / velocity **or** terminal velocity / speed **or** zero acceleration	stays in the same place negates credit	1
total			5

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3451/F Q11

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	X – mantle		1
	Y – inner core	do **not** accept solid core	1
(ii)	different to the crust **or** contains a lot of (heavy) metals	accept iron and nickel for metals	1
	higher (average) density **or** denser	density higher than 5500 (kg/m^3) gets **2** marks	1
(b)	animals were able to move from one continent to the other		1
	(when bridge broke) animals evolved differently	accept animals adapted differently	1
(c)(i)	earthquakes occur at the boundary between plates **or** earthquakes occur where plates push against each other		1
	there are no plate boundaries running through Britain	accept Britain is not near the edge of a plate	1
(ii)	convection currents (in the mantle) **or** heat released by (natural) radioactive processes		1
total			9

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3451/F Q12

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	outside the Earth **or** not from the Earth	accept alien accept life from / on another planet / space accept our planet for Earth	1
(ii)	radio telescope(s)	do **not** accept telescopes do **not** accept satellite dishes do **not** accept radio receivers **or** transmitters	1
(b)(i)	galaxies	do **not** accept stars	1
(ii)	any **one** from: the pulses were regular pulses from space are usually random (scientists) thought technology had been used to produce the pulses neutron stars were unknown signals from a single point	 accept signals / beats for pulses accept noise for random pulses idea of regular but not continuous	1
(iii)	neutron star is (the matter / mass) left behind after a star / red giant explodes (as a super nova)	 accept after a super nova (explosion) neutron star causing super nova gets no credit	1 1
(c)(i)	carried on the balloon / equipment	accept carried by a rocket / aircraft / satellite birds negates credit	1
(ii)	on comets or meteors	accept meteorites / shooting stars accept returning space craft accept solar wind ignore asteroids accept ufo do **not** accept solar flares do **not** accept satellites	1
total			8

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3451/F Q13

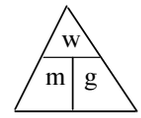
question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	silver is a (good) reflector of <u>heat</u> (radiation) **or** silver reflects the heat (radiation)	fact heat = infra red ignore references to light accept shiny for silver good radiator negates the mark ignore references to good conductor do **not** accept bounce back	1
	less heat is lost through the board **or** more heat is retained by the shirt	explanation accept both sides of shirt heated reflects heat back up gets **1** mark only ignore mention of friction	1
(b)	metal soleplate	accept soleplate / bottom / metal do **not** accept outside / case	1
(c)	plastic **or** rubber	accept any named plastic do **not** accept wood	1
	it is a (good) insulator **or** it is a poor conductor	ignore mention of heat if in conjunction with electricity	1
(d)	**Quality of written communication** *The answer to this question requires ideas in good English in a sensible order with correct use of scientific terms. Quality of written communication should be considered in crediting points in the mark scheme.*	*Maximum of **2** marks if ideas not well expressed.*	
	pulls iron bolt down **or** attracts the iron bolt **or** moves bolt out of plunger	answers in terms of charges attracting or repelling gain no credit	1
	plunger pushed / moved to the right (by spring) **or** plunger released		1
	push switch opens / goes to off / goes to right	accept circuit is broken for maximum credit the points must follow a logical sequence 3 correct points but incorrect sequence scores **2** marks only ignore reset action	1
total			8

3451/F Q14

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	any **one** from: the ground the air radon (gas) building materials buildings rocks / granite food cosmic rays **or** solar rays X-rays nuclear weapons testing nuclear power stations / accidents	 do **not** accept mobile phones accept from outer space accept sun but **not** sunlight accept medical uses	1
(ii)	2	allow $\frac{1200}{60\times10}$ **or** $\frac{1200}{600}$ **or** 120 for **1** mark	2
(b)	 alpha: the count rate is (greatly) reduced by the card **or** the card absorbs alphas but not betas beta: the count rate is (greatly) reduced by the metal **or** the thin metal absorbs alphas and betas **or** the thin metal absorbs all of the radiation (from the source) gamma: would pass through the thin metal but count rate is background **or** no radiation passing through **or** a higher reading would be recorded **or** to reduce the count to 2 would require much more than 3 mm of metal	answers must be comparative accept converse answers throughout accept paper for the card accept aluminium for the metal accept aluminium for the metal accept lead / aluminium for the metal	 1 1 1
total			6

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3451/F Q15

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	weight = mass × g.f.s.	accept w = m × g accept gravity for gfs accept  provided subsequent use of Δ correct do **not** accept N = kg × N/kg	1
(ii)	675	75 × 9 for **1** mark	2
(iii)	g.(f.s.) is higher (on Earth than Venus)	accept gravity for g.f.s. do **not** accept g.f.s. is lower unless answer states on Venus	1
(iv)	orbit time for Jupiter is <u>longer</u> / longest (than for the other planets)	do **not** give any credit for an answer that includes a comparison of diameter **or** a comparison of g.f.s.	1
(b)	**Quality of written communication** *The answer to this question requires ideas in good English in a sensible order with correct use of scientific terms. Quality of written communication should be considered in crediting points in the mark scheme.* any **two** from: dust <u>and</u> gas **or** remnants of a super nova pulled together by (force of) <u>gravity</u> nuclear fusion starts	*Maximum of **1** mark if ideas not well expressed.* accept hydrogen for dust and gas do **not** accept hydrogen burns although candidates may include more detail these points are essential to score the credit	2
total			7

3451/F Q16

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	upright with the contacts at the bottom and still in place and unbent	no need for labels but incorrect label(s) cancel the mark accept a freehand drawing no need for details such as correct dimensions	1
	one blob of mercury touching <u>both</u> contacts	do **not** award mark if contacts bent to touch	1
(b)(i)	(X is a) battery	do **not** credit cell accept (set of) cells accept power supply do **not** accept power pack	1
	(Y is a) LED	**or** light emitting diode	1
(ii)	longer (time)	do **not** accept 'slower time'	1
(iii)	any **two** from: current less (so) rate of flow of charge less **or** less coulombs per second (so) discharge is slower	 do **not** accept current slower accept capacitor has charge for longer **or** charge lasts longer **or** (so total of) electrons take longer to travel round circuit	2
(c)	4200	translation correct (= 4000) but percentage addition incorrect gains **1** mark translation incorrect but 5% addition is correct gains **1** mark accept 422.1 **or** 42.2 **or** 6.3 for **1** mark	2
	ohms **or** Ω	4.2 kilohms **or** 4.2 kΩ gains all **3** marks	1
total			10

3451/F Q17

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	point at which its mass (seems to) act **or** point at which gravity (seems to) act	accept …its weight acts accept correct statements if the intent is clear e.g. … if suspended, the centre of gravity will be directly under the point of suspension e.g. … (if the object is symmetrical), the centre of gravity is on the **or** an axis (of symmetry) do **not** credit just 'it is a point'	1
(b)	**Quality of written communication** *The answer to this question requires good English in a sensible order with correct use of scientific terms. Quality of written communication should be considered in crediting points in the mark scheme.* any **five** from: clamp (steel) rod (horizontally) hang plastic / sheet by rod through (one) hole hang plumb line from rod mark ends of plumb line on the sheet and use the ruler to draw a straight line repeat with other hole centre of mass is where the lines cross check by balancing at this point	*maximum of **4** marks if ideas not well expressed* **no** marks if method quite unworkable maximum of **3** marks if no 'repeat with other hole'	5
(c)(i)	(turning) effect **or** moment force distance	all three correct accept weight accept length	1
(ii)	17.6 Nm **or** newton metre(s)	allow 44 × 0.4 **or** 0.4 × 44 for **1** mark do **not** accept N/m **or** N/cm 1760 Ncm gains all **3** marks	2 1
total			10

ASSESSMENT and QUALIFICATIONS ALLIANCE

Mark scheme June 2003

GCSE

Science: Double Award Co-ordinated

3462

Paper 3F

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Registered address: Addleshaw Booth & Co., Sovereign House, PO Box 8, Sovereign Street, Leeds LS1 1HQ
Kathleen Tattersall: *Director General*

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

INFORMATION FOR EXAMINERS

1. General

The mark scheme for each question shows:

- the marks available for each part of the question;
- the total marks available for the question;
- the typical answer or answers which are expected;
- extra information to help the Examiner make his or her judgement and help to delineate what is acceptable or not worthy of credit or, in discursive answers, to give an overview of the area in which a mark or marks may be awarded.

The extra information is aligned to the appropriate answer in the left-hand part of the mark scheme and should only be applied to that item in the mark scheme.

At the beginning of a part of a question a reminder may be given, for example:
where consequential marking needs to be considered in a calculation;
or the answer may be on the diagram or at a different place on the script.

In general the right hand side of the mark scheme is there to provide those extra details which confuse the main part of the mark scheme yet may be helpful in ensuring that marking is straightforward and consistent.

2. Emboldening

2.1 In a list of acceptable answers where more than one mark is available 'any **two** from' is used, with the number of marks emboldened. Each of the following lines is a potential mark.

2.2 A bold **and** is used to indicate that both parts of the answer are required to award the mark.

2.3 Alternative answers acceptable for a mark are indicated by the use of **or**. (Different terms in the mark scheme are shown by a / ; e.g. allow smooth / free movement.)

3. Marking points

3.1 Marking of Quality of Written Communication

Examiners are reminded of the need to assess QoWC by the following statement appearing in the appropriate parts of the mark scheme:

The answer to this question requires ideas in good English in a sensible order with correct use of scientific terms. Quality of written communication should be considered in crediting points in the mark scheme.

The maximum marks available to a candidate whose answer is not well expressed will be (the number of marks available –1).

3.2 Marking of lists

This applies to questions requiring a set number of responses, but for which candidates have provided extra responses. The general principle to be followed in such a situation is that 'right + wrong = wrong'.

Each error/contradiction negates each correct response. So, if the number of error/contradictions equals or exceeds the number of marks available for the question, no marks can be awarded.

However, responses considered to be neutral (indicated as * in example 1) are not penalised.

Example 1: What is the pH of an acidic solution? (1 mark)

Candidate	Response	Marks awarded
1	4,8	0
2	green, 5	0
3	red*, 5	1
4	red*, 8	0

Example 2: Name two planets in the solar system. (2 marks)

Candidate	Response	Marks awarded
1	Pluto, Mars, Moon	1
2	Pluto, Sun, Mars, Moon	0

3.3 Use of chemical symbols/formulae

If a candidate writes a chemical symbol/formula instead of a required chemical name, full credit can be given if the symbol/formula is correct and if, in the context of the question, such action is appropriate.

3.4 The marking of quantitative relationships

Full credit can be given for a correct quantitative relationship expressed in:

- named units;
- physical quantities;
- standard symbols;
- a combination of physical quantities and units.

No credit can be given for any quantitative relationship expressed in terms of:

- a combination of physical quantities, units and symbols;
- a diagram, e.g. the ohm's law triangle, unless the rest of the answer shows clearly that the candidate understands the relationships involved.

3.5 Marking procedure for calculations

3.5.1 Full marks can be given for a correct numerical answer, as shown in the column 'answers', without any working shown. However, if the answer is incorrect, mark(s) can be gained by correct substitution/working and this is shown in the 'extra information' column.

3.5.2 Where calculations are based on incorrectly recalled relationships, neither the incorrectly recalled relationship, nor the resulting calculation based on the incorrect relationship, will be credited.

3.6 Interpretation of 'it'

Answers using the word 'it' should be given credit only if it is clear that the 'it' refers to the correct subject.

3.7 Errors carried forward

There should be no error carried forward from a previous answer which has been based on wrong science. Any error in the answers to a structured question should be penalised once only.

Examples

(a) A candidate who calculates average speed using speed = time/distance **and** then proceeds to use this incorrect answer to calculate an acceleration based on the correct quantitative relationship should be given credit for the use of the correct acceleration relationship but none for either numerical answer.

(b) A candidate who incorrectly calculates average speed using speed = distance/time and then proceeds to use this incorrect value to calculate an acceleration based on the correct quantitative relationship, should be given credit for the use of both correct quantitative relationships **and** for the correct substitution and use of the incorrect value in the calculation of the rate of acceleration.

Papers should be constructed in such a way that the number of times errors can be carried forward are kept to a minimum. Allowances for errors carried forward are most likely to be restricted to calculation questions and should be shown by the abbreviation e.c.f. in the marking scheme.

3.8 Phonetic spelling

The phonetic spelling of correct scientific terminology should be credited **unless** there is a possible confusion with another technical term.

3.9 Brackets

(…..) is used to indicate information which is not essential for the mark to be awarded but is included to help the examiner identify the sense of the answer required.

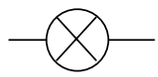
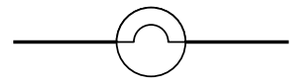
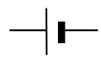
3.10 Unexpected Correct Answers not in the Mark Scheme

The Examiner should use professional judgement to award credit where a candidate has given an unexpected correct answer which is not covered by the mark scheme. The Examiner should consult with the Team Leader to confirm the judgement. The Team Leader should pass this answer on to the Principal Examiner with a view to informing all examiners.

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

Double Award
Foundation Tier 3462/3F

3462/3F Q1

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	circuit symbol for a lamp correct 	accept  accept any standard of drawing providing circuit would work	1
	circuit symbol for a cell correct 		1
	2 lamps drawn in parallel with 3 cells	polarity of cells must be correct (+ to –) but cells may be either way around	1
(b)	4.5		1
(c)	the same as	accept any clear indication of the correct answer	1
total			5

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3462/3F Q2

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	gas		1
(b)	fuel burning stations produce electricity at any time / all the time	accept fuel available all the time	1
	wind generator can only produce when the wind is strong enough	accept it's not always windy	1
(c)	no fuel is burnt **or** no fuel is used **or** uses only energy from wind **or** does not emit harmful gases / soot / smoke	do **not** accept wind is natural / environmentally friendly / renewable answer must be in terms of wind, **not** negative of fuel burning specific examples of gases CO_2, SO_2, acid rain and greenhouse gases can be accepted ozone negates credit	1
total			4

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3462/3F Q3

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	microwaves		1
(ii)	infra red		1
(iii)	ultrasonic		1
(b)(i)	B		1
(ii)	A		1
(c)	disturbance / vibration / movement direction	accept motion / force do **not** accept energy	1 1
(d)	sound wave	accept any clear indication of the correct answer	1
total			8

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3462/3F Q4

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	heat		1
(ii)	temperature increases **or** (cause) convection (currents)	accept gets warmer accept gets hotter	1
(iii)	60% **or** 0.6	60 without % scores **1** mark 0.6 with a unit scores **1** mark 60 with incorrect unit scores **1** mark **or** correct substitution $\frac{120}{200}$ for **1** mark	2
(b)	street more (energy transferred as) light **or** less (energy transferred as) heat **or** useful energy output the highest	 can only score this mark if first mark scored all efficiencies calculated correctly score 2nd mark point	1 1
total			6

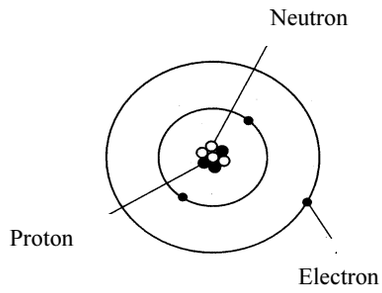
4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3462/3F Q5

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	MN	accept 5.8, 8 seconds must include unit	1
(b)	LM	accept 0.8, 5.8 seconds must include unit	1
(c)(i)	0.8		1
(ii)	drinking alcohol		1
(d)	straight (by eye) line starting at 0.8 seconds		1
	line drawn steeper than LM starting before L	ignore lines going beyond 2 seconds but line must exceed 2.5 metres per second before terminating	1
total			6

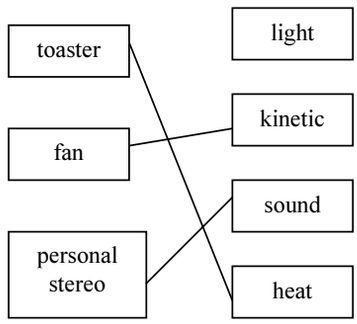
4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3462/3F Q6

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	each correct label scores 1 mark  		3
(ii)	neutron		1
(iii)	7 number of protons and neutrons **or** number of nucleons **or** number of particles in the nucleus	 accept number of particles in the centre only if first answer = 7	1 1
(b)(i)	50 ± 5		1
(ii)	50 ± 5	accept their (b)(i)	1
(iii)	less	accept any way of indicating the correct answer	1
total			9

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3462/3F Q7

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	each correct line scores 1 mark  	if more than 3 lines are drawn mark incorrect ones first, to a maximum of 3 lines	3
(b)	toaster	accept 1.2 kW	1
(c)(i)	400		1
(ii)	£24 **or** 2400p	full credit for their (c)(i) × 6p for full credit the correct numerical answer must have the correct unit an answer of 24 or 2400 with no unit or the incorrect unit scores **1** mark (c)(i) × 6 incorrectly evaluated scores **1** mark	2
(d)	6	allow 6000 for **1** mark allow 3 × 2 for **1** mark	2
total			9

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3462/3F Q8

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	friction	accept any way of indicating the correct answer	1
(ii)	gravity	accept any way of indicating the correct answer	1
(b)(i)	accelerates **or** speed / velocity increases	accept faster and faster (**1** mark) do **not** accept faster pace / falls faster or suggestions of a greater but constant speed	1
	downwards / falls	accept towards the Earth / ground this may score in part (b)(ii) if it does not score here and there is no contradiction between the two parts	1
(ii)	constant speed / velocity **or** terminal velocity / speed **or** zero acceleration	stays in the same place negates credit	1
total			5

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3462/3F Q9

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	X – mantle		1
	Y – inner core	do **not** accept solid core	1
(ii)	different to the crust **or** contains a lot of (heavy) metals	accept iron and nickel for metals	1
	higher (average) density **or** denser	density higher than 5500 (kg/m^3) gets **2** marks	1
(b)	animals were able to move from one continent to the other		1
	(when bridge broke) animals evolved differently	accept animals adapted differently	1
(c)(i)	earthquakes occur at the boundary between plates **or** earthquakes occur where plates push against each other		1
	there are no plate boundaries running through Britain	accept Britain is not near the edge of a plate	1
(ii)	convection currents (in the mantle) **or** heat released by (natural) radioactive processes		1
total			9

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3462/3F Q10

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	outside the Earth **or** not from the Earth	accept alien accept life from / on another planet / space accept our planet for Earth	1
(ii)	radio telescope(s)	do **not** accept telescopes do **not** accept satellite dishes do **not** accept radio receivers **or** transmitters	1
(b)(i)	galaxies	do **not** accept stars	1
(ii)	any **one** from: the pulses were regular pulses from space are usually random (scientists) thought technology had been used to produce the pulses neutron stars were unknown signals from a single point	 accept signals / beats for pulses accept noise for random pulses idea of regular but not continuous	1
(iii)	neutron star is (the matter / mass) left behind after a star / red giant explodes (as a super nova)	 accept after a super nova (explosion) neutron star causing super nova gets no credit	1 1
(c)(i)	carried on the balloon / equipment	accept carried by a rocket / aircraft / satellite birds negates credit	1
(ii)	on comets or meteors	accept meteorites / shooting stars accept returning space craft accept solar wind ignore asteroids accept ufo do **not** accept solar flares do **not** accept satellites	1
total			8

3462/3F Q11

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	silver is a (good) reflector of heat (radiation) **or** silver reflects the heat (radiation)	fact heat = infra red ignore references to light accept shiny for silver good radiator negates the mark ignore references to good conductor do **not** accept bounce back	1
	less heat is lost through the board **or** more heat is retained by the shirt	explanation accept both sides of shirt heated reflects heat back up gets **1** mark only ignore mention of friction	1
(b)	metal soleplate	accept soleplate / bottom / metal do **not** accept outside / case	1
(c)	plastic **or** rubber	accept any named plastic do **not** accept wood	1
	it is a (good) insulator **or** it is a poor conductor	ignore mention of heat if in conjunction with electricity	1
(d)	**Quality of written communication** *The answer to this question requires ideas in good English in a sensible order with correct use of scientific terms. Quality of written communication should be considered in crediting points in the mark scheme.*	*Maximum of **2** marks if ideas not well expressed.*	
	pulls iron bolt down **or** attracts the iron bolt **or** moves bolt out of plunger	answers in terms of charges attracting or repelling gain no credit	1
	plunger pushed / moved to the right (by spring) **or** plunger released		1
	push switch opens / goes to off / goes to right	accept circuit is broken for maximum credit the points must follow a logical sequence 3 correct points but incorrect sequence scores **2** marks only ignore reset action	1
total			8

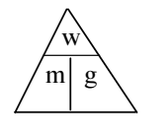
4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3462/3F Q12

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	any **one** from:		1
	the ground	do **not** accept mobile phones	
	the air		
	radon (gas)		
	building materials		
	buildings		
	rocks / granite		
	food		
	cosmic rays **or** solar rays	accept from outer space accept sun but **not** sunlight	
	X-rays	accept medical uses	
	nuclear weapons testing		
	nuclear power stations / accidents		
(ii)	2	allow $\frac{1200}{60\times10}$ **or** $\frac{1200}{600}$ **or** 120 for **1** mark	2
(b)		answers must be comparative accept converse answers throughout	
	alpha: the count rate is (greatly) reduced by the card **or** the card absorbs alphas but not betas	accept paper for the card	1
	beta: the count rate is (greatly) reduced by the metal **or** the thin metal absorbs alphas and betas **or** the thin metal absorbs all of the radiation (from the source)	accept aluminium for the metal	1
	gamma: would pass through the thin metal but count rate is background **or** no radiation passing through **or** a higher reading would be recorded **or** to reduce the count to 2 would require much more than 3 mm of metal	accept aluminium for the metal accept lead / aluminium for the metal	1
total			6

4.2.2 Series and parallel circuits

3462/3F Q13

question	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	weight = mass × g.f.s.	accept w = m × g accept gravity for gfs accept  provided subsequent use of Δ correct do **not** accept N = kg × N/kg	1
(ii)	675	75 × 9 for **1** mark	2
(iii)	g.(f.s.) is higher (on Earth than Venus)	accept gravity for g.f.s. do **not** accept g.f.s. is lower unless answer states on Venus	1
(iv)	orbit time for Jupiter is <u>longer</u> / longest (than for the other planets)	do **not** give any credit for an answer that includes a comparison of diameter **or** a comparison of g.f.s.	1
(b)	**Quality of written communication** *The answer to this question requires ideas in good English in a sensible order with correct use of scientific terms. Quality of written communication should be considered in crediting points in the mark scheme.* any **two** from: dust <u>and</u> gas **or** remnants of a super nova pulled together by (force of) <u>gravity</u> nuclear fusion starts	*Maximum of **1** mark if ideas not well expressed.* accept hydrogen for dust and gas do **not** accept hydrogen burns although candidates may include more detail these points are essential to score the credit	2
total			7

Answer 07 · Examiner comments November 2020 | 8463/1H | Original Q8

Question 8 (High demand)

08.1 91% of students correctly calculated the value in the table.

08.2 Only 4% of students scored 2 marks, while 24% of students scored 1 mark. Many students continue to think that precision is related to the resolution of an instrument and score zero. Statements like 'it increases the accuracy not the precision' were common and insufficient to score a mark. Some students thought that the 3 readings were related to the fact that there were 3 resistors, so the 4th reading wasn't needed as there were only 3 resistors. An answer of 'the 4th result increased the mean' was insufficient as the mean would have always increased if the result had been greater than the mean.

08.3 Inverse proportion is a difficult concept for some students - many stated the general trend that as one quantity increases the other quantity decreases, scoring no marks. Only 2% of students examined the relationship in enough detail to score 3 marks. Very few students calculated the constant of proportionality.

08.4 This explanation was not well known, only 11% of students scored 2 marks, while 26% of students scored 1 mark. The most common answer was that 'the resistance is shared'. Another common answer was to use the equation for resistors in parallel as an explanation. Of those students who had the correct idea, most gained a mark for stating that there would be multiple paths for the current to take, but very few were able to progress to the idea that the total current in the circuit would be greater.

Answer 08 · Examiner comments November 2021 | 8463/1H | Original Q7

Question 7

Question **07.1** discriminated well between students and there were multiple ways of arriving at the answer, using a selection of electricity equations. To score 2 marks in **07.2** students needed to select 3 sets of values to show that the constant was the same and very few students managed to do this. Many students simply stated that as one quantity increased, the other quantity decreased, revealing that they did not understand the term inversely proportional.

Answer 09 · Examiner comments November 2021 | 8463/1H | Original Q10

Question 10

Question 10 was poorly answered across the question. Few students were able to explain the benefit of transmitting electricity at a high potential difference in **10.1**. Many students stated, incorrectly, that static electricity was responsible for the danger involved in flying a kite near power cables. Question **10.3** was poorly answered and many students chose to continue the existing graph line, rather than draw their own. Very few students appreciated in **10.4** that the wires would behave as if they are in parallel, despite the question stating this.