

# Power in Circuits Questions for GCSE Physics



1. Write down the equation that links power, energy and time?

*Power = energy transferred / time taken (  $P = E / t$  or  $E = P t$  or  $t = E / P$  )*

2. What is the unit of power?

*Watt (W)*

3. A device has a power of 60 W. What does this tell you about the energy it transfers each second?

*60 joules of energy are transferred each second*

4. Write down the equation that links power, current and voltage.

*$P = I V$  ( or  $I = P / V$  or  $V = P / I$  )*

5. Write down the equation that links power, current and resistance.

*$P = I^2 R$  ( or  $I^2 = P / R$  or  $R = P / I^2$  )*



6. A lamp has a voltage of 12 V across it and a current of 3 A flowing through it. Calculate its power.

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$$P = IV = 3 \times 12 = 36 \text{ W}$$

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7. A 230 V kettle draws a current of 10 A. Calculate its power.

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$$P = IV = 10 \times 230 = 2300 \text{ W (or 2.3kW)}$$

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8. A motor has a power of 180 W and is supplied with 12 V. Calculate the current.

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$$I = P/V = 180 / 12 = 15 \text{ A}$$

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9. A lamp transfers 24 W of power when a current of 2 A flows through it. Calculate the voltage.

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$$V = P/I = 24 / 2 = 12 \text{ V}$$

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10. A resistor has a current of 2 A flowing through it and a resistance of 5  $\Omega$ . Calculate the power dissipated.

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$$P = I^2 R = 2^2 \times 5 = 4 \times 5 = 20 \text{ W}$$

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11. A heater has a resistance of  $25 \Omega$  and a current of 4 A flowing through it. Calculate its power.

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$$P = I^2 R = 4^2 \times 25 = 16 \times 25 = 400 \text{ W}$$

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12. A resistor dissipates 100 W of power when a current of 5 A flows through it. Calculate its resistance.

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$$R = P / I^2 = 100 / 5^2 = 100 / 25 = 4 \Omega$$

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13. A lamp has a power of 36 W and a current of 3 A flowing through it. Calculate its resistance.

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$$R = P / I^2 = 36 / 3^2 = 36 / 9 = 4 \Omega$$

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14. A 24 V motor draws 6 A.  
a) Calculate its power.      b) How much energy does it transfer in 30 seconds?

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$$\text{a) } P = I V = 6 \times 24 = 144 \text{ W}$$

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$$\text{b) } E = P t = 144 \times 30 = 4320 \text{ J (or 4.32 kJ)}$$

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15. A component draws 4 A when connected to a 24 V supply. How much energy does it transfer in 5 seconds?

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$$P = I V = 4 \times 24 = 96 \text{ W}$$

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$$E = P t = 96 \times 5 = 480 \text{ W}$$

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