

# Electric Power and Energy

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ per \_\_\_\_\_ Grp \_\_\_\_\_

## Materials

Demo - Kill-a-Watt device, light socket with standard and CFL bulbs

Student Groups, - Kill-a-Watt device, stopwatches, styrofoam cups, appliances .

possible appliances include ( microwave , heaters , hair dryer, Electric kettles - prefer 8 - 12 total)

## Part Definitions

1. Voltage is like \_\_\_\_\_ unit \_\_\_\_\_

2. There are 2 types of power supply AC or DC

DC is \_\_\_\_\_ which means it is \_\_\_\_\_

AC is \_\_\_\_\_ which means \_\_\_\_\_

USA this happens \_\_\_\_\_ / sec - frequency = \_\_\_\_\_ (Europe is 50 Hz 240V)

Batteries(AA) \_\_\_\_\_, wall power \_\_\_\_\_ (Big square plugs change 120V AC to DC 6V, 9V)

3. Current measures the number of electrons flowing per second. Symbol is \_\_\_\_\_

The standard units are \_\_\_\_\_, or milliamps \*\* \_\_\_\_\_ mA = 1 A

4. Electrical power is the product of \_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_ UNIT \_\_\_\_\_ same as \_\_\_\_\_ / sec

Because this is a very small unit we usually use kilowatts 1 kilowatt = \_\_\_\_\_

5. Power = \_\_\_\_\_ therefore Energy = \_\_\_\_\_

6. We actually pay for Energy. The unit could be Joules but kilowatt hours is much bigger and more practical

To find kilowatt hours (kWhr) =  $\frac{\text{Power in watts} \times \text{time in hours}}{1000}$

## Electric Power Problems Equation (Basic) Power =

1. a) What **power** is produced when 120 V causes a 2 A current in a piece of equipment?

b) What is the power if the voltage is 350 V and the current is 0.2 A ?

Equation (2) Use Power equation to solve for Current I =

2. How much **Current** do lamps connected to 120 V draw ?

a) 60 W

b) 100W

c) 15 W

Equation (3) Use Power equation to solve for Voltage . V =

3. Find the voltages for these circuits

a) 360 W , 3 A

b) 2400 W , 20 A

c) 120 W , 10 A

## Part 2 Kill a Watt Unit - gives all details related to power usage of any electric device plugged into standard domestic power

Each group will do 3 different appliances - see teacher chart - then write your groups appliances in the data table - page 2.

The light bulbs will be run as demos by the teacher

1. For the **microwave** put two cups of water in a LARGE styrofoam cup before starting it - set it for **exactly two minutes**

2. Toaster Oven - Dial to position 2 marks from darkest - let run - time and watch the AMPS!

3. For the floor heater or the hair dryer - use the highest setting. - RUN FOR 3 MINS

4. For the electric kettle put in at least 4 cups of water - RUN FOR 3 MINS

5. BE CAREFUL - Expect previously used equipment to be HOT - add fresh COLD water each time.

6. Computer - get up and running with a phet simulation - record Watts when running!

7. Hot plate + pot of water. Put on setting 6 time for 3 mins - watch AMPS

- NOTE there are 2 different versions of the Killawatt unit - identify yours and find the correct instructions

Group \_\_\_\_\_ type of Killawatt (circle) **Killawatt P3** or Killawatt **EZ P3**

**Killawatt p3**

1. Plug Killawatt into the socket , and appliance into the killawatt and START stopwatch.

At first it will show **Voltage** - record , then push the buttons in turn to get the **Amps, Watts**. Return to Amps and observe

2. When the time is finished unplug **JUST** the appliance and push buttons to find **kWhr**. Then unplug Killawatt

**EZ Killawatt P3**

This unit can hold the information after it is unplugged but we don't really need that feature.

1. Plug in Killawatt EZ and press RESET button - hold until rSET appears , then release

Push MENU button until kWhr appears. It should be zero. If not repeat RESET.

2. Plug in appliance and start stopwatch. Push the MENU button to read **Volts** - record. Push DOWN for **Amps**, DOWN again for **Watts**. Return to Amps and observe

3. When the time is complete unplug appliance and push MENU button to get kWhr and time

Appliance	Rating watts	Time On ( mins)	Kill a Watt readings					Calculations	
			V	Amps	Watts	kWhr	Time mins	Time(hours)	kWhr
1.									
2.									
3.									
Std bulb		10							
CFL bulb		50							

**Questions**

1. Which of your appliances used the most current ?

the most power ?

2. Calculate the kWhr for each using Watts and time

$kWhr = Watts * time\ in\ hours / 1000$

Put answers in last column - SHOW WORK for in the space below

3. Compare your Calculated kWhr reading on the Kill a Watt. Why might they sometimes be different?

4. How much energy would a 1500 W floor heater use in a 30 day month if used 8 hours a day?

5. Calculate the monthly (30 day) energy for 24 hours a day in kWhr

a) new 50 watt fridge

b) old 700 watt fridge (before 1993)

c) the difference between a) b)

d) new fridge savings/year at \$0.2 per kWhr

e) is the cost of a new fridge justified?

**Bonus Q1** Calculate how long the CFL would need to be on in order to reach .01 kWhr

**Bonus Q2** - explain about the fridge to your parents and get their signature and a brief comment!