**Definition**

**Vocabulary Word**

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| conductor | **CHAPTER 10** |
| Current electricity | the controlled flow of electric charges in a circuit |
| Joule | the SI unit for measuring energy and work |
| Battery | a combination of two or more electric cells |
| Load | any device that converts electrical energy into another form of energy; forexample, the filaments in an electric toaster |
| Circuit diagram | a diagram that uses a set of standard symbols to represent thecomponents in an electric circuit |
| Electric current (*I*) | an electric current that flows in one direction only through anelectric circuit |
| Ampere(A) | the SI unit for measuring electric current |
| Conventional current | the flow of positive charges in a circuit, which is oppositein direction to the flow of electron: from the positive terminal to the negativeterminal of the energy source |
| Electron flow | the direction that electrons move in an electric circuit: from thenegative terminal to the positive terminal of the energy source |
| Direct current (DC) | an electric current that flows in one direction only through anelectric circuit |
| Alternating current (AC) | an electric current that periodically reverses itsdirection |
| Series circuit | circuit in which the components are connected end to end so thatthe electric current has only one path to follow |
| Parallel circuit | a circuit in which each electrical load is connected to the energysource by its own separate path; the electric current is split among the loads |
| Ammeter  | an instrument that measures electric current in amperes ormilliamperes |
| Voltage (V) | the electric potential difference between two points in an electric circuit;measurement of the energy that would be required to move a unit of electriccharge from one point to the other; measured in volts; the symbol is *V* |
| Volt (V) | the SI unit for measuring voltage (electric potential difference) |
| Volt meter | an instrument that measures voltage (electric potential difference)in volts |
| Resistor | an electrical device designed to resist the flow of electric current in acircuit; a load in a circuit that converts electrical energy to another form ofenergy, such as light energy or heat energy |
| Ohm (Ω) | the SI unit for measuring resistance |
| Resistance (*R*) | a measurement of the opposition to the flow of electric currentthrough a circuit; measured in ohms; the symbol is *R* |
| Ohm`s Law | the law that defines the relationship between voltage, current, andresistance; voltage varies directly with current |
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