e-Body Lab Workshop: Lesson Plan

Date: 19/6/2025 Class size: ~30

Learning Objectives:

- Learn what resistance, current and voltage are (taught content)
- Learn of ohms law V=IR (taught content)
- Understand what determines a bulb's brightness
- Understand greater length of thread results in more resistance ⇒ dimmer bulb (through observation)
- Understand the difference between parallel vs series circuits (taught content)
- · Observe how current and voltage get split in circuits

Resources needed:

- Projector/smart whiteboard
- Imperial PowerPoint
- Imperial hand outs
- E-textile materials
 - 30x sewable coin cells [1]
 - 30× 3v coin cells [2]
 - 60x sewable LEDs [3]
 - ~2m x30 conductive thread [4]
 - 30x sewable slide switches [5]
- General sewing materials
 - fabric
 - scissors
 - 30x sewing needles
 - cotton sewing thread
 - tailors chalk
 - tape measure/ruler
 - 30x sew on press studs

Sourcing e-textile components:

All the required materials can be purchased from https://kitronik.co.uk/

Specific links to the components are at the end of the document, as well as a link to a value pack containing 60 cell holders, 60 coin cells, 4× 45m thread spools, and 140x LEDs (20 per colour)

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ACTIVITY ONE:

Description:

Sewing the circuit needed to light up one LED. Additional switches and nodes sewn to allow adding to the circuit.

Materials:

- 30x Activity One hand outs
- 30x sewable coin cells
- 30× 3v coin cells
- 30x sewable LEDs
- ~2m x30 conductive thread
- 30x sewable slide switches
- fabric
- scissors
- 30x sewing needles
- cotton sewing thread
- · tailors chalk
- tape measure/ruler
- 30x sew on press studs



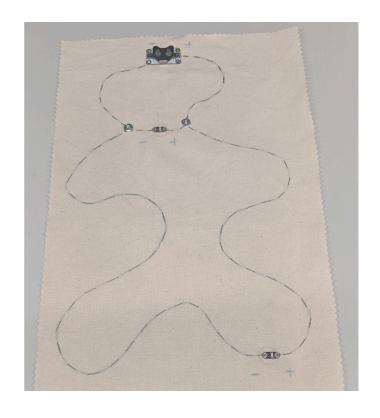
ACTIVITY TWO:

Description:

Adding a second LED to the circuit.

Materials:

- 30x Activity Two hand outs
- 30x sewable LEDs
- ~2m x30 conductive thread
- fabric
- scissors
- 30x sewing needles
- cotton sewing thread
- · tailors chalk
- tape measure/ruler



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Time	Tasks and examples	Teacher explanation	Learner participation
10 mins	Entry Arrange sitting in small groups Present intro PowerPoint	Introduce e-textiles as a concept: the role of electronics and where we see it in our lives, then how this is integrated with textiles Show new research at Imperial from the e-Body Lab and the wider world for inspiration.	PowerPoint has questions which will be asked to the students to answer via raising hands. Additional multiple choice questions to prompt thinking about the e-textiles feild.
20 mins	Present the first content PowerPoint	Introduce current, voltage and resistance. Use the friction metaphor to help understanding. Introduce V=IR and what this relation means. Explain LED behaviour and what an LED needs to light up. Demonstrate what is needed to build this circuit up.	Students listening to explanations. Answering open ended questions posed to them to prompt thinking about the topics. Several opportunities for asking questions.
75 mins	Activity One: sewing LED circuit Give equipment and hand outs to each table. Explain the task at the front, then set students off independently. Circulating to help.	Go through the instructions briefly, explain how to use the hand outs. Show all the equipment to students and clarify what everything is. Break after 40 minutes to check progress (should have done + half of circuit)	Students follow the written instructions and complete the activity. Teachers circulate to answer questions indicated by hands up or otherwise. Students discuss on their tables to work though problems.

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Time	Tasks and examples	Teacher explanation	Learner participation
10 mins	Refocus attention to the front. Class discussion of the activity.	Leading through the discussion questions from the activity sheet. Re-iterating V=IR, and how resistance varies with length.	Q+A with students raising hands to give their observations and opinions from the activity.
15 mins	Present the second content PowerPoint	Introduce series and parallel circuits and how to identify between them. Explain how the current and voltage vary in both parallel and series circuits. Demonstrate how to add more LEDs, show the difference in series vs parallel when adding.	Students listening to explanations. Answering open ended questions posed to them to prompt thinking about the topics. Several opportunities for asking questions.
45 mins	Activity Two: adding second LED Give equipment and hand outs to each table. Explain the task at the front, then set students off independently. Circulating to help.	Go through the instructions briefly, explain how to use the hand outs. Show all the equipment to students and clarify what everything is.	Students follow the written instructions and complete the activity. Teachers circulate to answer questions indicated by hands up or otherwise. Students discuss on their tables to work though problems.
5 mins	Summary presentation	Recap V=IR and circuit types. Inform where to find resources online.	Final question time

E-textile components:

[1] https://kitronik.co.uk/products/2701-sewable-coin-cell-holder

You can instead purchase switch controlled coin cell holders which remove the need for a separate switch:

https://kitronik.co.uk/products/2711-electro-fashion-switched-coin-cell-holder

- [2] https://kitronik.co.uk/products/2262-cr2032-3v-coin-cell-pack-of-5
- [3] https://kitronik.co.uk/collections/leds-for-e-textiles/easy-sew-leds
- [4] https://kitronik.co.uk/products/2722-conductive-thread-50-yards-45m
- [5] https://kitronik.co.uk/products/2709-electro-fashion-slide-switch

It is recommended to get the standard slide switch which changes between "on" and "off". For only turning on the LEDs momentarily, push switches can be used: https://kitronik.co.uk/collections/e-textiles-conductive-thread/products/2708-electro-fashion-push-button-switch

Price breakdown (Ex VAT):

Buy each component individually:

Item	Cost per unit	Price (for 60)
Switched coin cell holder	2.10 per 1	£126
3V Coin cells	1.05 per 5	£12.60
Easy sew LEDs	3.90 per 10	£46.80
45m of conductive thread (enough for ~ 20 students)	9.50 per 1	£28.50
		£213.90

Using the bulk pack:

Item	Price (for 60)
BULK PACK [6]	£135
 60 cell holders 60 coin cells 4× 45m thread spools 140x LEDs (20 per colour) 	
Slide switch	£51
	£186

[6] https://kitronik.co.uk/ products/2764-electro-fashion-60student-bulk-pack-sewable-led