

**Chapter 33 Electric Fields and Potential**

**Exercises**

**33.1 Electric Fields (pages 665–666)**

1. What is an electric field?

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\_\_\_\_\_

2. Like a gravitational field, an electric field has both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

3. How can the magnitude of an electric field be measured?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Is the following statement true or false? The direction of an electric field at any point, by convention, is the direction of the electrical force on a small *negative* test charge, placed at that point. \_\_\_\_\_

5. Consider the electric field around a small positive charge. How can you describe the direction of the field?

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\_\_\_\_\_

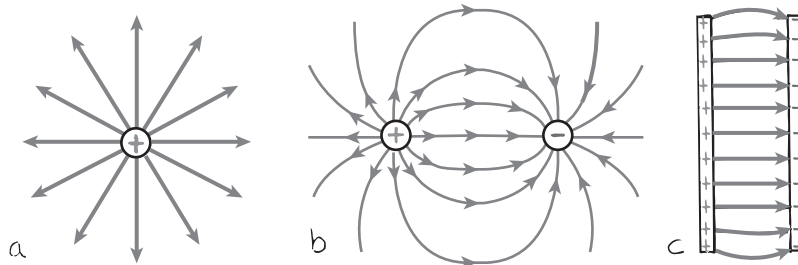
**33.2 Electric Field Lines (pages 666–667)**

6. Since an electric field has both magnitude and direction, it is a \_\_\_\_\_.

7. Is the following sentence true or false? In a vector representation of an electric field, the magnitude of an electric field is indicated by the length of the vector arrows. \_\_\_\_\_

8. Electric fields can also be described by using field lines (or lines of force). In a field lines representation of an electric field, the field is weaker where the lines are \_\_\_\_\_.

*Match the illustrations to the correct description.*



9. \_\_\_\_\_ The field lines emanate from the positive charge and terminate on the negative charge.

10. \_\_\_\_\_ Field lines are evenly spaced between two oppositely charged plates.

11. \_\_\_\_\_ The field lines extend to infinity.

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**33.3 Electric Shielding (pages 668–669)**

12. If the charge on a conductor is not moving, the electric field inside the conductor is exactly \_\_\_\_\_.
13. Circle the letter of each statement that is true about charged conductors.
  - a. The absence of an electric field within a conductor holding static charge arises from the inability of an electric field to penetrate metals.
  - b. The absence of an electric field comes about because free electrons within the conductor stop moving when the electric field is zero.
  - c. The charges arrange themselves to ensure a zero field within the material.
  - d. If the conductor is not spherical, then the charge distribution will not be uniform.
14. Why are some electronic components and some cables encased in a metal covering?

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**33.4 Electrical Potential Energy (pages 669–670)**

15. Is the following sentence true or false? A charged object has potential energy by virtue of its location in an electric field. \_\_\_\_\_
16. Circle the letter of each statement that is true.
  - a. No work is required to push a charged particle against the electric field of a charged body.
  - b. The electrical potential energy of a charged particle decreases when work is done to push it against the electric field of something else that is charged.
  - c. The energy a charge has due to its location in an electric field is called electrical potential energy.
  - d. If a charge with electrical potential energy is released, its electrical potential energy will transform into kinetic energy.

**33.5 Electric Potential (pages 670–671)**

17. What is electric potential?  
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18. Is the following sentence true or false? Electric potential is *not* the same as electrical potential energy. \_\_\_\_\_
19. The SI unit of measurement for electric potential is the \_\_\_\_\_.

### Chapter 33 Electric Fields and Potential

20. Write an equation that expresses the relationship between volts, joules, and coulombs.

\_\_\_\_\_

21. What is voltage?

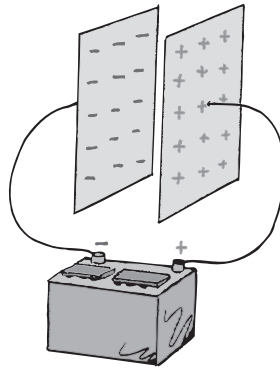
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### 33.6 Electrical Energy Storage (pages 672–673)

22. What are two applications of capacitors?

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\_\_\_\_\_

23. The diagram shows a simple capacitor. Explain how the capacitor is charged.



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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

24. A charged capacitor is discharged when a \_\_\_\_\_ is provided between the plates.

25. The energy stored in a capacitor comes from the \_\_\_\_\_ done to charge it.

### 33.7 The Van de Graaff Generator (pages 673–674)

26. Is the following sentence true or false? In a Van de Graaff generator, as electrons leak off the belt and onto the conducting sphere, the electric field inside the sphere steadily increases in magnitude.

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27. How can the voltage of a Van de Graaff generator be increased?

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