

# Intro to Circuits 120

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This class describes the basic components of an electrical circuit and explains how they are represented in schematic drawings.

To complete the writing assignments in this course, follow the specific directions of your instructor. Usually, you will be directed to type your final report, single spaced, in a Word document, and submit the file electronically to be graded. All submissions should include a stacked, four-line personal heading in the top left corner, which includes your full name, course name, report number, and full date.

Paragraphs do not need to be indented, but there should be a double space between paragraphs. The final draft should be written with complete sentences and carefully edited to correct errors in spelling, grammar, and punctuation/capital letter use. Reports should be at least 200 words long, unless otherwise directed.

## Writing Assignment

Compose a *four-part* report that describes the components in a basic circuit and the differences between a series, parallel, and combination circuit. Write for a reader who is new to the information, so you will have to define technical terms. Use a *separate* paragraph for each of the four parts of your report.

## Writing tips

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When responding to a writing prompt in a college class, it is crucial to read the prompt carefully. In this case, you are asked to compose a “four-part” report about electrical circuits, with each of the four parts explained in a separate paragraph.

What, exactly, do those directions mean to you the writer? First, you have to figure out the topic for each of the four parts of your report. When you re-read the writing assignment directions you will see that the first part is to “describe the components of a basic circuit.” Then, you are to explain the differences between a series, parallel, and combination circuit. Since there are three types of circuits mentioned, that likely means that each type of circuit should be explained in a separate paragraph. That would result in your four-part report, consisting of four paragraphs total.

## Bonus tip

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Begin each paragraph with a sentence that states the key point or concept that you will explain. For example, the first sentence, which is also called the topic sentence, might state: "There are four important components to a basic circuit. The first component is the Power Source . . ."

Often, being a quality college writer begins with careful reading.



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