

Static Electricity

By Cindy Grigg



move	near	objects	form
metal	object	charge	happen
spark	charges	electric	someone
ever	atom	unlike	between
happens	moving	even	happened

Directions: Fill in each blank with the word that best completes the reading comprehension.

Have you (1) _____ had (2) _____ rub a balloon against your hair? What (3) _____? Did your hair stand up? Did the balloon then stick to the wall? How did that (4) _____? All matter -- every (5) _____, you, (6) _____ the air -- has tiny bits of electricity called **electric charges**.



Every (7) _____ of matter has electrons having electric charges. When you rub two (8) _____ together, you can cause these (9) _____ to (10) _____ from one object to another. The balloon picked up charges from your hair. The balloon and the wall have charges that are (11) _____ (or opposite from) each other. Unlike charges attract or pull toward each other. This pulling force (12) _____ unlike charges makes the balloon stick to the wall.

Try rubbing two balloons with a piece of wool. If you hold the two balloons (13) _____ each other, they will push away from each other. The balloons will have (14) _____ charges that are the same. Like charges push away from (repel) each other.

This kind of electric (15) _____ is called **static electricity**. Static electricity builds up on an object, like the balloon. When you rub the balloon, you are (16) _____ electric charges from one object to the other. It is called **static** because it doesn't move by itself.

Static electricity builds up on an object. When you walk across carpet and touch a (17) _____ doorknob, that shock you feel comes from static electricity. You build up electric charges on your skin. When you reach for the doorknob, the charges can jump. You might see a (18) _____ when this (19) _____. You might get a shock! Lightning is a (20) _____ of static electricity. Electric charges jump from cloud to cloud. They can jump from a cloud to the ground, too. Static electricity can't be used to run your TV or lights.

<p>1. Tiny bits of electricity in matter are called _____.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> A Electric charges<input type="radio"/> B Static electricity<input type="radio"/> C Electric currents<input type="radio"/> D Electric circuits	<p>2. The word "static" means _____.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>3. An example of static electricity is _____.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> A Lightning<input type="radio"/> B Thunder<input type="radio"/> C Electricity in your house<input type="radio"/> D All of the above	<p>4. Charges that are unlike or opposite from each other will _____ each other.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> A Pull toward<input type="radio"/> B Attract<input type="radio"/> C Both A and B<input type="radio"/> D Neither A nor B