

Set assignment

DRAFT

LEVEL 3 CAMBRIDGE ADVANCED NATIONAL (AAQ) IN

ENGINEERING

Extended Certificate H127

For first teaching in 2025

F137: Electronic devices and circuits

Introduction

This is Sample Assessment Material (SAM). It is an example set assignment that we publish alongside a new specification to help illustrate the intended style and structure of our set assignments.

During the lifetime of the qualification, updates to the set assignment template may happen. We always recommend you look at the most recent set of past set assignments where available.

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Helping young people develop an ethical view of the world



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Summary of updates

Date	Version	Page number	Summary of change
July 2023	1 DRAFT	All	Creation of document

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OCR-set Assignment

Sample Assessment Material

OCR Level 3 Cambridge Advanced National (AAQ) in Engineering
(Extended Certificate)

Unit F137: Electronic devices and circuits

Scenario Title: OCR Radio Repair

This is a sample OCR-set assignment which should only be used for practice.

This assignment **must not** be used for live assessment of students.

The live assignments will be available on our secure website, 'Teach Cambridge'.

The OCR administrative codes linked to this unit are:

- unit entry code F137
- certification code H127

The regulated qualification number linked to this unit is:

TBC

Duration

About 20 hours of supervised time (GLH)
(work that **must** be completed under teacher supervised conditions)

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Information and instructions for Teachers

Using this assignment

This assignment provides a scenario and set of related tasks that reflect the use of electronic devices and circuits.

The assignment:

- Is written so that students have the opportunity to meet the requirements of all assessment criteria for the unit.
- Will tell students if their evidence must be in a specific format. If the task does not specify a format, students can choose the format to use.
- **Must** be completed under teacher supervision. Any exceptions to this will be stated in the assessment guidance.

You **must**:

- Use an OCR-set assignment for summative assessment of students.
- Familiarise yourself with the assessment criteria and assessment guidance for the tasks. These are given at the end of each student task. They are also with the unit content in **Section 4** of the Specification.
Assessment guidance is only given where additional information is needed. There might not be assessment guidance for each criterion.
- Make sure students understand that the assessment criteria and assessment guidance tell them in detail what they need to do in each task.
- Read and understand **all** the rules and guidance in **Section 6** of the Specification **before** your students start the set assignments.
- Make sure that your students complete the tasks and that you assess the task fully in line with the rules and guidance in **Section 6** of the Specification.
- Give your students the engineering **Student guide to NEA assignments** **before** they start the assignments.

You **must not**:

- Use live OCR-set assignments for practice or formative assessment. (This sample assessment material **can** be used for practice or formative assessment.)
- Use this sample assessment material for live assessment of students.
- Allow group work for **any** task in this assignment.

You **can**:

- Make modifications to this assignment, as follows:
 - You can change the values listed in tables within the tasks in this assignment as appropriate for the resources they have available. You must provide the same number of unique combinations as given in the original tables and use values which are appropriate for the context.
 - **No changes** are allowed to the:
 - assessment criteria.
 - complexity and demand of the requirements of the task.
 - unit content that is assessed.
 - the amount and detail of guidance you give your students.

Section 6.2 of the Specification gives you more information about what to do with modified assignments for moderation.

Information for delivering tasks

Task	Requirements
All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of electronic components and equipment as listed in the unit content.
Task 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the circuit for P3 is an RL or RC circuit, further information will be provided in relation to making it an RLC circuit for P4.

Pages 1-4 are for teachers only. Please do **not** give **Pages 1-4** to your students.

You can give **any** or **all** of the pages **that follow** to your students.

Tasks for students and assessment criteria

OCR Level 3 Cambridge Advanced National (AAQ) in Engineering (Extended Certificate)

Unit F137: Electronic devices and circuits

Scenario Title: OCR Radio Repair

Scenario

You are a trainee starting at OCR Radio Repair. As part of your induction you are going to investigate different types of circuits often found within radios to understand their function.

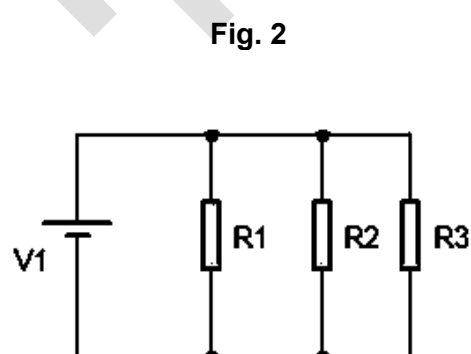
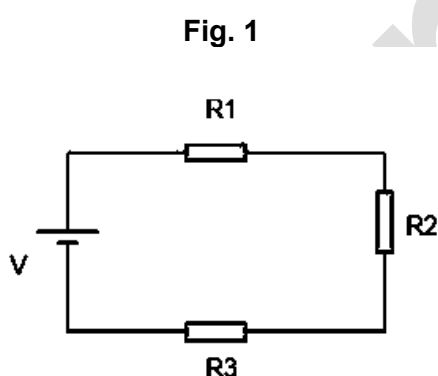
Task 1

DC Circuits

Topic Area 1 is assessed in this task.

Your first tasks are about DC circuits. You have been asked to investigate the two DC resistor circuits shown in **Fig.1** and **Fig. 2**.

Fig. 1 is a circuit of resistors in series and **Fig 2** is a circuit of resistors in parallel:



You will be allocated resistor (Ω) and voltage (V) values from **Table 1** to use in your resistor circuits.

Table 1

Student:	Resistance value in k Ω				Power Supply Voltage (DC)
	R1	R2	R3		
Student 1	10	15	12		6V
Student 2	15	27	27		9V
Student 3	27	10	33		12V
Student 4	10	15	47		6V
Student 5	15	27	12		9V
Student 6	27	10	27		12V
Student 7	10	15	33		6V
Student 8	15	27	47		9V
Student 9	27	10	12		12V
Student 10	10	15	27		6V
Student 11	33	10	15		9V
Student 12	27	12	33		12V
Student 13	10	47	33		6V
Student 14	47	10	27		9V
Student 15	27	15	10		12V

The task is:

To simulate and build the physical circuits in **Fig. 1**, measuring the:

- Total resistance of the circuit.
- Current taken from the power supply.
- Voltage across each resistor.

And to simulate and build the physical circuit in **Fig. 2**, measuring the:

- Total resistance of the circuit.
- Current taken from the power supply.
- Current through each resistor.

Your evidence **must** include:

- The results from your simulations, including screenshots, and a comparison of the results.
- Annotated photographs of building the physical circuits and measurements of their operation.

Use the assessment criteria below to tell you what you need to do in more detail.

Pass	Merit	Distinction
P1: Simulate two DC circuits, measuring the required currents, voltages and resistances.	M1: Compare the results from the simulated DC circuits and the physical DC circuits, giving reasons for any differences.	
P2: Build two physical DC circuits, measuring the required currents, voltages and resistances safely.		

Assessment Guidance

This assessment guidance gives you information to meet the assessment criteria. There might not be additional assessment guidance for each criterion. It is only given where it is needed. You must read this guidance before you complete your evidence.

Assessment Criteria	Assessment Guidance
P1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circuits will contain at least three resistors in series, parallel or combination arrangement, and one or two power sources. • Physical circuits could be built using either a breadboard or stripboard method. • The values students are asked to measure in relation to currents, voltages and resistances may change depending on the circuits given in each assignment and changes centres may make to values of the components as appropriate for the resources they have available.
P2	

Task 2

AC circuits

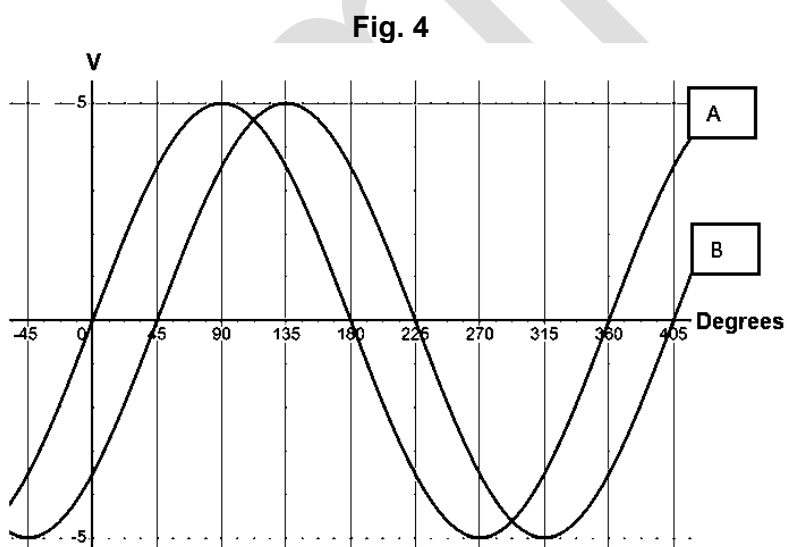
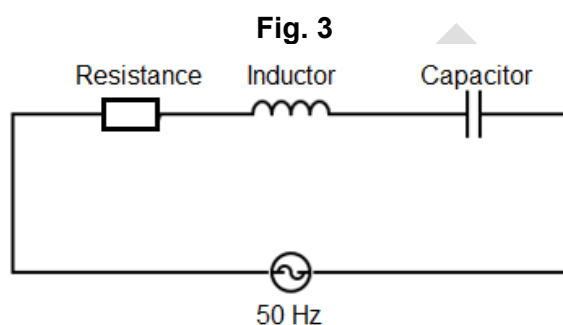
Topic Area 1 is assessed in this task.

For your next task, you have been asked to investigate single-phase AC circuits containing passive components and voltage waveforms.

Fig. 3 is an AC circuit containing three passive components.

Fig. 4 shows two voltage waveforms V1 and V2.

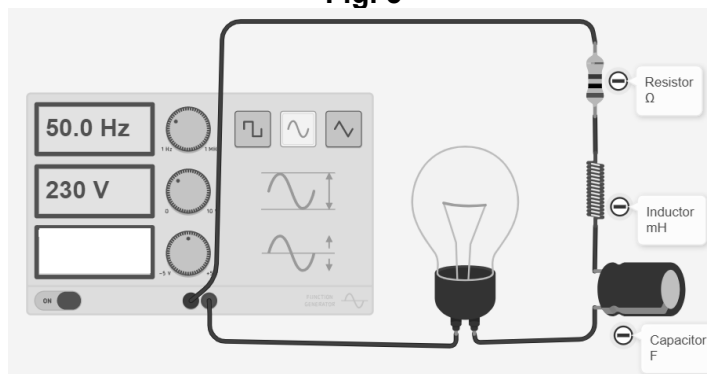
Fig. 5 is a discharge lighting circuit with an inductive load and internal resistance.



The following is confirmed.

- Amplitude is 5 volts for both waves.
- Wave B lags wave A by 45 degrees which is $\pi/4$.
- Both waves have the same frequency.

Fig. 5



You will be allocated:

- resistor (Ω), inductor (mH), capacitor (μF) and supply voltage (V) values from **Table 3** to use in your resistor, inductor and capacitor (RLC) circuit
- an amplitude for each of the two voltage waveforms values from **Table 4**
- inductance (mH) and resistor (Ω) values from **Table 5** to use in your discharge lighting circuit.

Table 3

Student:	Component values			Supply voltage (Volts AC) at 50Hz.
	R (Ω)	L (mH)	C (μF)	
Student 1	10	15	12	100V
Student 2	15	27	27	110V
Student 3	27	10	33	120V
Student 4	10	15	47	130V
Student 5	15	27	12	140V
Student 6	27	10	27	150V
Student 7	10	15	33	160V
Student 8	15	27	47	170V
Student 9	27	10	12	180V
Student 10	10	15	27	190V
Student 11	33	10	15	200V
Student 12	27	12	33	220V
Student 13	10	47	33	230V
Student 14	47	10	27	240V
Student 15	27	15	10	250V

Table 4

Student	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Amplitude (V/division) for each of the waves.	2	5	10	0.2	0.5	1	2	5	10	0.2	0.5	1	2	5	10

Table 5

Student	L (mH)	R (Ω)
Student 1	15	10
Student 2	27	15
Student 3	10	25
Student 4	15	40
Student 5	25	15
Student 6	10	27
Student 7	27	40
Student 8	27	15
Student 9	40	27
Student 10	25	10
Student 11	10	33
Student 12	12	27
Student 13	47	10
Student 14	10	47
Student 15	47	12

The task is:

- Calculate, for the AC circuit in **Fig. 3** the:
 - total current
 - voltage across each element
 - power factor
 - phase angle
 - apparent, real, and reactive power
 - resonant frequency and Q-factor.

- Model graphically the voltages V_1 and V_2 in **Fig. 4**. You should use a software package and the radian unit of measure. Then combine the V_1 and V_2 waveforms together graphically.

- Calculate, for the discharge lighting circuit in **Fig. 5**, the value of capacitor required to correct the Power Factor (PF) to 0.9. Evaluate the advantages of power factor correction in this situation.

Your evidence **must** include:

- The working and results from your calculations, results of simulations and a written evaluation.

Use the assessment criteria below to tell you what you need to do in more detail.

Pass	Merit	Distinction
P3: Calculate reactance, impedance, phase angle, current, voltage, power in a circuit with two or three passive RLC components in series or parallel configuration.	M2: Produce the resultant waveform graphically by the addition or subtraction of two sinusoidal waves with the same frequency.	D1: Evaluate the advantages of using power factor correction in a circuit.
P4: Calculate the resonance and Q-factor or bandwidth in a RLC circuit with series and/or parallel configuration.		

Assessment Guidance

This assessment guidance gives you information to meet the assessment criteria. There might not be additional assessment guidance for each criterion. It is only given where it is needed. You must read this guidance before you complete your evidence.

Assessment Criteria	Assessment Guidance
P3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circuits provided could be RL, RC or RLC in any combination of series or parallel configuration.
M2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students must provide evidence of the waveform(s) modelled graphically.

Task 3

Diodes and transistors

Topic Area 2 is assessed in this task.

Diode and transistor circuits are commonly used in radios and sometimes fail and need repair. OCR Radio Repair want you to investigate the design of a rectifier circuit, diodes that make up the circuit and the operating regions of a bipolar junction transistor (BJT).

Fig. 6 is a rectifier circuit.

Fig. 7 is the voltage and current (V-I) characteristic curve for a bipolar junction transistor (BJT).

Fig. 8 is the voltage and current (V-I) characteristic curves for a rectifier and Zener diodes.

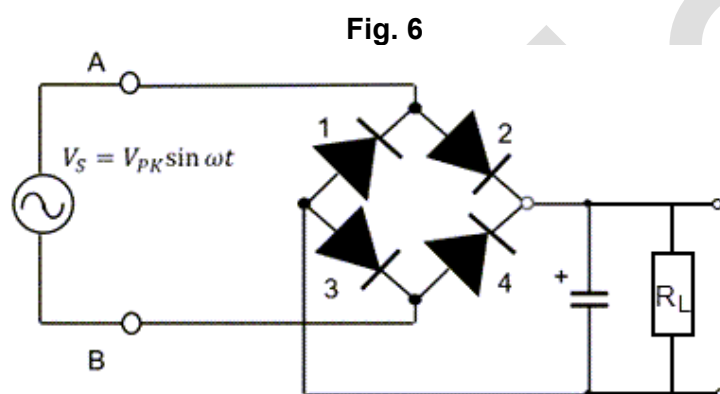


Fig. 7

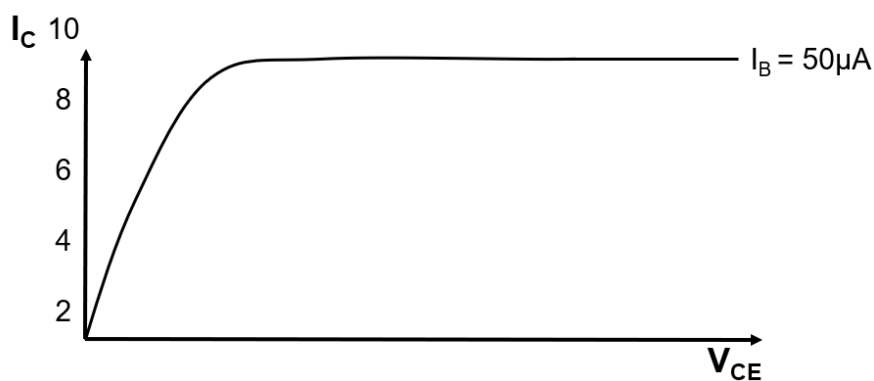
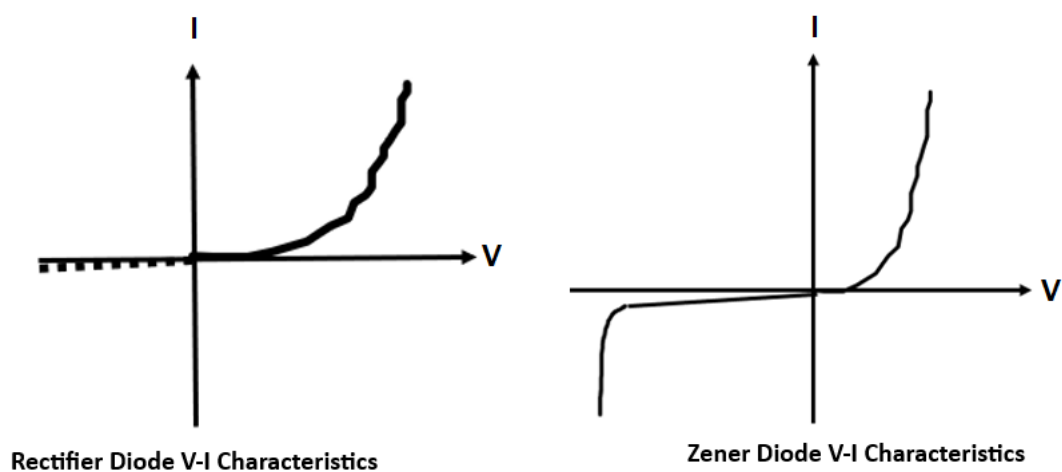


Fig. 8



You will be allocated voltage (V_{PK}) and capacitor (C) values from **Table 6** to use in your rectifier circuit.

Table 6

Student	V_{PK}	C (μF)
Student 1	2	12
Student 2	3	27
Student 3	4	33
Student 4	5	47
Student 5	6	12
Student 6	7	27
Student 7	8	33
Student 8	9	47
Student 9	10	12
Student 10	2	47
Student 11	3	33
Student 12	4	27
Student 13	5	12
Student 14	6	47
Student 15	7	33

The task is:

- Simulate the operation of the rectifier circuit in **Fig. 6** , selecting appropriate diodes, and record the input and output waveforms.
- Safely build the physical rectifier circuit in **Fig. 6** and the input and output voltage waveforms measure from the physical circuit using an oscilloscope.
- Explain how the rectification has been achieved, comparing the simulated results and measured results from the physical circuit.
- Illustrate the regions of operation of a bipolar junction transistor (BJT) in **Fig. 7** (Appendix A).
- Evaluate the performance of rectifier and Zener diode in forward and reverse biasing modes. Compare their performance by using voltage and current (V-I) characteristics in **Fig. 8**. Identify their regions of operation and show the breakdown and Zener voltages.

Your evidence **must** include:

- Screenshots of the simulation circuit and of the input and output waveforms
- Annotated photographs of building the physical circuit and measurements of its operation
- A written explanation of rectification and evaluation of the rectifier and Zener diodes.
- An annotated graph showing the regions of operation for the bipolar junction transistor (Appendix A).

Use the assessment criteria below to tell you what you need to do in more detail.

Pass	Merit	Distinction
P5: Simulate the correct operation of a rectifier circuit.		
P6: Build and test the operation of a rectifier circuit safely, recording the input and output waveforms.	M3: Explain how the rectification has been achieved, comparing the results of the simulated and physical circuits.	D2: Evaluate the performance of two types of diodes in forward and reverse biasing modes, comparing the voltage and current characteristics.
P7: Identify three operating regions of a bipolar junction transistor (BJT) on a graph.		

Assessment Guidance

This assessment guidance gives you information to meet the assessment criteria. There might not be additional assessment guidance for each criterion. It is only given where it is needed. You must read this guidance before you complete your evidence.

Assessment Criteria	Assessment Guidance
P6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Physical circuits could be built using either a breadboard or stripboard method.
P7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Students must provide a graph with their annotations showing the regions of operation for the bipolar junction transistor

Task 4

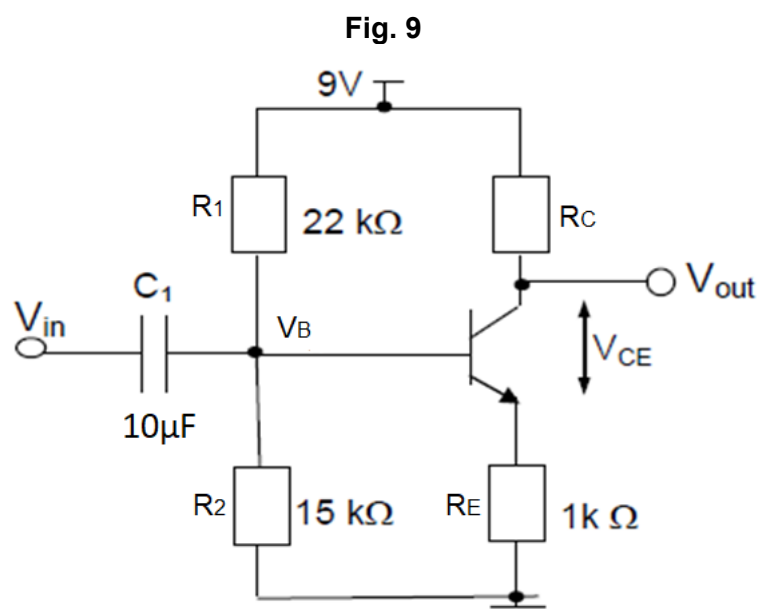
Analogue circuits

Topic Area 3 is assessed in this task.

Analogue circuits are commonly used in radios and sometimes fail and need repair.

You have been asked to investigate the design of a transistor amplifier circuit.

Fig. 9 is a Bipolar Junction Transistor (BJT) amplifier circuit.



You will be allocated a value of current gain (β) from **Table 7** for use in your transistor amplifier circuit.

Table 7

Student	Target Current Gain (β)
Student 1	100
Student 2	105
Student 3	110
Student 4	115
Student 5	120
Student 6	125
Student 7	130
Student 8	135
Student 9	140
Student 10	145
Student 11	150
Student 12	155
Student 13	160
Student 14	165
Student 15	170

The task is:

- Simulate the operation of the transistor amplifier circuit in **Fig. 9**. Record the operation of the circuit to achieve the target current gain.
- Identify a suitable value of R_C to ensure $V_{CE} \geq 3.5$.
- Safely build the physical transistor amplifier circuit in **Fig. 9**. Safely measure and record appropriate values of R_C and V_{CE} to get as close to the target current gain as possible.
- Explain which class of amplifier has been simulated and built.
- Evaluate the performance of simulated BJT transistor amplifier circuit and physical BJT transistor amplifier circuit, giving reasons for any differences.

Your evidence must include:

- The results from your simulations, including screenshots and identification of specific values.
- Annotated photographs of building the physical circuit and measurements of its operation.
- A written evaluation, comparing the performance of a simulated transistor amplifier against a physical circuit.
- A written comparison of two classes of BJT amplifier circuits.

Use the assessment criteria below to tell you what you need to do in more detail.

Pass	Merit	Distinction
P8: Simulate the correct operation of a BJT amplifier circuit to achieve the given gain.	M4: Explain which class of amplifier has been simulated and built.	D3: Evaluate the performance of the simulated and physical BJT amplifier circuits, giving reasons for any differences.
P9: Build and test the operation of a BJT amplifier circuit safely.		

Assessment Guidance

This assessment guidance gives you information to meet the assessment criteria. There might not be additional assessment guidance for each criterion. It is only given where it is needed. You must read this guidance before you complete your evidence.

Assessment Criteria	Assessment Guidance
P8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It may be necessary to identify or establish suitable missing resistor/capacitor values in order for circuits to operate as intended, depending on the information provided.
P9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical circuits could be built using either a breadboard or stripboard method.

Task 5

Combinational Logic and Sequential Logic Circuits

Topic Area 4 is assessed in this task.

Digital logic circuits are used in modern radios and are another potential cause of fault which can require repair.

You have been asked to investigate the design of combinational logic and sequential logic circuits.

You will:

- be allocated the sum of the product values from **Table 9** to use in your combinational logic circuits.
- use the present state and next state values from **Table 10** to use in your sequential logic circuits.

Table 9

Student	Sum of Product
Student 1	$Q(X, Y, Z) = \sum (0, 1, 5, 6)$
Student 2	$Q(X, Y, Z) = \sum (2, 3, 5, 6)$
Student 3	$Q(X, Y, Z) = \sum (1, 4, 5, 6)$
Student 4	$Q(X, Y, Z) = \sum (3, 4, 5, 6)$
Student 5	$Q(X, Y, Z) = \sum (2, 5, 6, 7)$
Student 6	$Q(X, Y, Z) = \sum (3, 5, 6, 7)$
Student 7	$Q(X, Y, Z) = \sum (4, 5, 6, 7)$
Student 8	$Q(X, Y, Z) = \sum (0, 5, 6, 7)$
Student 9	$Q(X, Y, Z) = \sum (1, 5, 6, 7)$
Student 10	$Q(X, Y, Z) = \sum (1, 2, 6, 7)$
Student 11	$Q(X, Y, Z) = \sum (0, 3, 6, 7)$
Student 12	$Q(X, Y, Z) = \sum (1, 3, 6, 7)$
Student 13	$Q(X, Y, Z) = \sum (2, 3, 6, 7)$
Student 14	$Q(X, Y, Z) = \sum (3, 4, 6, 7)$
Student 15	$Q(X, Y, Z) = \sum (1, 2, 4, 7)$

Table 10

Present State			Next State		
A	B	C	X	Y	Z
0	0	0	0	0	1
0	0	1	0	1	0
0	1	0	0	1	1
0	1	1	1	0	0
1	0	0	1	0	1
1	0	1	1	1	0
1	1	0	1	1	1
1	1	1	0	0	0

The task is to:

- Design a combinational logic circuit to produce the sum of the product value of the binary equivalent to produce $Q=1$.
- Simulate the operation of the combinational logic circuit.
- Safely build the physical combinational logic circuit and test the operation of the circuit.
- Redesign the combinational logic circuit using Boolean laws to minimise the gates used. Simulate the redesigned circuit. Compare the performance of the minimised circuit with the original simulated combinational logic circuit.

You will then need to:

- Design a sequential logic circuit for the present state and next state values and using a flip-flop of your choice.
- Simulate the operation of the sequential logic circuit for the given values.
- Safely build the physical sequential logic circuit and safely test the correct operation of the circuit.
- Redesign the sequential logic circuit using a different flip-flop. Simulate the redesigned circuit. Compare the performance of the redesigned sequential logic circuit with the original simulated circuit.

Your evidence **must** include:

- Your design and redesign for a combinational logic circuit, including your simulation results with annotated screenshots and a comparison of the performance of the circuits.
- Annotated photographs of building the physical circuit and measurements of its operation.
- Your design and redesign for a sequential logic circuit, including your simulation results with annotated screenshots and a comparison of the performance of the circuits.
- Annotated photographs of building the physical circuit and measurements of its operation.

Use the assessment criteria below to tell you what you need to do in more detail.

Pass	Merit	Distinction
P10: Design and simulate the correct operation of the combinational logic circuit.	M5: Build and test the correct operation of the combinational logic circuit safely.	D4: Simplify the combinational logic circuit using Boolean laws, comparing the performance with the original simulated circuit.
P11: Design and simulate the correct operation of the sequential logic circuit.	M6: Build and test the correct operation of the sequential logic circuit safely.	D5: Redesign the sequential logic circuit using a different flip-flop type, comparing the simulated performance with that of the original circuit.

Assessment Guidance

This assessment guidance gives you information to meet the assessment criteria. There might not be additional assessment guidance for each criterion. It is only given where it is needed. You must read this guidance before you complete your evidence.

Assessment Criteria	Assessment Guidance
P10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The circuits will need to be designed initially in order to then simulate them.
M5 M6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical circuits could be built using either a breadboard or stripboard method.

Appendix A

Template for identifying three operating regions of a BJT on a graph

Fig. 7, Task 3 – for use in criteria P7

The voltage and current (V-I) characteristic curve for a bipolar junction transistor (BJT)

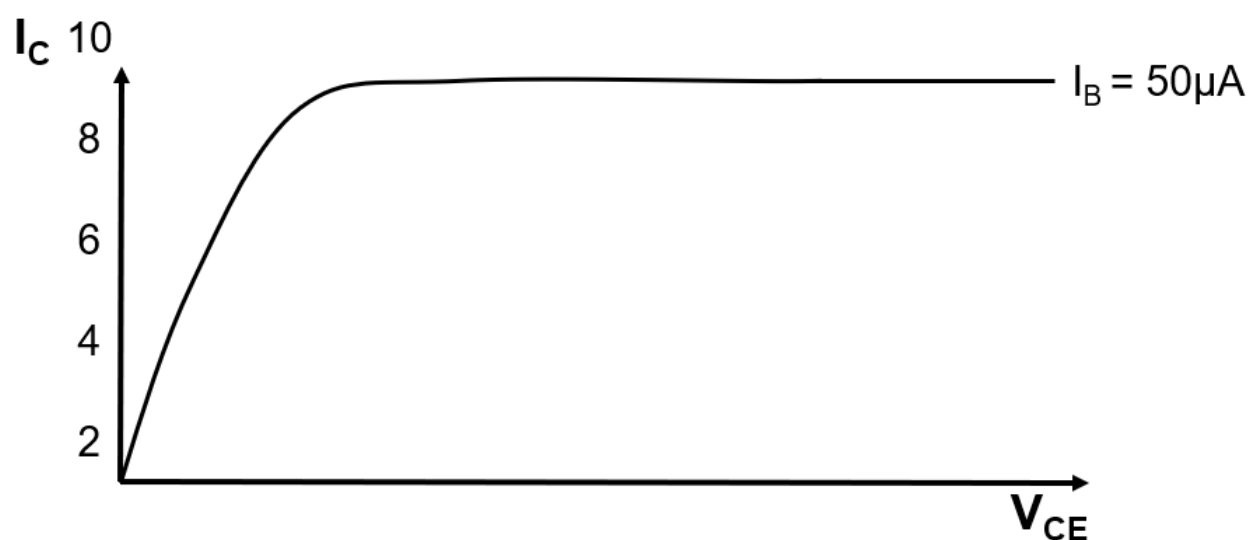


Figure 7

NEA Command Words

The table below shows the command words that may be used in the NEA assignments and/or assessment criteria.

Command Word	Meaning
Adapt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change to make suitable for a new use or purpose
Analyse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Separate or break down information into parts and identify their characteristics or elements Explain the pros and cons of a topic or argument and make reasoned comments Explain the impacts of actions using a logical chain of reasoning
Assess	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offer a reasoned judgement of the standard or quality of situations or skills. The reasoned judgement is informed by relevant facts
Calculate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get a numerical answer, showing how it has been worked out
Classify	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrange in categories according to shared qualities or characteristics
Compare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give an account of the similarities and differences between two or more items, situations or actions
Conclude	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Judge or decide something
Describe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give an account that includes all the relevant characteristics, qualities, or events
Discuss (how/whether/etc)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present, analyse and evaluate relevant points (for example, for/against an argument) to make a reasoned judgement
Evaluate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make a reasoned qualitative judgement considering different factors and using available knowledge/experience
Examine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To look at, inspect, or scrutinise carefully, or in detail
Explain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give reasons for and/or causes of something Make something clear by describing and/or giving information
Interpret	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Translate information into recognisable form Convey one's understanding to others, e.g. in a performance
Investigate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inquire into (a situation or problem)
Justify	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give valid reasons for offering an opinion or reaching a conclusion
Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do detailed study in order to discover (new) information or reach a (new) understanding
Summarise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Express the most important facts or ideas about something in a short and clear form

We might also use other command words but these will be:

- commonly used words whose meaning will be made clear from the context in which they are used (e.g. create, improve, plan)
- subject specific words drawn from the unit content.

Sample

Examine *with us*

- Build confidence supporting your students with assessment
- Enhance subject knowledge
- Great for professional development





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