

3-2 Note 1 Types of Electric Charge

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Science 9 Topic 3.2 How do electrical charges behave: - Concept 1 Types of Electric Charge

- The effects of static electricity are all around you
 - e.g. clothes from dryer, lightning, Shocks from metal doors
- A **static charge** is an electric charge that is stationary (not moving).
- Eventually static charges are discharged, or lost, to other objects or to the air.
- The study of static electric charge is called electrostatics.
- We cannot see electric charge directly.
- Instead, we observe its effects
 - e.g. lightning is a discharge of static electricity



Types of Electric Charge

- Benjamin Franklin showed that lightning is a form of electricity by flying a kite during a thunderstorm.
- Because of experiments by Franklin and others, it was determined that there are two types of charges:
 - positive and negative.
 - An object without any charge is neutral (0).

3+ 3- neutral

5+ 3- positive

Atomic Structure and Electric Charge

- Recall from chemistry that all matter is made up of tiny particles called atom.
 - Three smaller (subatomic) particles make up the atom: proton (+), neutrons (0) and electrons (-).
- Protons and neutrons are strongly attached to the nucleus but electrons are outside of the nucleus and can be easily added or removed.
- Therefore, whether an object develops a negative or positive charge is due to whether it gain (-) or loses (+) electrons.

Figure 7.2 An atom

Laws of Electric Charges

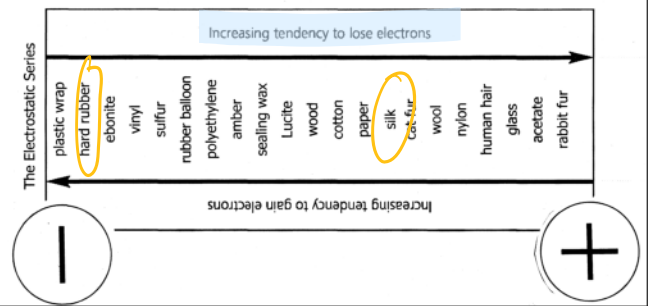
- The law of electric charges states that “like charges repel and unlike charges attract”
- Two positive objects push away from each other
- Two negative objects push away from each other
- One positive and one negative will attract each other

opposite charges attract

like charges repel

Electrostatic series table (not in the book)

- A list of materials in order of increasing attraction for electrons.
- It shows you which object is more likely to lose or gain electrons when two objects are rubbed against each other due to movement of electrons
 \oplus hair vs \ominus balloon
 lose electrons vs gain electrons



Static Electric Charge Examples

- An **amber rod** develops a negative charge when rubbed with **wool or fur**.
- A **plastic rod** develops a positive charge when rubbed with **cotton**.
- When objects are rubbed against each other, they can transfer charge from one to another
 - only electrons move around – not protons
- Some materials are more likely than others to give up electrons.
 - Ex. When acetate (a type of plastic used in overhead transparencies) is rubbed with paper, the acetate develops a positive (+) charge and the paper develops a negative (-) charge.
 - Example: if **rubber** was rubbed with **silk**...silk is more likely to lose electrons so it would become positive charged, giving electrons to the rubber and making it Negative charged.



Attraction of Neutral Objects to Charged Objects

- ◇ When a charged object is brought near to a neutral object, the electrons in the neutral object shift so that the end of the neutral object is attracted to the charged object.
- ◇ Although there is a slight shift of charges within the neutral object, it does not gain or lose electrons and is still neutral.
- ◇ This charging effect is known as **induced charge separation**.

