

Mrs. Elaser's Rewrite Policy

REWRITES ARE DUE TWO FULL SCHOOL DAYS AFTER THE TEST/ASSIGNMENT HAS BEEN RETURNED. EXTENSIONS ARE AVAILABLE ONLY IF PREARRANGED. LATE REWRITES WILL LOSE POINTS. IT IS YOUR SOLE RESPONSIBILITY TO COMPLETE A REWRITE AND REMEMBER TO TURN IT IN.

You may rewrite:

- Homework—turn in a fresh copy
- Lab reports—turn in a fresh copy
- Quizzes
- Tests

The following assignments are designed to demonstrate what you can do and therefore are not eligible for rewrite points:

- Lab practicals (i.e., a test in hands-on format)
- Research projects (get it right the first time!)
- Flash quizzes and featherweight daily check-ins

You are encouraged to rewrite the following errors for credit:

- Conceptual errors and/or omissions
- Major mistakes in calculations or formulas
- Questions that you misunderstood
- Answers that *I* misunderstood—that is, correct ideas that were poorly explained or unclear
- Incorrect numbers or lab data. (See below for details on lab data.)
- Missing sections of a FORMAL lab writeup. Do not simply staple a list of corrections to the front of an incomplete lab report! **When correcting labs, rewrite the lab from start to finish and turn in a fresh copy for fresh credit. To make this easier, TYPE UP all lab work!**
- Messy/disorganized lab reports. As above, turn in a fresh lab report.

You are encouraged to rewrite the following lowing errors although credit will NOT be given:

- Incorrect use of units, significant figures, or calculator settings. (Get it right the first time!)
- Minor mistakes in substitution in the final steps of a calculation
- Any minor error whose cost was "-2" or less. You do not need rewrite credit, because you already received partial credit.
- Any question which was left blank. (Moral of the story: write something for every question!)
- Any question/assignment which received no credit for issues of academic integrity. (Duh!)
- Previously rewritten work. That is to say, if you turn in a rewrite and it comes back with major errors, please reexamine your thinking process. This is important—otherwise you will continue to make the same mistakes, and by January you will be frantic! Rewrite as many times as you need in order to make sure you can do the problem. That said, you will only be eligible for extra points on your first rewrite. Make sure your logic is secure and your format is correct before turning it in!

How to Proceed: Short and Sweet

- ✍ **Decide which questions to rewrite.** Minor points may not be worth your time, or if it's 11:00 p.m. and you're still guessing, choose to rewrite things you DO actually understand!
- ✍ **RESEARCH what you did wrong.** Look things up in the book or in your notes. Ask friends, ask tutors, peer tutors, seniors, or me. If you are seeking help from a friend, the friend should have gotten the question right, and not by guessing or lucky happenstance. Beware of turning in anything that has not been checked by a third party. This is not cheating: it helps you learn, and it helps your friends learn, too! (Let's be clear: copying off your friend's paper is cheating. Don't do it. Instead ask them to help you understand.)
- ✍ **Start with a SEPARATE sheet of paper.** I will not grade cross-outs or comments scrawled in margins.
- ✍ **Write the question number.** Do NOT recopy the question—just summarize.
- ✍ **Summarize what went wrong in one SHORT sentence.** Did you guess, or were you applying an accurate idea incorrectly? (Note: keep this short, and **do not ever recopy mistaken work**—that will encourage you to make more errors in the future!)
- ✍ **BRIEFLY explain the source of your error.** If you guessed, don't waste words. However, if you made a logical, well-reasoned MISTAKE, explain what went wrong to yourself so you'll be sure not to make it again. This is the point of the assignment.
- ✍ **EXPLAIN how to correct the error.** This is the most important part of the form. Justify how and why your new method will work.
- ✍ **NOW CORRECT THE ERROR!** After explaining what was wrong with the original work, don't forget actually to solve the problem. **Show ALL your work** in every step—do not just state an answer.
- ✍ **List helpful study tips for the future.** These rewrites are going to be your study guide for the semester exam. If you need to brush up on the characteristics of velocity vs. acceleration or do a better job of linking equations, actually write down, "I need to study velocity vs. acceleration," or, "I need more practice remembering to use more than one equation." This way you'll study it again and do better next time.

What NOT to do:

- ☒ **Grovel.** I care more about whether or not you can now solve the problem than how sorry you are about what you did.
- ☒ **Pure math.** A perfect solution will receive no credit at all if you do not explain what you were thinking and how you came to those conclusions. This is a common source of wasted effort on rewrites!
- ☒ **No math at all.** Answer the question that you were unable to answer at first! Explanations alone will not convince me that you can do physics: I need to see some results, too!
- ☒ **Parrot.** "I didn't understand this problem. I still don't understand this problem. But the right answer is (b)." Don't waste your time or your pencil lead writing this out. If you don't understand the problem, why are you rewriting it? You should be out talking to your friends, asking me for help, looking up similar problems in old worksheets, and trying to understand it! The point of a rewrite is to learn physics. You will get no credit for enthusiastically documenting your continued confusion.

Good twin
9.31.2013

Test Rewrite

8. This question asked for the power used in the circuit. But instead of finding the power, I found the voltage. Power is the amount of energy the circuit uses in a given time, not the voltage that it needs to run. The correct equation for power is $P = I^2R$, so the correct answer #8 should be:

$$P = (0.2 \text{ A})^2(100 \Omega) = 4 \text{ W.}$$

In the future, I need to make sure I understand the difference and the different equations for power and voltage.

12. I had no idea how to answer this, so I just guessed. However, now that I look at the diagram, I see that it's just a pure parallel circuit, and voltage is the same everywhere in a parallel circuit, so the voltage at point P would be the same as the battery voltage: 1.5 Volts.

Rewrite grade: +6

Your explanations are clear and precise, and your work is accurate.

Evil twin
9.31.2013

Test Rewrite

2. The right answer is (d)

$$8. P = (0.2 \text{ A})^2(100 \Omega) = 4 \text{ W.}$$

12. I had no idea how to answer this, so I just guessed, but really the answer is 1.5 Volts.

Rewrite grade: +0

Where are your explanations? How did you figure this out?