



Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research  
Almustaqbal University, College of Engineering  
And Engineering Technologies  
Computer Technology Engineering Department

**TWO WEEK :**

## **Series Circuits ( Resistance in Series ) & Voltage Divider Rule**

Course Name : *Electrical Engineering Fundamentals*

Academic Year : *2024-2025*

Stage : *One*

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# SERIES DC CIRCUITS

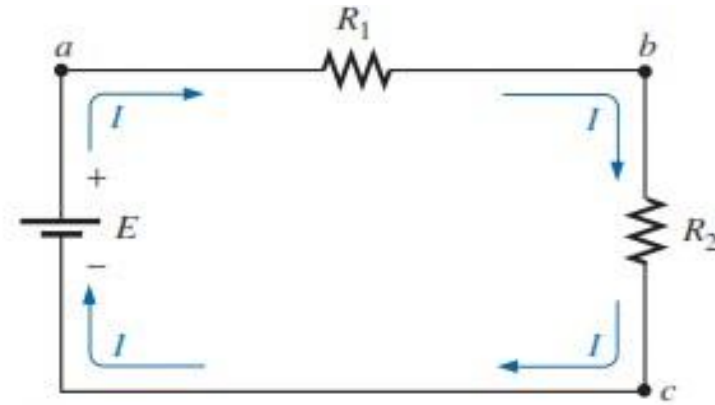
A **circuit** consists of any number of elements joined at terminal points, providing at least one closed path through which charge can flow. The circuit of Fig. 2.1(a) has three elements joined at three terminal points ( $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$ ) to provide a closed path for the current  $I$ .

**Two elements are in series if**

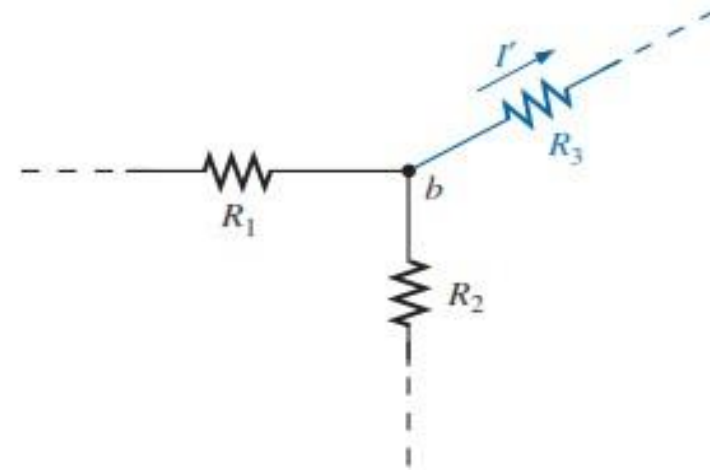
**1.They have only one terminal in common (i.e., one lead of one is connected to only one lead of the other).**

**2.The common point between the two elements is not connected to another current-carrying element.**

If the circuit of Fig. 2.1(a) is modified such that a current-carrying resistor  $R_3$  is introduced, as shown in Fig. 2.1(b), the resistors  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are no longer in series due to a violation of number 2 of the above definition of series elements.



(a) Series circuit



(b)  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are not in series

Fig.2.1

(a) Series circuit; (b) situation in which  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are not in series.

***The total resistance of a series circuit is the sum of the resistance levels.***

In general, to find the total resistance of  $N$  resistors in series, the following equation is applied:

$$R_T = R_1 + R_2 + R_3 + \cdots + R_N \quad (\text{ohms, } \Omega)$$

Once  $R_T$  is known, the current drawn from the source can be determined using Ohm's law, as follows:

$$I_s = \frac{E}{R_T} \quad (\text{amperes, A})$$

The fact that the current is the same through each element of Fig. 2.1(a) permits a direct calculation of the voltage across each resistor using Ohm's law; that is,

$$V_1 = IR_1, V_2 = IR_2, V_3 = IR_3, \dots, V_N = IR_N \quad (\text{volts, V})$$

***The total power delivered to a resistive circuit is equal to the total power dissipated by the resistive elements.***

$$P_1 = V_1 I_1 = I_1^2 R_1 = \frac{V_1^2}{R_1} \quad (\text{watts, W})$$

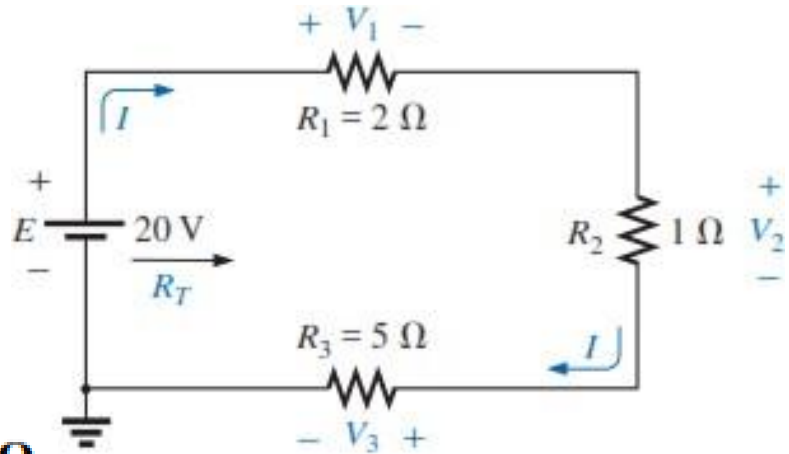
The power delivered by the source is

$$P_{\text{del}} = P_1 + P_2 + P_3 + \cdots + P_N$$

$$P_{\text{del}} = EI \quad (\text{watts, W})$$

**EXAMPLE 2.1**

- a. Find the total resistance for the series circuit shown.
- b. Calculate the source current  $I$ .
- c. Determine the voltages  $V_1$ ,  $V_2$ , and  $V_3$ .
- d. Calculate the power dissipated by  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and  $R_3$ .
- e. Determine the power delivered by the source, and compare it to the sum of the power levels of part (d).



a.  $R_T = R_1 + R_2 + R_3 = 2\ \Omega + 1\ \Omega + 5\ \Omega = 8\ \Omega$

b.  $I_s = \frac{E}{R_T} = \frac{20\text{ V}}{8\ \Omega} = 2.5\text{ A}$

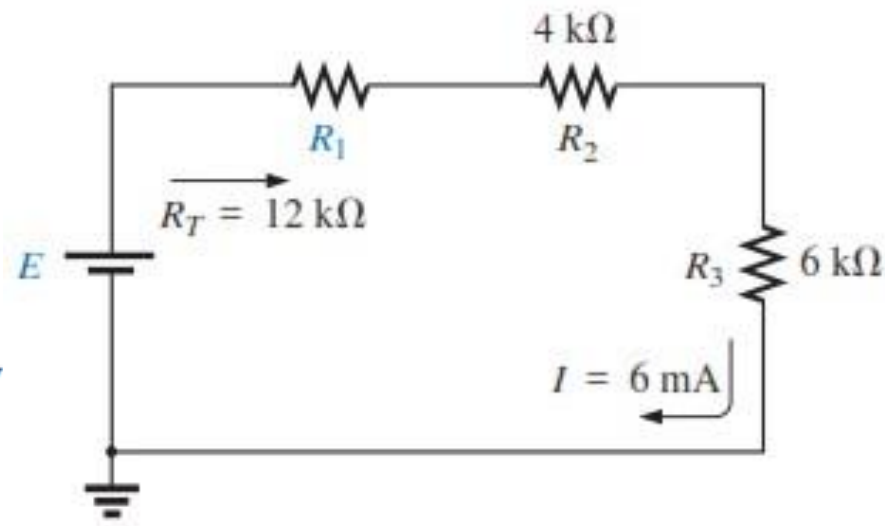
c.  $V_1 = IR_1 = (2.5\text{ A})(2\ \Omega) = 5\text{ V}$   
 $V_2 = IR_2 = (2.5\text{ A})(1\ \Omega) = 2.5\text{ V}$   
 $V_3 = IR_3 = (2.5\text{ A})(5\ \Omega) = 12.5\text{ V}$

d.  $P_1 = V_1I_1 = (5\text{ V})(2.5\text{ A}) = 12.5\text{ W}$   
 $P_2 = I_2^2R_2 = (2.5\text{ A})^2(1\ \Omega) = 6.25\text{ W}$   
 $P_3 = V_3^2/R_3 = (12.5\text{ V})^2/5\ \Omega = 31.25\text{ W}$

e.  $P_{\text{del}} = EI = (20\text{ V})(2.5\text{ A}) = 50\text{ W}$   
 $P_{\text{del}} = P_1 + P_2 + P_3$   
 $50\text{ W} = 12.5\text{ W} + 6.25\text{ W} + 31.25\text{ W}$   
 $50\text{ W} = 50\text{ W} \quad (\text{checks})$

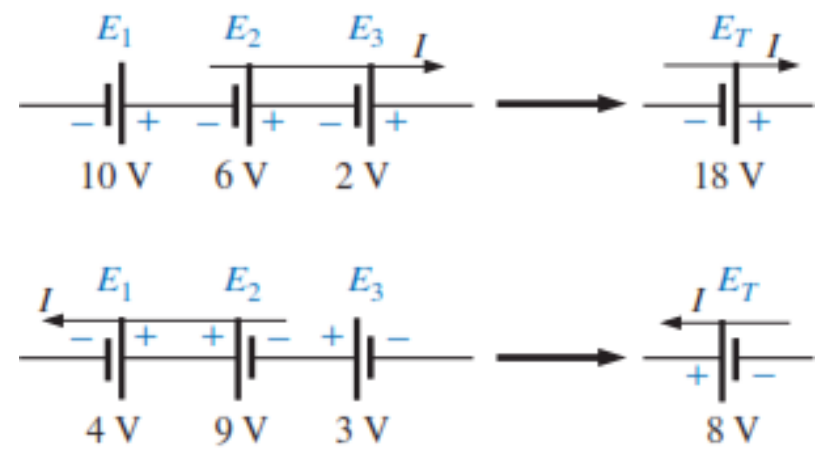
**EXAMPLE 2.2** Given  $R_T$  and  $I$ , calculate  $R_1$  and  $E$  for the circuit shown.

$$R_T = R_1 + R_2 + R_3$$
$$12\text{ k}\Omega = R_1 + 4\text{ k}\Omega + 6\text{ k}\Omega$$
$$R_1 = 12\text{ k}\Omega - 10\text{ k}\Omega = \mathbf{2\text{ k}\Omega}$$
$$E = IR_T = (6 \times 10^{-3}\text{ A})(12 \times 10^3\text{ }\Omega) = \mathbf{72\text{ V}}$$



**VOLTAGE SOURCES IN SERIES**

$$E_T = E_1 + E_2 + E_3 = 10\text{ V} + 6\text{ V} + 2\text{ V} = 18\text{ V}$$
$$E_T = E_2 + E_3 - E_1 = 9\text{ V} + 3\text{ V} - 4\text{ V} = 8\text{ V}$$



# KIRCHHOFF'S VOLTAGE LAW

**Kirchhoff's voltage law (KVL) states that the algebraic sum of the potential rises and drops around a closed loop (or path) is zero.**

A **closed loop** is any continuous path that leaves a point in one direction and returns to that same point from another direction without leaving the circuit.

$$\sum_{\text{C}} V = 0$$

(Kirchhoff's voltage law in symbolic form)

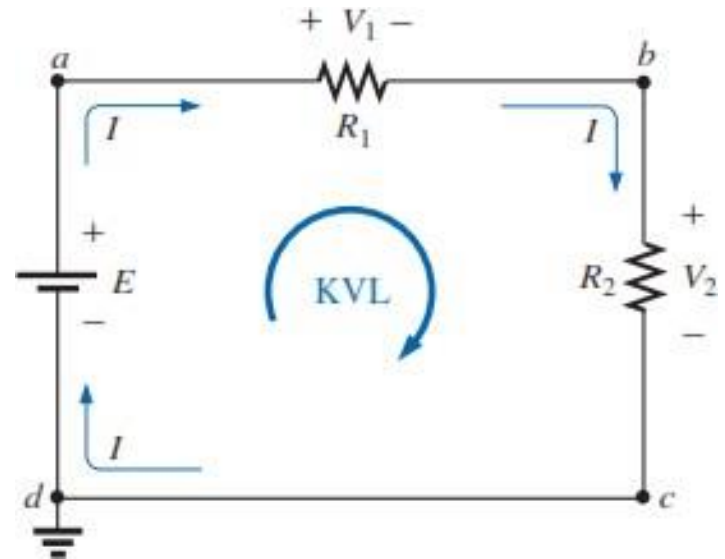
Kirchhoff's voltage law can also be stated in the following form:

$$\sum_{\text{C}} V_{\text{rises}} = \sum_{\text{C}} V_{\text{drops}}$$

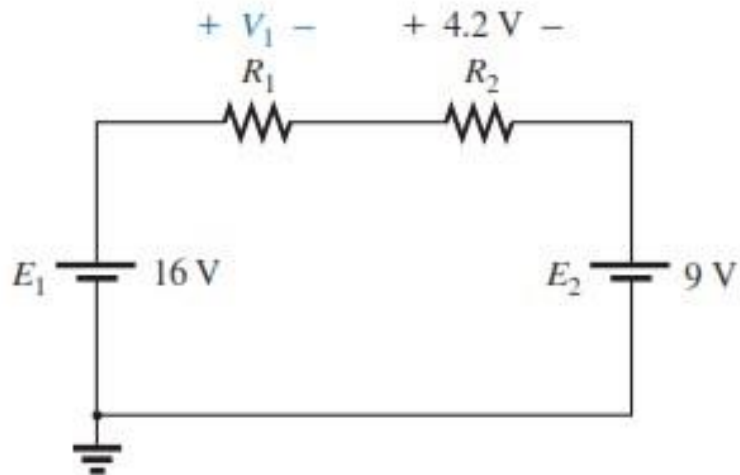
$$\sum_{\text{C}} V = 0$$

$$-E + V_2 + V_1 = 0$$

$$E = V_1 + V_2$$



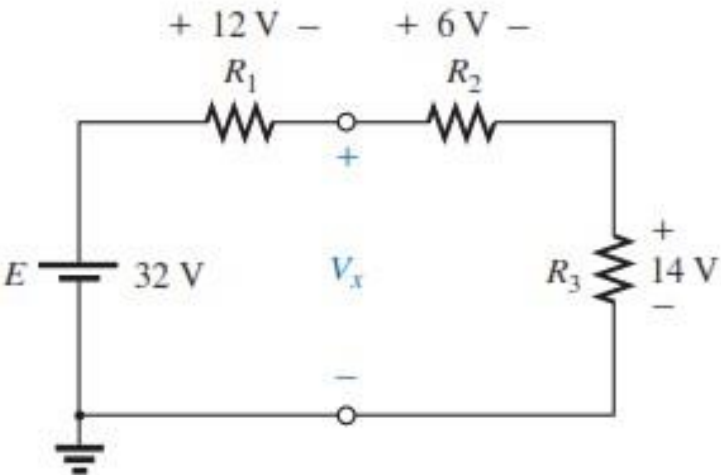
**EXAMPLE 2.3** Determine the unknown voltages for the networks shown.



(a)

$$+E_1 - V_1 - V_2 - E_2 = 0$$

$$V_1 = E_1 - V_2 - E_2 = 16\text{ V} - 4.2\text{ V} - 9\text{ V} = \mathbf{2.8\text{ V}}$$



(b)

$$+E - V_1 - V_x = 0$$

$$V_x = E - V_1 = 32\text{ V} - 12\text{ V} = \mathbf{20\text{ V}}$$

Using the clockwise direction for the other loop involving  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  will result in

$$+V_x - V_2 - V_3 = 0$$

$$V_x = V_2 + V_3 = 6\text{ V} + 14\text{ V} = \mathbf{20\text{ V}}$$

**EXAMPLE 2.4** Find  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  for the network shown.

For path 1, starting at point  $a$  in a clockwise direction:

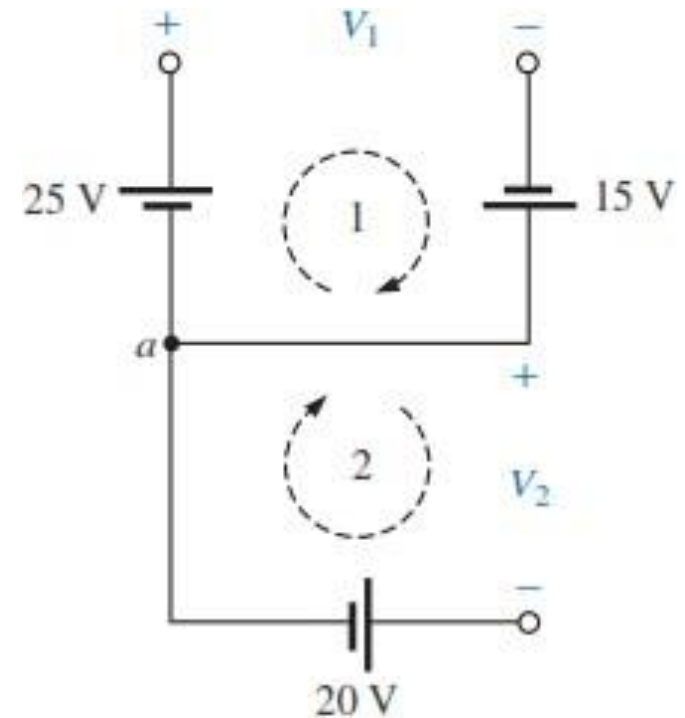
$$+25 \text{ V} - V_1 + 15 \text{ V} = 0$$

$$\text{and } V_1 = \mathbf{40 \text{ V}}$$

For path 2, starting at point  $a$  in a clockwise direction:

$$-V_2 - 20 \text{ V} = 0$$

$$\text{and } V_2 = \mathbf{-20 \text{ V}}$$

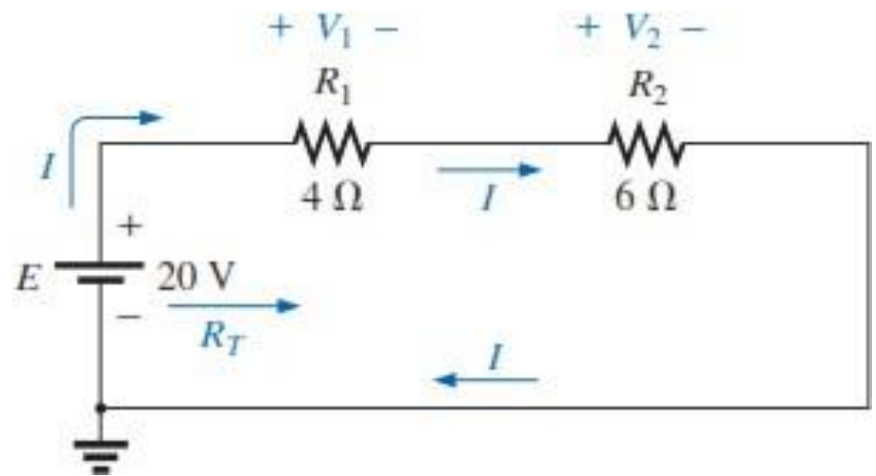


The minus sign simply indicates that the actual polarities of the potential difference are opposite the assumed polarity indicated in figure.



**EXAMPLE 2.5** For the circuit shown.

- a. Find  $R_T$ .
- b. Find  $I$ .
- c. Find  $V_T$  and  $V_1$ .
- d. Find the power to the 4- $\Omega$  and 6- $\Omega$  resistors.
- e. Find the power delivered by the battery, and compare it to that dissipated by the 4-  $\Omega$  and 6-  $\Omega$  resistors combined.
- f. Verify Kirchhoff's voltage law (clockwise direction).



a.  $R_T = R_1 + R_2 = 4\ \Omega + 6\ \Omega = 10\ \Omega$

b.  $I = \frac{E}{R_T} = \frac{20\text{ V}}{10\ \Omega} = 2\text{ A}$

c.  $V_1 = IR_1 = (2\text{ A})(4\ \Omega) = 8\text{ V}$   
 $V_2 = IR_2 = (2\text{ A})(6\ \Omega) = 12\text{ V}$

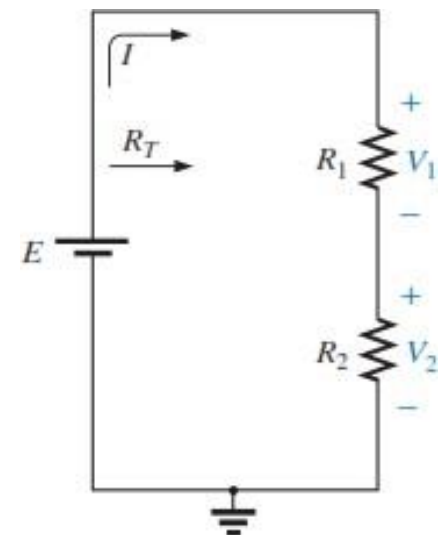
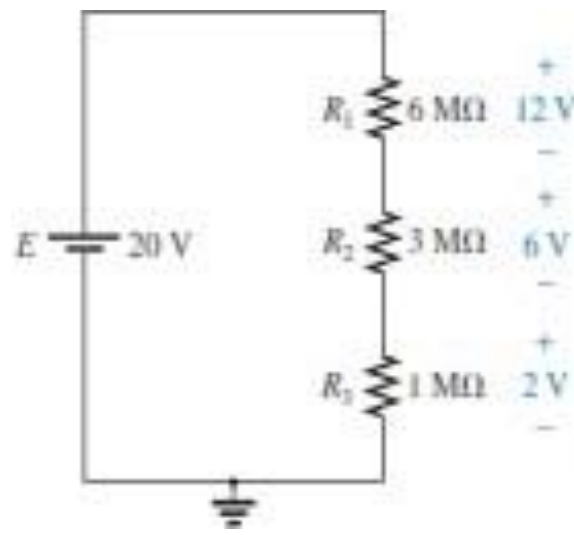
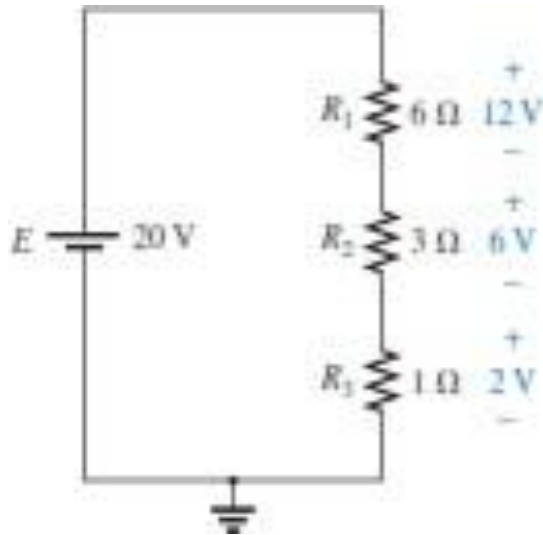
d.  $P_{4\Omega} = \frac{V_1^2}{R_1} = \frac{(8\text{ V})^2}{4} = \frac{64}{4} = 16\text{ W}$   
 $P_{6\Omega} = I^2R_2 = (2\text{ A})^2(6\ \Omega) = (4)(6) = 24\text{ W}$

e.  $P_E = EI = (20\text{ V})(2\text{ A}) = 40\text{ W}$   
 $P_E = P_{4\Omega} + P_{6\Omega}$   
 $40\text{ W} = 16\text{ W} + 24\text{ W}$   
 $40\text{ W} = 40\text{ W} \quad (\text{checks})$

f.  $\sum_C V = +E - V_1 - V_2 = 0$   
 $E = V_1 + V_2$   
 $20\text{ V} = 8\text{ V} + 12\text{ V}$   
 $20\text{ V} = 20\text{ V} \quad (\text{checks})$

# VOLTAGE DIVIDER RULE

*In a series circuit, the voltage across the resistive elements will divide as the magnitude of the resistance levels.*



$$R_T = R_1 + R_2$$

$$\text{and } I = \frac{E}{R_T}$$

$$V_x = \frac{R_x E}{R_T}$$

(voltage divider rule)

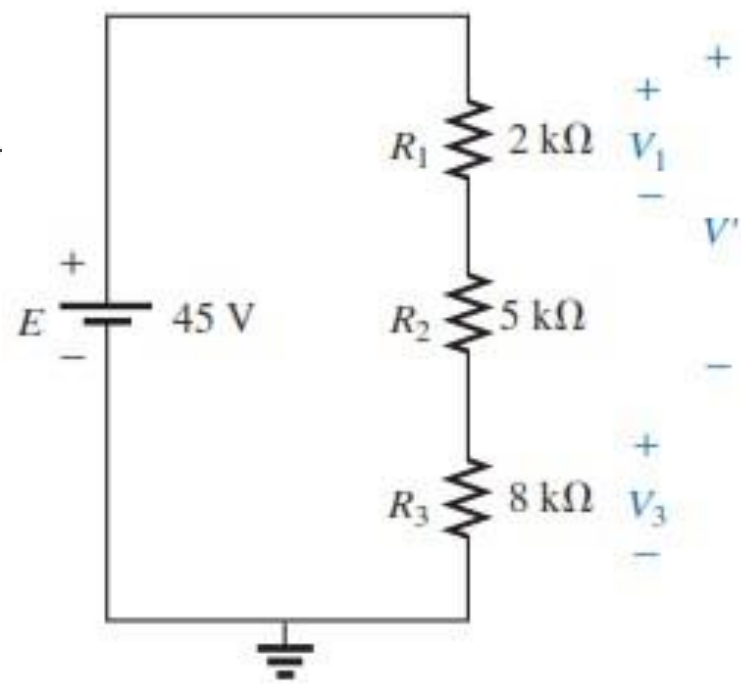
Applying Ohm's law:

$$V_1 = IR_1 = \left(\frac{E}{R_T}\right)R_1 = \frac{R_1 E}{R_T}$$

$$\text{with } V_2 = IR_2 = \left(\frac{E}{R_T}\right)R_2 = \frac{R_2 E}{R_T}$$

**EXAMPLE 2.6** Using the voltage divider rule, determine the voltages  $V_1$  and  $V_3$  for the series circuit shown.

$$\begin{aligned} V_1 &= \frac{R_1 E}{R_T} = \frac{(2 \text{ k}\Omega)(45 \text{ V})}{2 \text{ k}\Omega + 5 \text{ k}\Omega + 8 \text{ k}\Omega} = \frac{(2 \text{ k}\Omega)(45 \text{ V})}{15 \text{ k}\Omega} \\ &= \frac{(2 \times 10^3 \Omega)(45 \text{ V})}{15 \times 10^3 \Omega} = \frac{90 \text{ V}}{15} = \mathbf{6 \text{ V}} \\ V_3 &= \frac{R_3 E}{R_T} = \frac{(8 \text{ k}\Omega)(45 \text{ V})}{15 \text{ k}\Omega} = \frac{(8 \times 10^3 \Omega)(45 \text{ V})}{15 \times 10^3 \Omega} \\ &= \frac{360 \text{ V}}{15} = \mathbf{24 \text{ V}} \end{aligned}$$



The rule can be extended to the voltage across two or more series elements if the resistance is expanded to include the total resistance of the series elements that the voltage is to be found across ( $R'$ ); that is,

$$V' = \frac{R' E}{R_T}$$

(volts)

**EXAMPLE 2.7** Design the voltage divider shown such that  $V_{R_1} = 4V_{R_2}$ .

The total resistance is defined by

$$R_T = \frac{E}{I} = \frac{20 \text{ V}}{4 \text{ mA}} = 5 \text{ k}\Omega$$

Since  $V_{R_1} = 4V_{R_2}$ ,

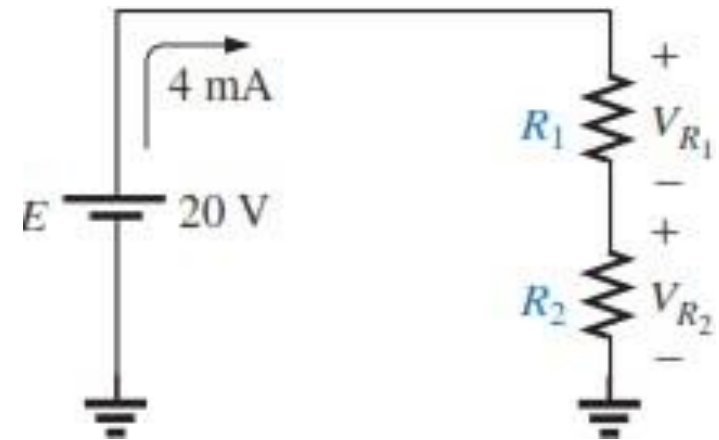
$$R_1 = 4R_2$$

Thus  $R_T = R_1 + R_2 = 4R_2 + R_2 = 5R_2$

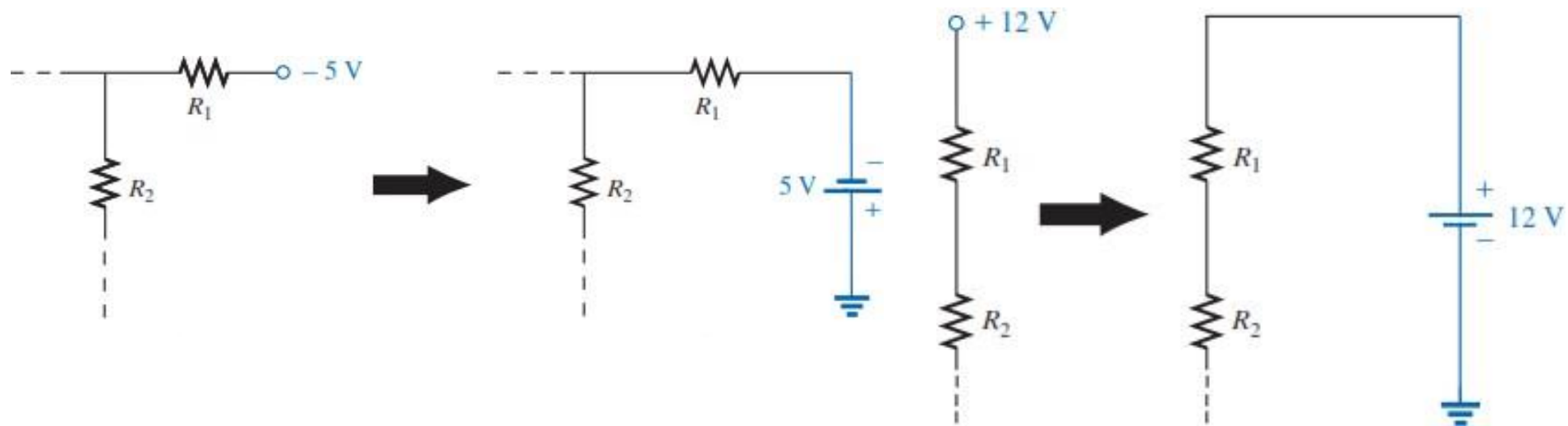
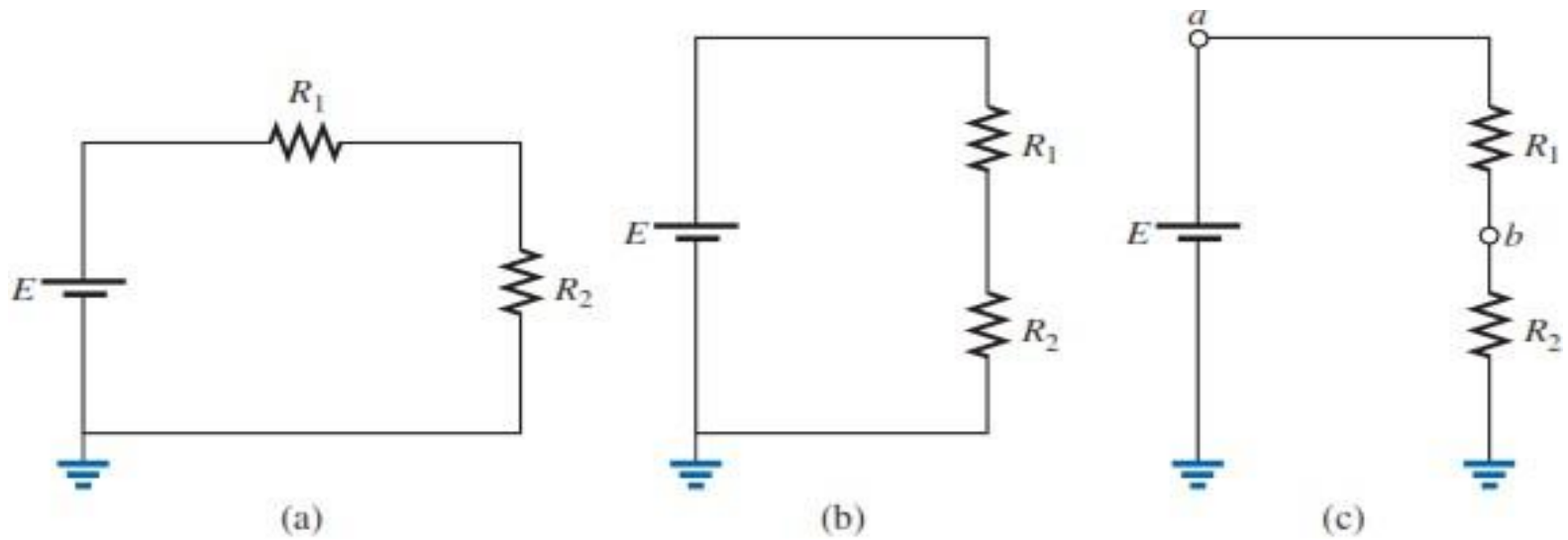
$$5R_2 = 5 \text{ k}\Omega$$

$$R_2 = \mathbf{1 \text{ k}\Omega}$$

$$R_1 = 4R_2 = \mathbf{4 \text{ k}\Omega}$$

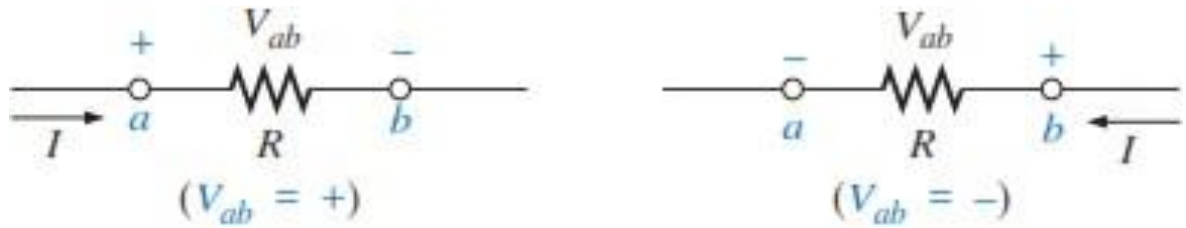


# Voltage Sources and Ground



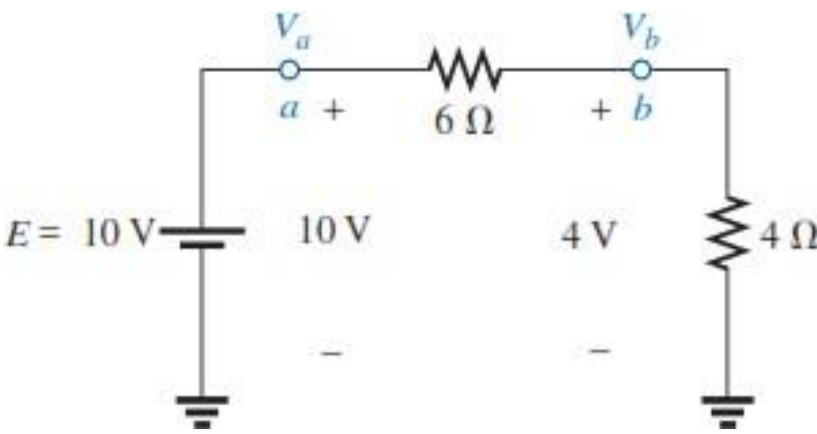
# Double-Subscript Notation

The two points that define the voltage across the resistor  $R$  are denoted by  $a$  and  $b$ . Since  $a$  is the first subscript for  $V_{ab}$ , point  $a$  must have a higher potential than point  $b$  if  $V_{ab}$  is to have a positive value. If, in fact, point  $b$  is at a higher potential than point  $a$ ,  $V_{ab}$  will have a negative value, as indicated in Figure.



# Single-Subscript Notation

If point  $b$  of the notation  $V_{ab}$  is specified as ground potential (zero volts), then a single-subscript notation can be employed that provides the voltage at a point with respect to ground.



$$V_{ab} = V_a - V_b$$

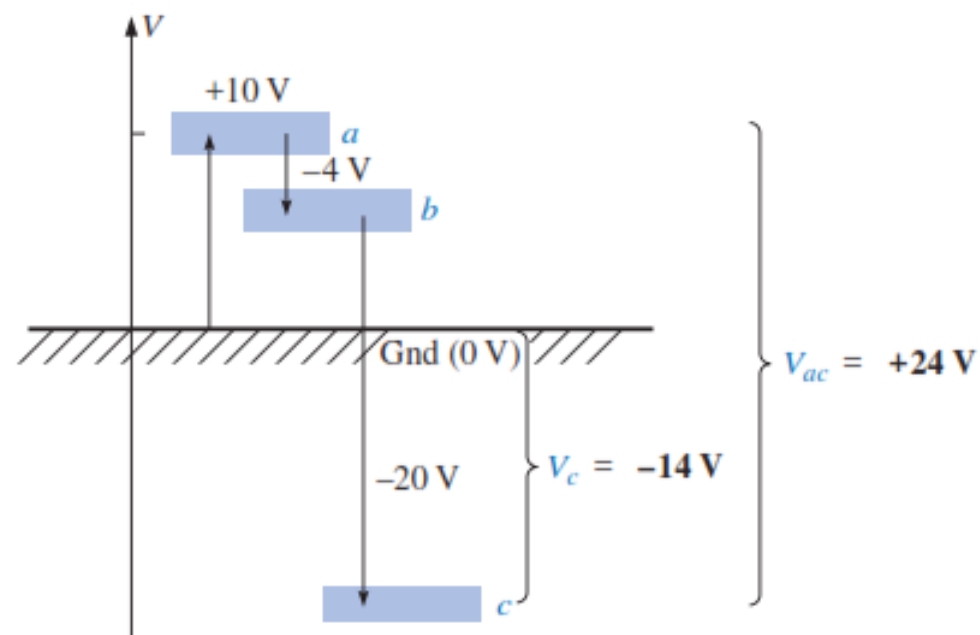
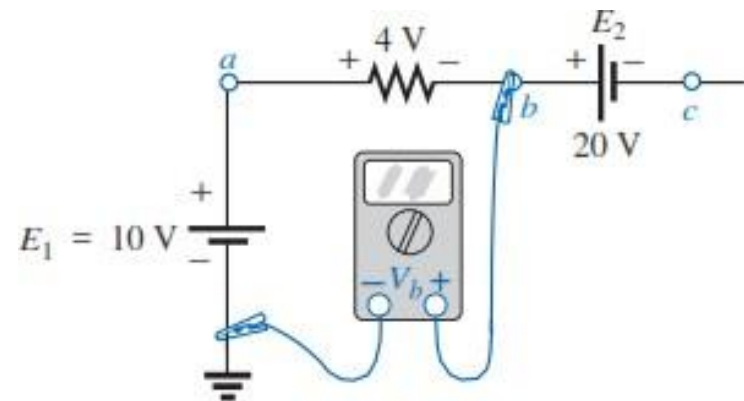
$$V_{ab} = V_a - V_b = 10\text{ V} - 4\text{ V} = 6\text{ V}$$

**EXAMPLE 2.8** Find the voltages  $V_b$ ,  $V_c$ , and  $V_{ac}$  for the network shown.

$$V_b = +10\text{ V} - 4\text{ V} = \mathbf{6\text{ V}}$$

$$V_c = V_b - 20\text{ V} = 6\text{ V} - 20\text{ V} = \mathbf{-14\text{ V}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} V_{ac} &= V_a - V_c = 10\text{ V} - (-14\text{ V}) \\ &= \mathbf{24\text{ V}} \end{aligned}$$



**EXAMPLE 2.9** Determine  $V_{ab}$ ,  $V_{cb}$ , and  $V_c$  for the network shown.

Note that there is a 54-V drop across the series resistors  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ . The current can then be determined using Ohm's Law and the voltage levels as follows:

$$I = \frac{54 \text{ V}}{45 \text{ } \Omega} = 1.2 \text{ A}$$

$$V_{ab} = IR_2 = (1.2 \text{ A})(25 \text{ } \Omega) = \mathbf{30 \text{ V}}$$

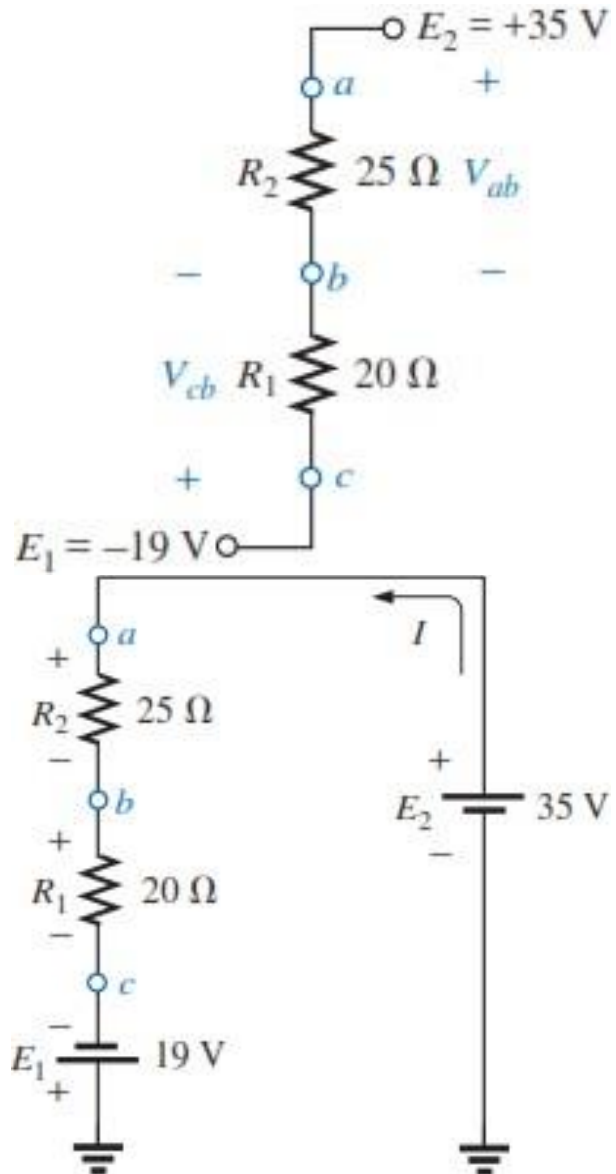
$$V_{cb} = -IR_1 = -(1.2 \text{ A})(20 \text{ } \Omega) = \mathbf{-24 \text{ V}}$$

$$V_c = E_1 = \mathbf{-19 \text{ V}}$$

The other approach is to redraw the network as shown to clearly establish the aiding effect of  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  and then solve the resulting series circuit.

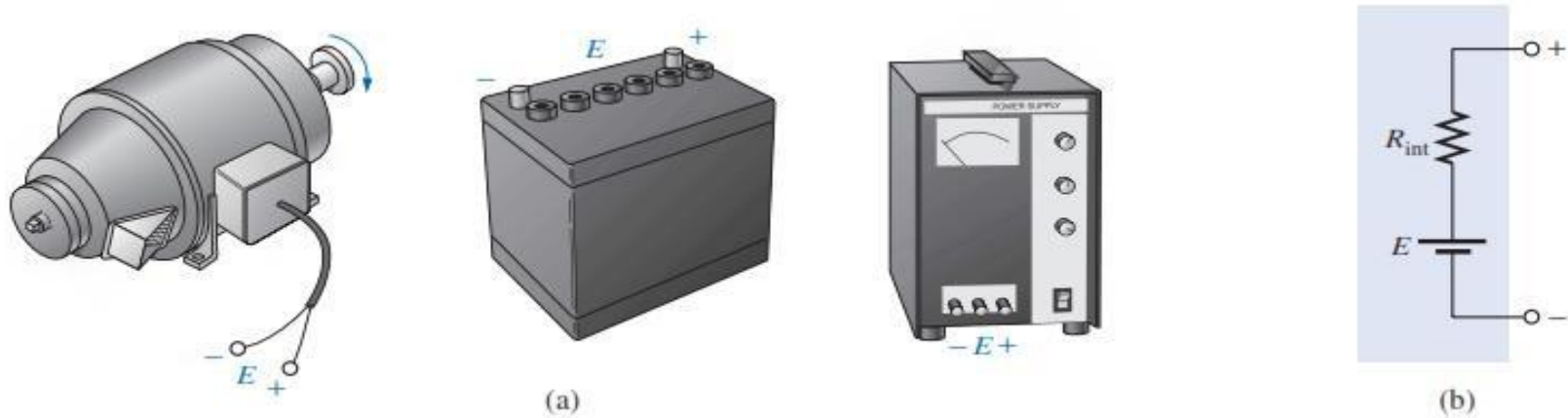
$$I = \frac{E_1 + E_2}{R_T} = \frac{19 \text{ V} + 35 \text{ V}}{45 \text{ } \Omega} = \frac{54 \text{ V}}{45 \text{ } \Omega} = 1.2 \text{ A}$$

$$V_{ab} = \mathbf{30 \text{ V}} \qquad V_{cb} = \mathbf{-24 \text{ V}} \qquad V_c = \mathbf{-19 \text{ V}}$$

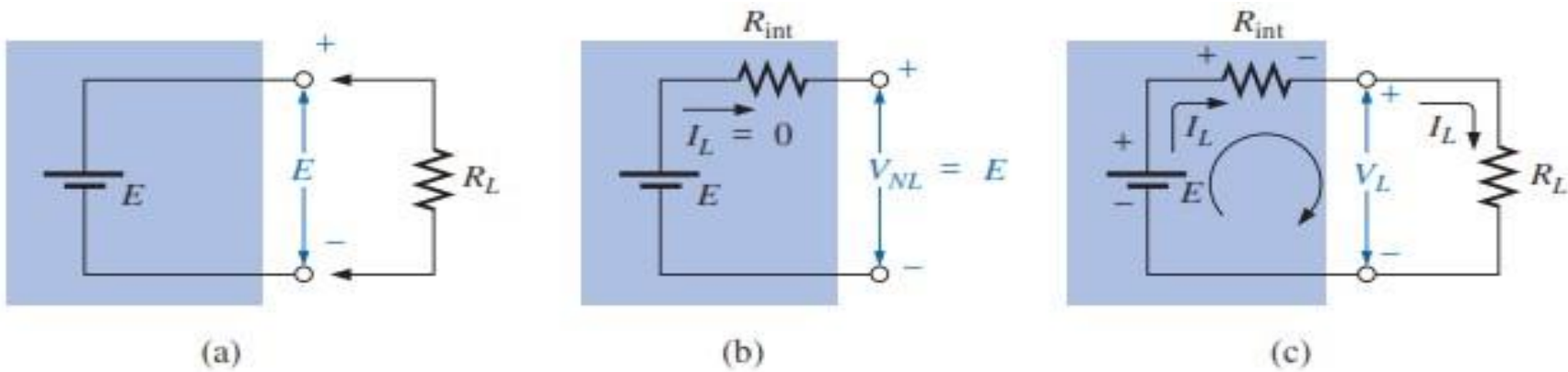




# INTERNAL RESISTANCE OF VOLTAGE SOURCES



(a) Sources of dc voltage; (b) equivalent circuit.



Voltage source: (a) ideal,  $R_{int} = 0 \Omega$ ; (b) determining  $V_{NL}$ ; (c) determining  $R_{int}$ .

$$V_L = V_{NL} - I_L R_{int}$$

$$R_{int} = \frac{V_{NL}}{I_L} - R_L$$

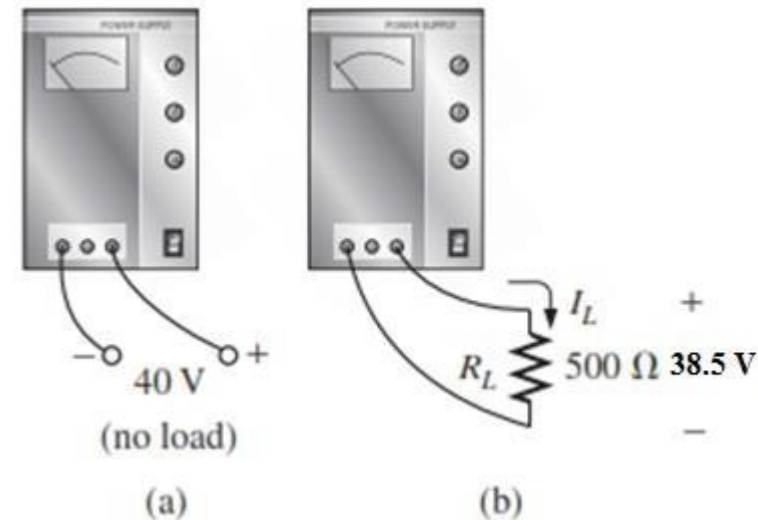
**EXAMPLE 2.10** Before a load is applied, the terminal voltage of the power supply of Fig.(a) is set to 40 V. When a load of 500Ω is attached, as shown in Fig. (b), the terminal voltage drops to 38.5 V. What happened to the remainder of the no-load voltage, and what is the internal resistance of the source?

The difference of 40 V - 38.5 V = 1.5 V now appears across the internal resistance of the source. The load current is

$$38.5 \text{ V} / 0.5 \text{ k} = 77 \text{ mA}.$$

$$R_{\text{int}} = \frac{V_{NL}}{I_L} - R_L = \frac{40 \text{ V}}{77 \text{ mA}} - 0.5 \text{ k}\Omega$$

$$= 519.48 \Omega - 500 \Omega = \mathbf{19.48 \Omega}$$

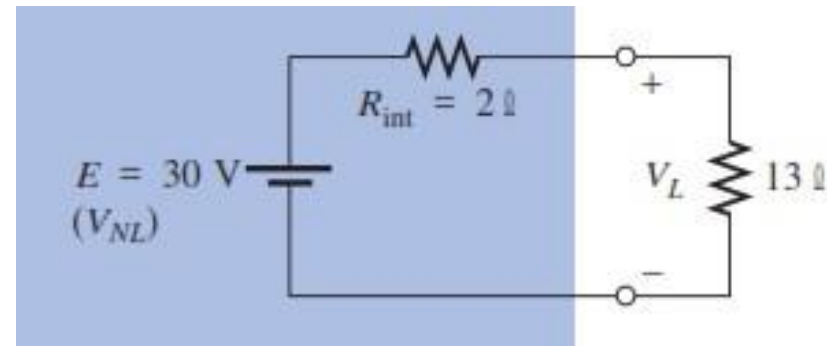


**EXAMPLE 2.11** The battery of Fig. shown has an internal resistance of 2Ω . Find the voltage  $V_L$  and the power lost to the internal resistance if the applied load is a 13-Ω resistor.

$$I_L = \frac{30 \text{ V}}{2 \Omega + 13 \Omega} = \frac{30 \text{ V}}{15 \Omega} = 2 \text{ A}$$

$$V_L = V_{NL} - I_L R_{\text{int}} = 30 \text{ V} - (2 \text{ A})(2 \Omega) = \mathbf{26 \text{ V}}$$

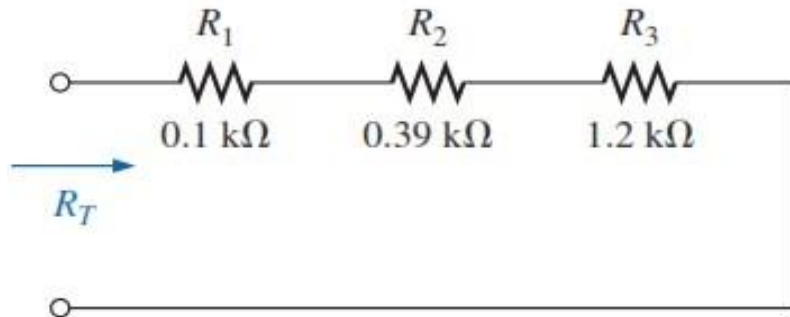
$$P_{\text{lost}} = I_L^2 R_{\text{int}} = (2 \text{ A})^2 (2 \Omega) = (4)(2) = \mathbf{8 \text{ W}}$$



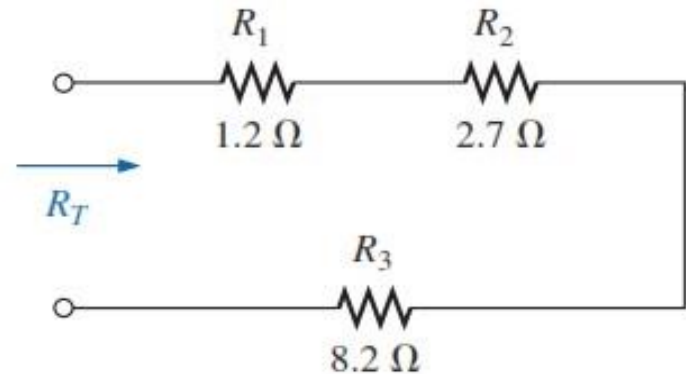
# PROBLEMS

## SECTION 5.2 Series Resistors

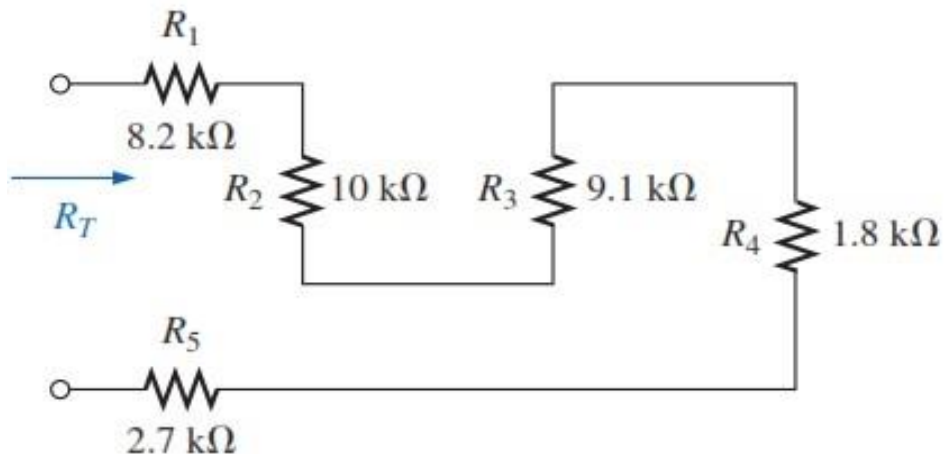
2. Find the total resistance  $R_T$  for each circuit shown.



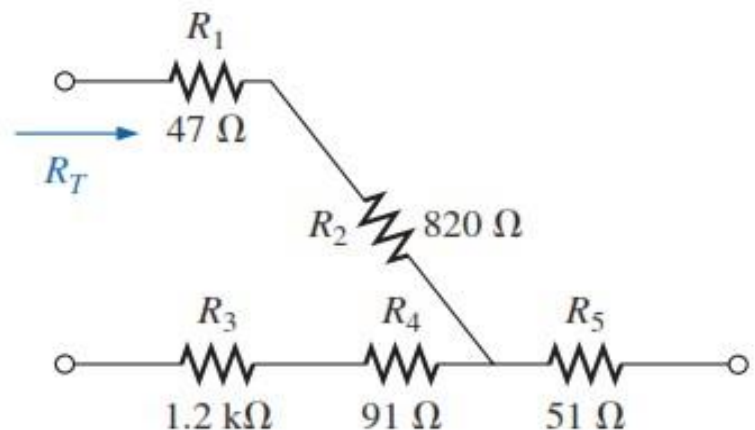
(a)



(b)

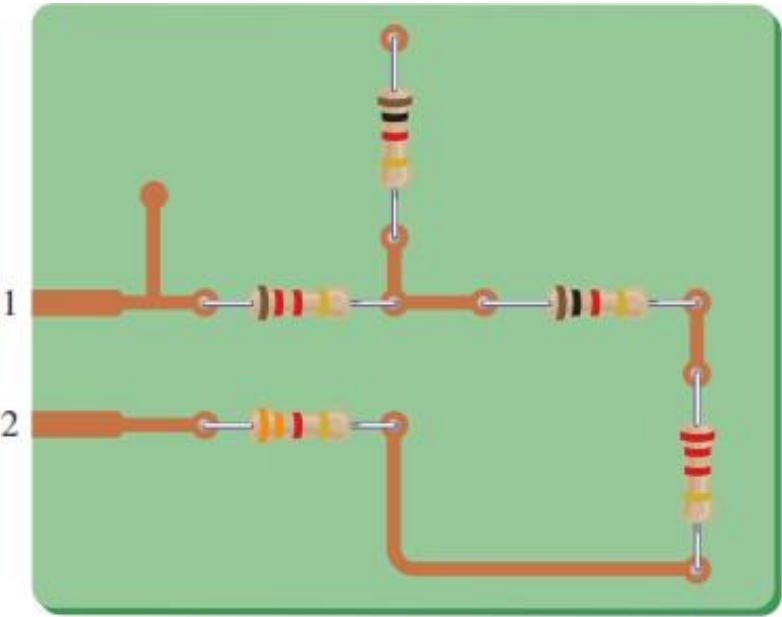


(c)

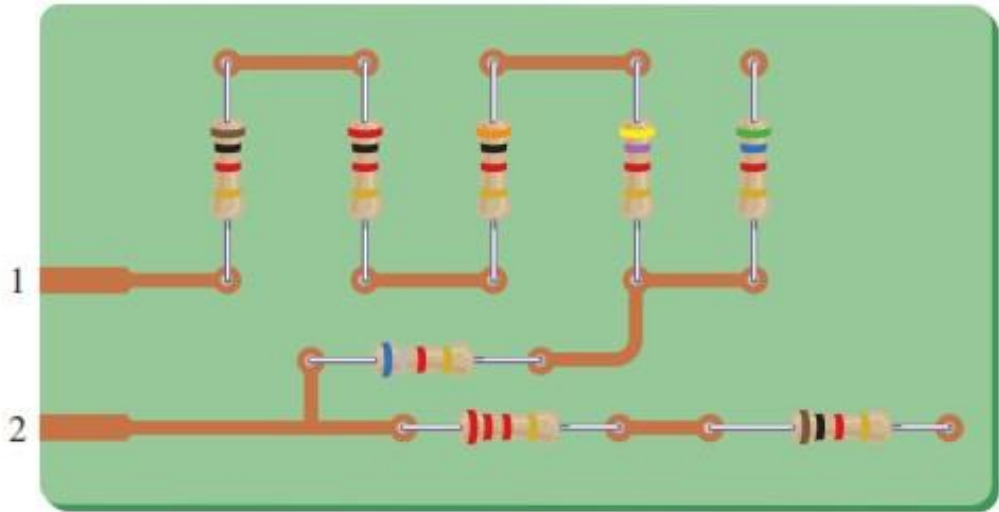


(d)

3. For each circuit board in Fig., find the total resistance between connection tabs 1 and 2.



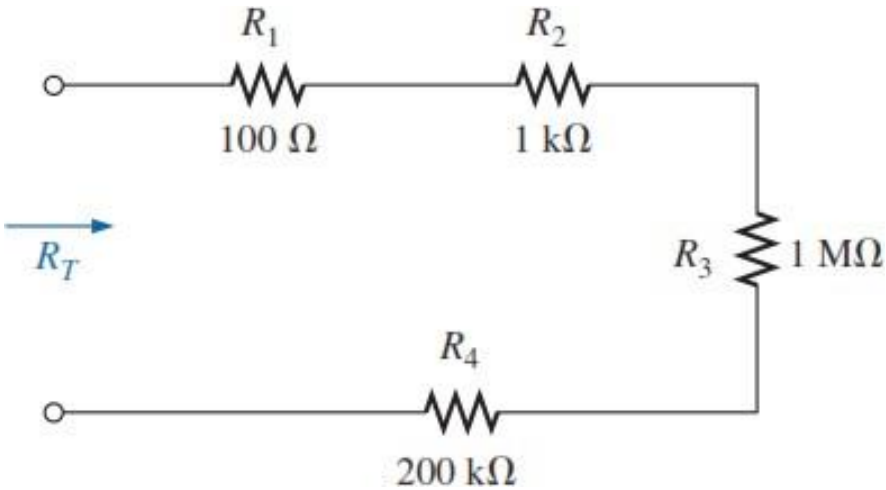
(a)



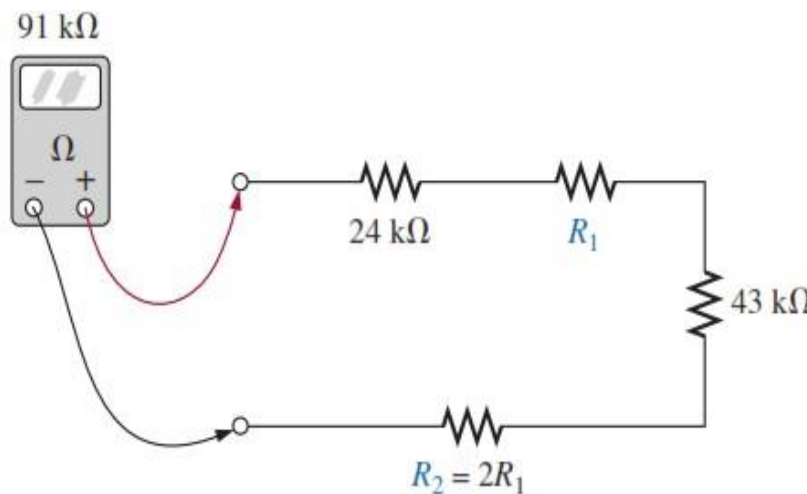
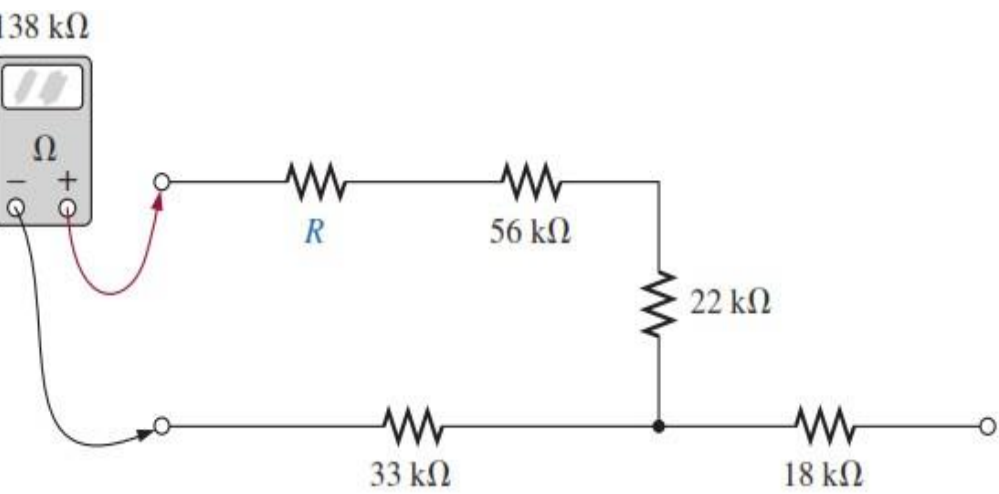
(b)

4. For the circuit in Fig., composed of standard values:

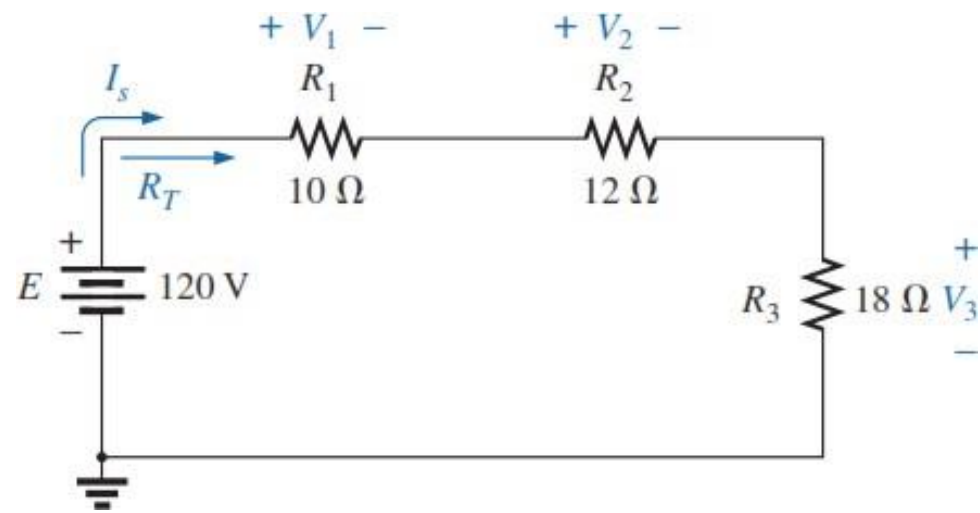
- a. Which resistor will have the most impact on the total resistance?
- b. On an approximate basis, which resistors can be ignored when determining the total resistance?
- c. Find the total resistance, and comment on your results for parts (a) and (b).



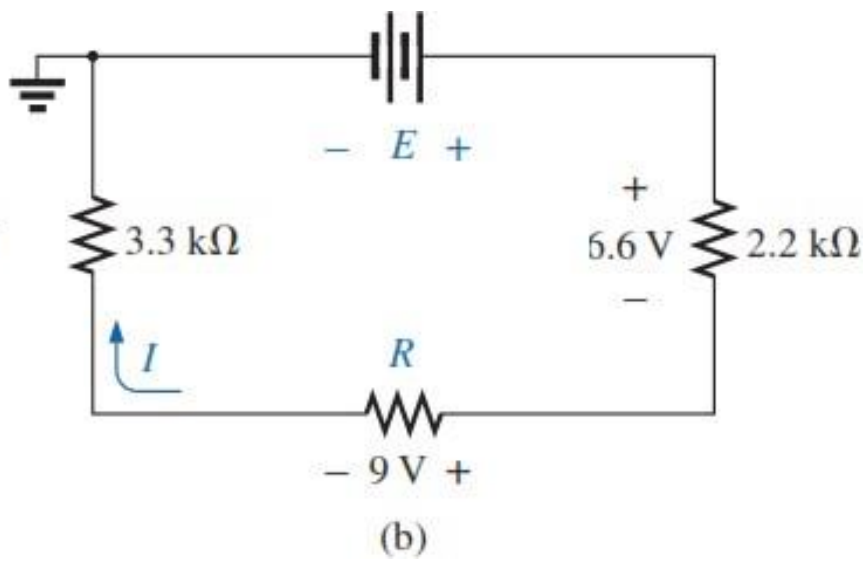
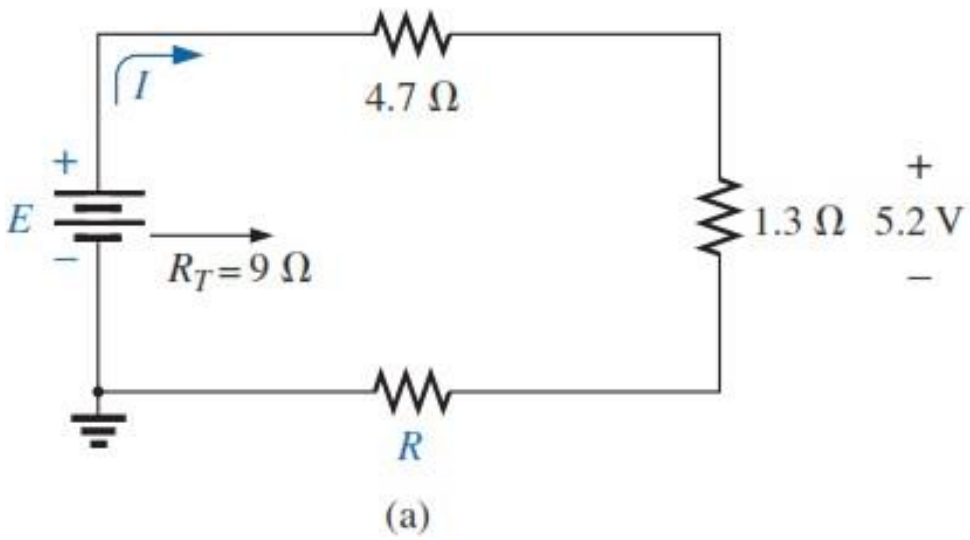
5. For each configuration in Fig., find the unknown resistors using the ohmmeter reading.



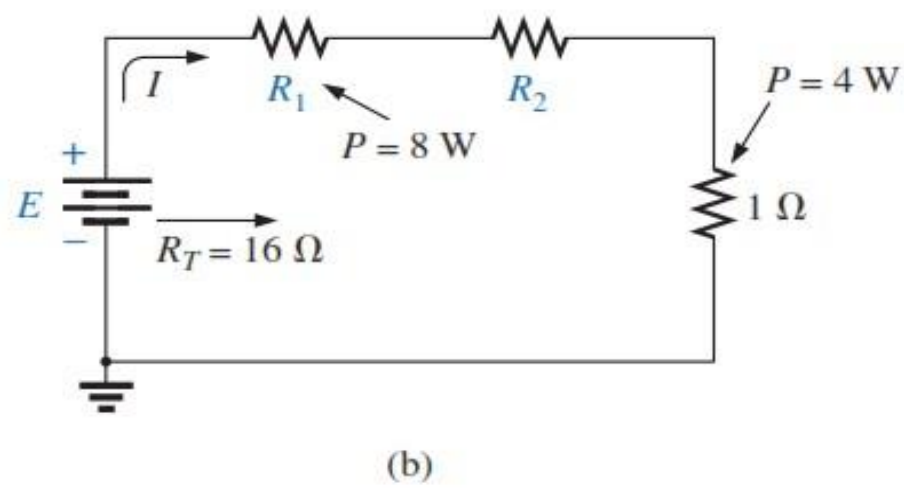
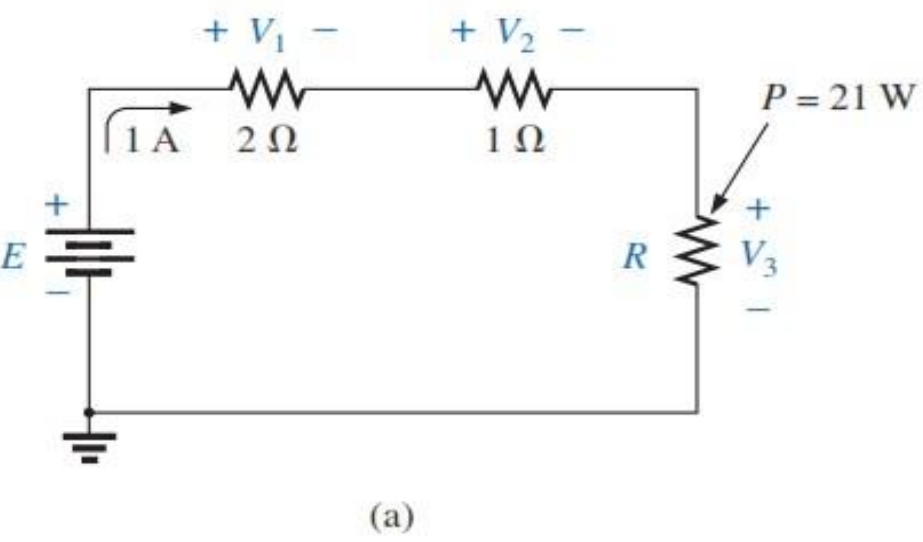
7. For the series configuration in Fig.:
- Find the total resistance.
  - Calculate the current.
  - Find the voltage across each resistive element.



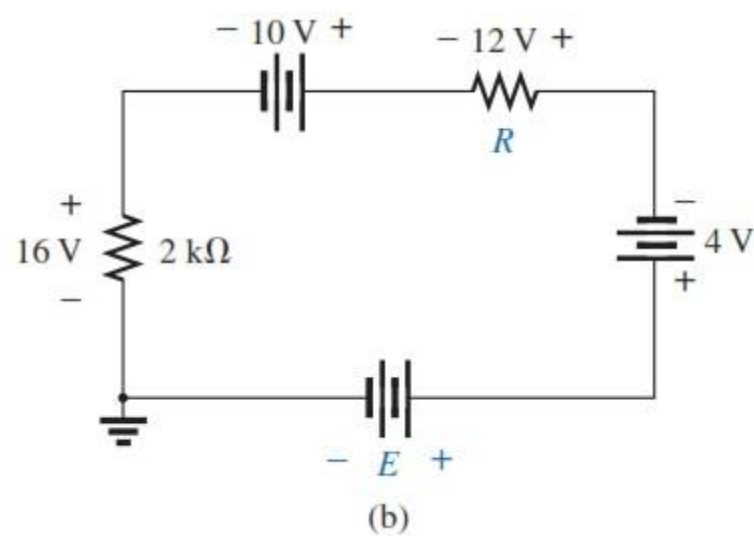
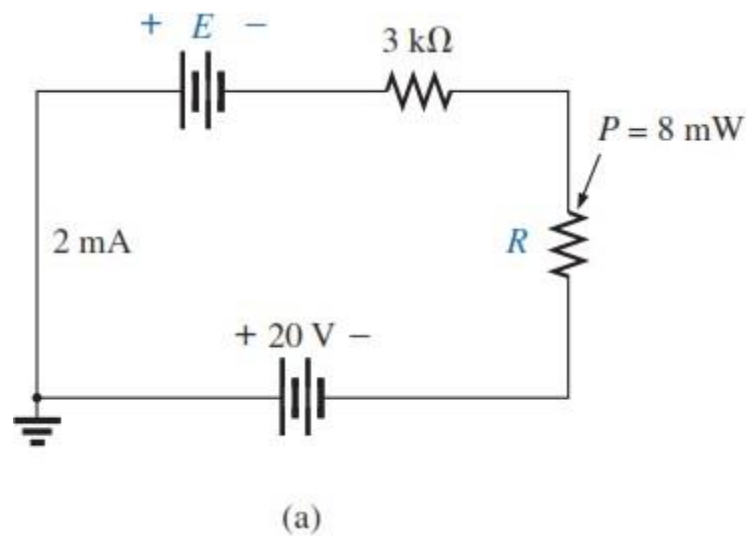
**10.** For each network in Fig. , constructed of standard values, determine:  
a. The current  $I$ . b. The source voltage  $E$ . c. The unknown resistance. d. The voltage across each element.



**14.** Find the unknown quantities for the circuits in Fig. using the information provided.

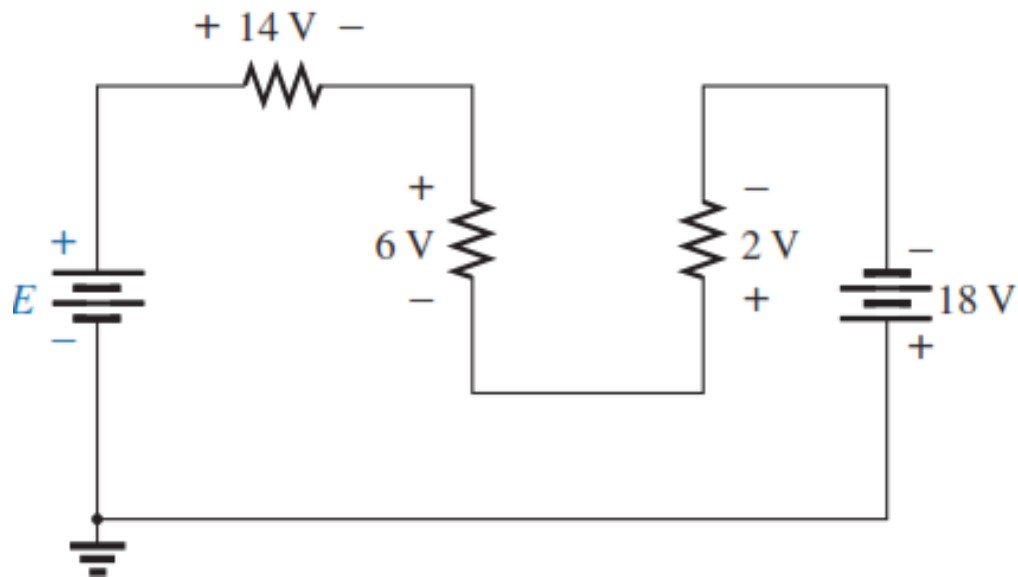


19. Find the unknown voltage source and resistor for the networks in Fig. First combine the series voltage sources into a single source. Indicate the direction of the resulting current.

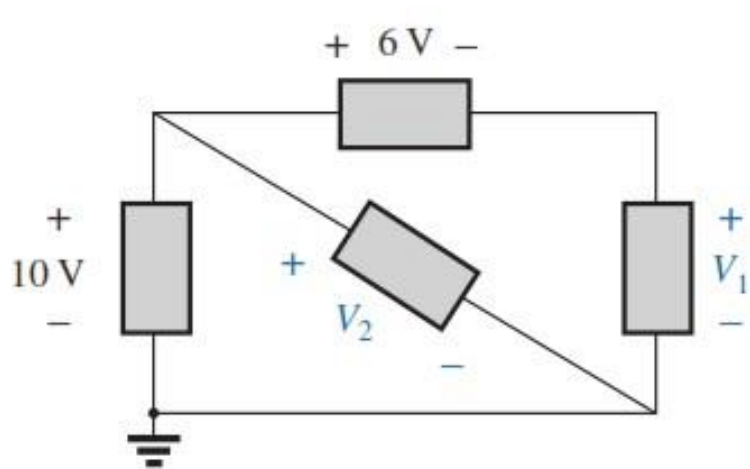


### SECTION 5.6 Kirchhoff’s Voltage Law

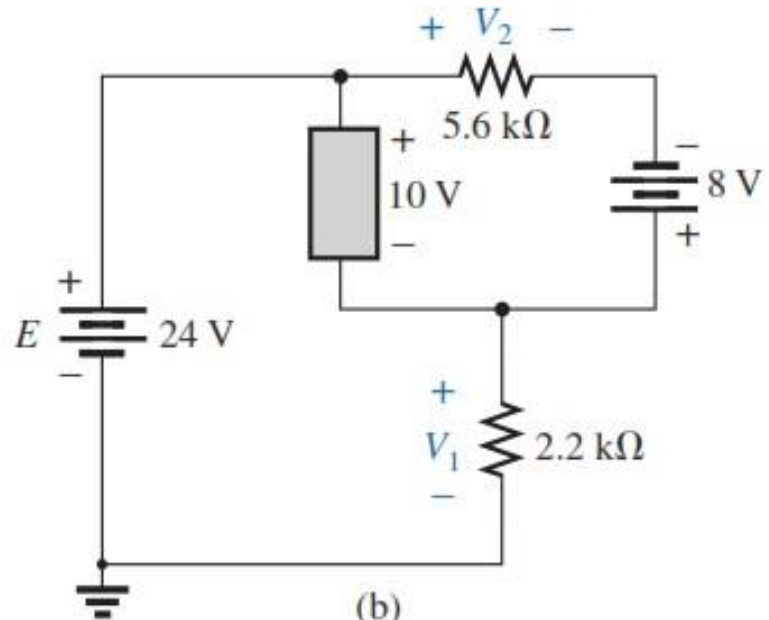
20. Using Kirchhoff’s voltage law, find the unknown voltages for the circuit shown.



22. Using Kirchhoff's voltage law, determine the unknown voltages for the series circuits shown.



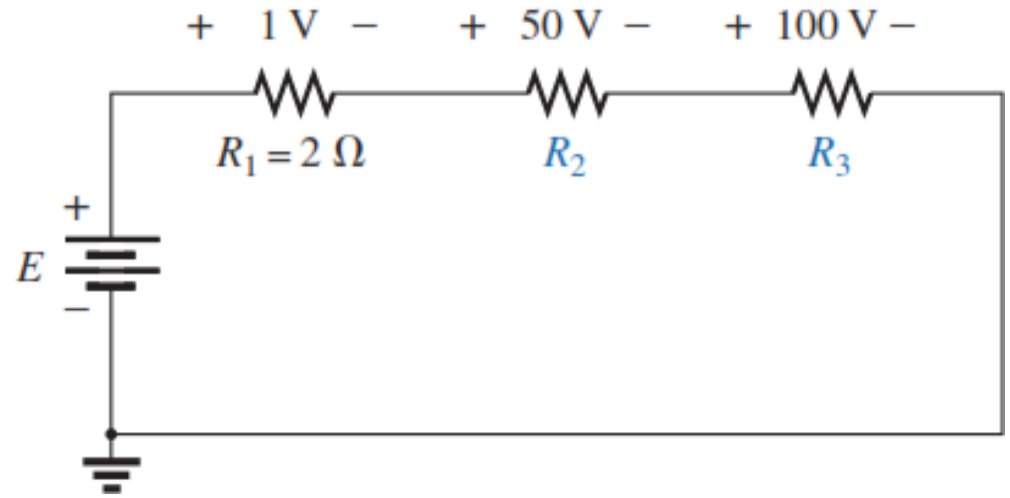
(a)



(b)

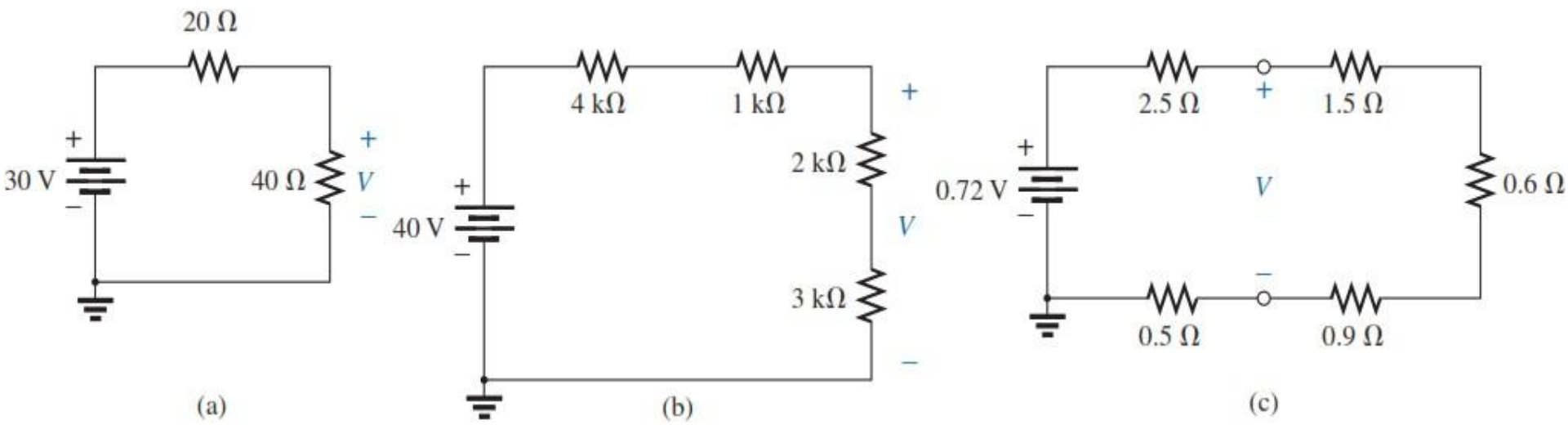
SECTION 5.7 Voltage Division in a Series Circuit

24. Determine the values of the unknown resistors in Fig. using the provided voltage levels.

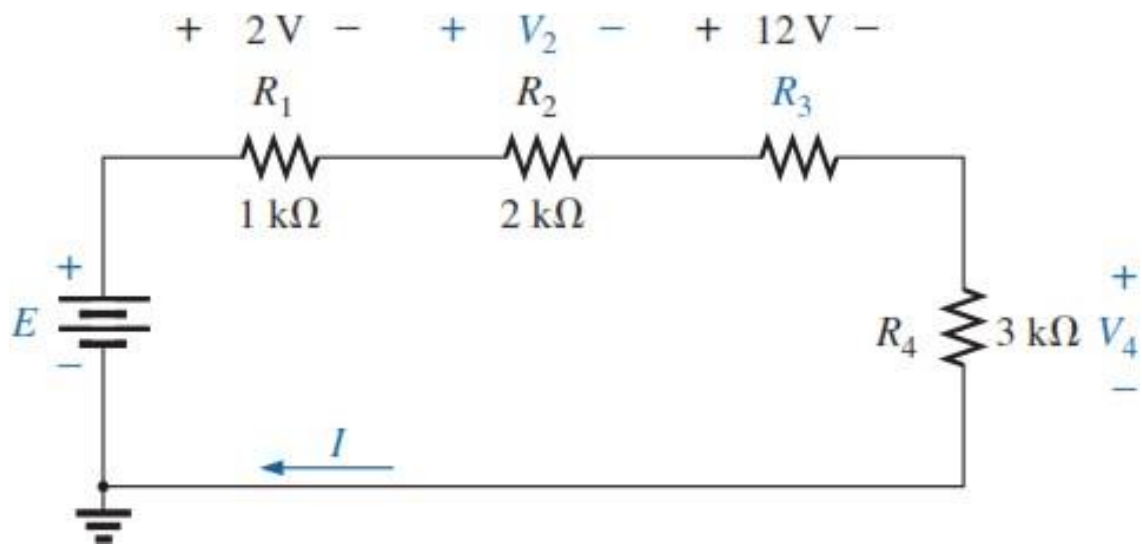




26. Using the voltage divider rule, find the indicated voltages in Fig.

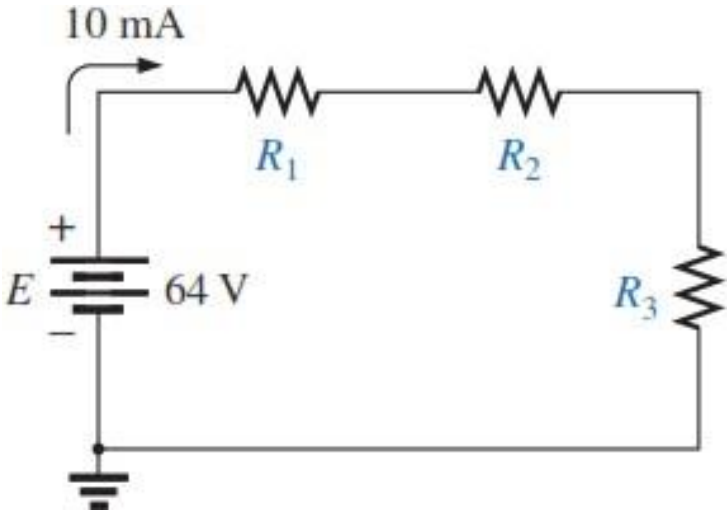


28. Using the information provided, find the unknown quantities of Fig.



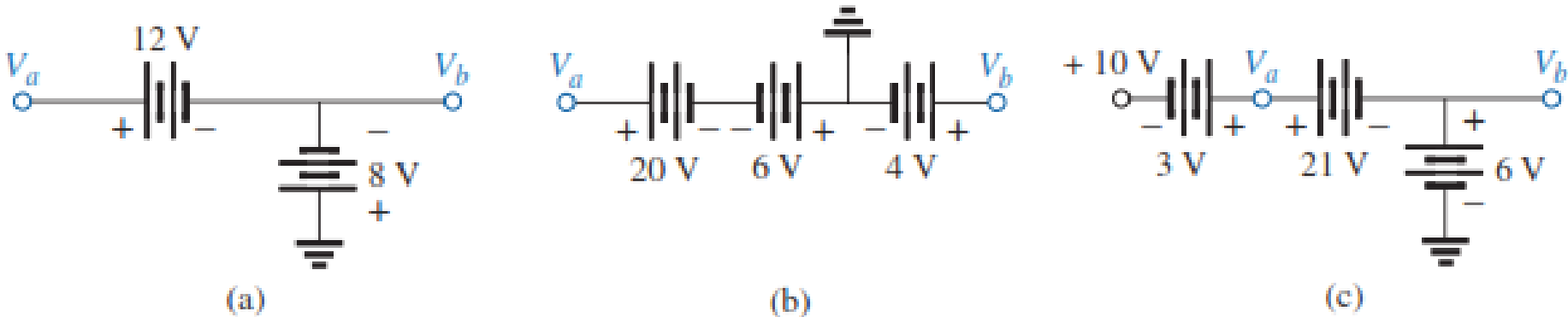
**31.** Design a voltage divider circuit that will permit the use of an 8 V, 50 mA bulb in an automobile with a 12 V electrical system.

- 34.** a. Design the circuit in Fig. such that  $V_{R2} = 3V_{R1}$  and  $V_{R3} = 4V_{R2}$ .  
 b. If the current is reduced to 10 mA, what are the new values  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ , and  $R_3$ ? How do they compare to the results of part (a)?



**SECTION 5.9 Notation**

**35.** Determine the voltages  $V_a$ ,  $V_b$ , and  $V_{ab}$  for the networks shown

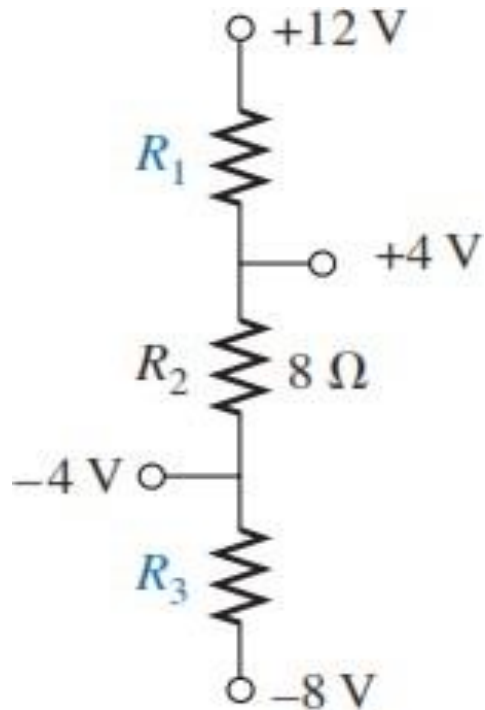
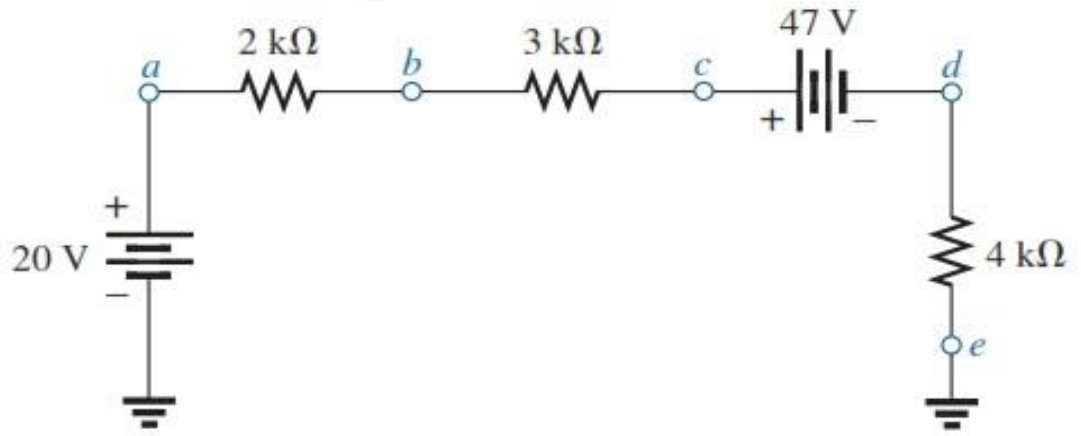


38. For the network in Fig. determine the voltages:

a.  $V_a, V_b, V_c, V_d, V_e$

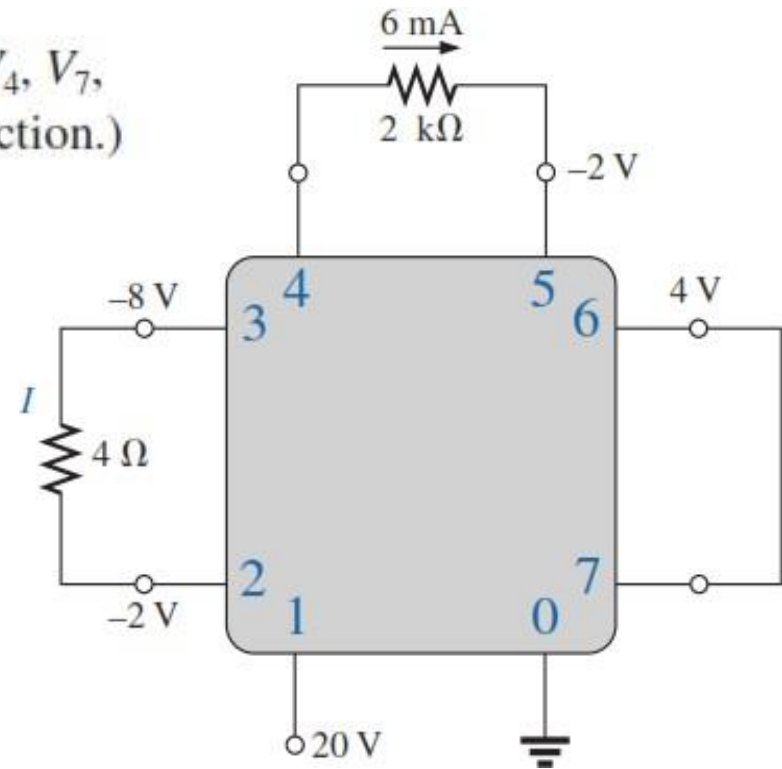
b.  $V_{ab}, V_{dc}, V_{cb}$

c.  $V_{ac}, V_{db}$



39. Given the information appearing in Fig., find the level of resistance for  $R_1$  and  $R_3$ .

42. For the integrated circuit in Fig , determine  $V_0$ ,  $V_4$ ,  $V_7$ ,  $V_{10}$ ,  $V_{23}$ ,  $V_{30}$ ,  $V_{67}$ ,  $V_{56}$ , and  $I$  (magnitude and direction.)



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*Thank you very much*

