## **Potential Dividers**

- 1. Three resistors are connected to a 12V battery as shown.
  - (a) What is the equivalent resistance of the two  $200\Omega$  resistors in parallel?
  - (b) What is the voltage between A and B?
  - (c) What is the voltage across the  $300\Omega$  resistor?

(100Ω, 3V, 9V)

- 2. The voltmeter in this circuit reads 6.2V.
  - (a) What is the voltage across the  $10k\Omega$  resistor?
  - (b) What is the resistance of the resistor R?

(2.8V, 22kΩ)



3. In this circuit, what is the ratio of:

(a) 
$$\frac{I_1}{I_2}$$
  
(b)  $\frac{V_1}{V_2}$ 



 $40\Omega \qquad \lor V_1$   $30\Omega \qquad 60\Omega \qquad \lor V_2$   $I_1 \qquad I_2 \qquad \lor$ 



- (a) What is the voltage between A & C?
- (b) What is the voltage between B & D?
- (c) What would a voltmeter read if connected between A & B?

(8V, 6V, 2V)



5. Three resistors, of resistance  $47\Omega$ ,  $100\Omega$  and  $150\Omega$  are connected to a battery as shown. A voltmeter connected across the battery reads 5.7V.

## Calculate

- (a) the resistance of the circuit between B and C.  $(60\Omega)$
- (b) the voltage between A & B and between B & C. (2.5V, 3.2V)
- (c) the current through the  $47\Omega$  resistor, the  $100\Omega$  resistor and the  $150\Omega$  resistor. (53mA, 32mA, 21mA)
- 6. A series circuit is connected as shown in the diagram.
  - (a) What is the potential difference between A and B?
  - (b) An additional resistor of  $100\Omega$  is connected between the 50 $\Omega$  resistor and the cells. What is the voltage between A and B now?
  - (c) The additional  $100 \Omega$  resistor is now connected in parallel with the first  $100\Omega$  resistor. What is the voltage between A and B now?

(4V, 2.4V, 3V)

7. The resistance of a light dependent resistor (LDR) decreases as the light intensity increases.

An LDR is connected in series with a  $6.0k\Omega$  resistor as part of a light level sensor circuit.

- (a) What is the output voltage *V*, when the resistance of the LDR is
  - (i)  $6.0k\Omega$  (in the dark)
  - (ii)  $3.0k\Omega$
  - (iii)  $2.0k\Omega$  (in the light)
- (4.5V, 3.0V, 2.25V)
- (b) How would you alter the circuit so that the output *V* increases with increasing light level?







- 8. A catalogue states that, when a particular light emitting diode (LED) is used with a 5V supply, a  $270\Omega$  resistor must be connected in series to limit the current to 10mA. Calculate:
  - (i) the voltage across the resistor,
  - (ii) the voltage across the LED,
  - (iii) the resistance of the LED in these conditions.

*(2.7V, 2.3V, 230Ω)* 

9. The resistance of a **thermistor** changes with temperature. The graph shows the characteristic of a thermistor.

(Note that the resistance scale is not linear – it is logarithmic.)



## thermistor characteristic curve

This thermistor is used with a  $10k\Omega$  resistor in a temperature sensor, in the circuit shown.

Calculate the output voltage  $V_{out}$  at:

- (i) 40°C,
- (ii) 80°C.

(3.0V, 5.9V)