

S1-3-13 Identify the five sources of electrical energy and some associated technologies. Include: chemical, photo, thermal, electromagnetic, piezo.

1. Chemical Potential Difference

- Caused by a <u>CHEMICAL REACTION</u> between an <u>ELECTROLYTE</u> and two <u>DIFFERENT</u> <u>ELECTRODES</u>.
- When we connect a wire between the <u>TERMINALS</u>, a <u>CURRENT</u> is produced.



2. Thermal Potential Difference:

- A potential difference can be created when you have a difference in <u>TEMPERATURE</u>.
 We can transform <u>HEAT ENERGY</u> into <u>ELECTRICAL</u> energy by using a <u>THERMOCOUPLE</u>.
- A <u>THERMOCOUPLE</u> is constructed with <u>TWO WIRES</u> of <u>DIFFERENT MATERIALS</u> attached at the ends (<u>JUNCTIONS</u>). When the junctions are at different <u>TEMPERATURES</u>, a <u>POTENTIAL DIFFERENCE</u> is created



3. Photoelectric Potential Difference:

- A special "cell" called a <u>PHOTOVOLTAIC CELL</u> (<u>SOLAR CELL</u>) converts <u>SOLAR ENERGY</u> into <u>ELECTRICAL ENERGY</u>.
- When <u>LIGHT</u> hits the cell, it "<u>EXCITES</u>" <u>ELECTRONS</u>, and they begin to <u>MOVE</u> between two materials, causing a <u>POTENTIAL</u> <u>DIFFERENCE</u>.
- Solar cells are used in <u>CALCULATORS</u>, <u>CARS</u>, <u>SATELLITES</u>, etc.





4. Piezoelectric Potential Difference:

- Certain <u>CRYSTALS</u> (<u>QUARTZ</u>) will produce a small amount of electrical energy when put under <u>PRESSURE</u> → <u>PIEZOELECTRIC</u> <u>EFFECT</u>.
- More <u>PRESSURE</u> = More <u>ENERGY</u> → If there is enough energy, a <u>SPARK</u> will be produced (Used in <u>BBQ LIGHTERS</u>.)
- When <u>ELECTRICAL</u> energy is <u>APPLIED</u> to this type of <u>CRYSTAL</u>, it <u>VIBRATES</u>. This is how <u>QUARTZ WATCHES</u> keep time.



2 properties of piezoelectric elements



5. Electromagnetic Potential Difference:

- A <u>MAGNET</u> can also be used to produce a electrical <u>CURRENT</u>. This is called <u>ELECTROMAGNETIC</u> INDUCTION.
- Moving a magnet through a <u>CONDUCTING</u> COIL forces <u>ELECTRONS</u> to <u>MOVE</u>, causing a <u>POTENTIAL DIFFERENCE</u>.







How a guitar pickup works