Name: Date: Score: / 8

Static Electricity: Learn and Practice

Why do balloons stick and hair stand up?

Read each question. Circle the best answer.

💡 Static Electricity

- Rubbing some objects together can give them an electric charge.
- Opposite charges attract, and like charges push apart.
- Static electricity can pull on things without touching them.
- rubbed balloon held near hair: hair lifts up toward it

1 You walk on carpet and touch a door handle. What is the tiny zap you feel?

A. Sound B. Sunlight C. Static electricity D. Magnetism

2 What do opposite electric charges do?

A. Make light B. Attract each other C. Cancel gravity D. Push each other away

3 Static electricity is made when some objects are...

A. Painted bright B. Frozen in ice C. Left in the dark D. Rubbed together

4 After you rub a balloon on your hair and hold it close, your hair...

A. Gets wet B. Lifts toward the balloon C. Falls out D. Turns green

5 A charged comb picks up tiny bits of paper. Did it need to touch them first?

A. Only in the dark B. Only if the paper is wet C. Yes, it must touch them D. No, it pulls from a gap

6 🎈 You rub a balloon on your hair. What can the balloon now do?

A. Melt away B. Stick to a wall C. Turn into water D. Change color

7 Which of these can cause static electricity?

A. Pulling off a wool sweater B. Eating an apple C. Reading a book D. Drinking a glass of milk

8 🎈 Two balloons are both rubbed on hair. When you hold them close, they...

A. Pop B. Push apart C. Stick together D. Turn into magnets

✏️ Explain it! Write two facts you learned about static electricity.

ANSWER KEY

Static Electricity: Learn and Practice (answers)

Why do balloons stick and hair stand up?

Read each question. Circle the best answer.

1 You walk on carpet and touch a door handle. What is the tiny zap you feel?

A. Sound B. Sunlight **C. Static electricity** D. Magnetism

Your feet rubbing the carpet built up a charge. The zap is that charge jumping to the handle.

2 What do opposite electric charges do?

A. Make light **B. Attract each other** C. Cancel gravity D. Push each other away

Opposite charges pull together. That is why a charged balloon sticks to your hair.

3 Static electricity is made when some objects are...

A. Painted bright B. Frozen in ice C. Left in the dark **D. Rubbed together**

Rubbing moves tiny charges from one object to another. That is how static builds up.

4 After you rub a balloon on your hair and hold it close, your hair...

A. Gets wet **B. Lifts toward the balloon** C. Falls out D. Turns green

Your hair and the balloon got opposite charges, and opposite charges pull toward each other.

5 A charged comb picks up tiny bits of paper. Did it need to touch them first?

A. Only in the dark B. Only if the paper is wet C. Yes, it must touch them **D. No, it pulls from a gap**

Electric forces can act across a small gap, so the comb pulls the paper without touching it.

6 🎈 You rub a balloon on your hair. What can the balloon now do?

A. Melt away **B. Stick to a wall** C. Turn into water D. Change color

Rubbing gives the balloon a static charge, and that charge can make it cling to a wall.

7 Which of these can cause static electricity?

A. Pulling off a wool sweater B. Eating an apple C. Reading a book D. Drinking a glass of milk

The sweater rubs against your hair and shirt, so charges build up. You may even hear small crackles!

8 🎈 Two balloons are both rubbed on hair. When you hold them close, they...

A. Pop **B. Push apart** C. Stick together D. Turn into magnets

Both balloons have the same kind of charge, and like charges push away from each other.