

Name: _____ Date: _____

Getting Ready to Read: *Blackout!*

1. Before reading the book *Blackout!*, read the sentences below.
2. If you agree with a sentence, write an “A” on the line before the sentence.
3. If you disagree with a sentence, write a “D” on the line before the sentence.
4. After you read the book, return to this page and read the sentences again. Decide whether your ideas have changed. Be ready to explain your thinking.

_____ In a blackout, lights do not work, but other electrical devices do.

_____ Blackouts can happen when people use a lot of electrical energy.

_____ Blackouts can last an hour or many days.

_____ Blackouts are always caused by bad weather.

_____ Every blackout is caused by failure of the electrical grid.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Reading Reflection: *Blackout!*

1. Read each question below.
2. Use what you read in *Blackout!* to answer each question.
3. Use evidence from the text to support your thinking.

What are some of the causes of blackouts?

How can a heat wave cause a blackout?

Choose one blackout that you read about. Record the title and page number below. Then, answer the question on the next page.

Article title: _____

Page: _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

Reading Reflection: *Blackout!* (continued)

What would you recommend the people who live in the area of the blackout do to prevent blackouts in the future? Why?

Make a drawing if it helps you explain your thinking. Label your drawing.



Name: _____ Date: _____

Multiple Meaning Words

Some words can mean more than one thing. For each word in the chart:

1. Read the sentence from *Blackout!* that uses the word.
2. Read the two meanings the word can have.
3. Decide which meaning the word has in the sentence from the book and circle that meaning in the table.

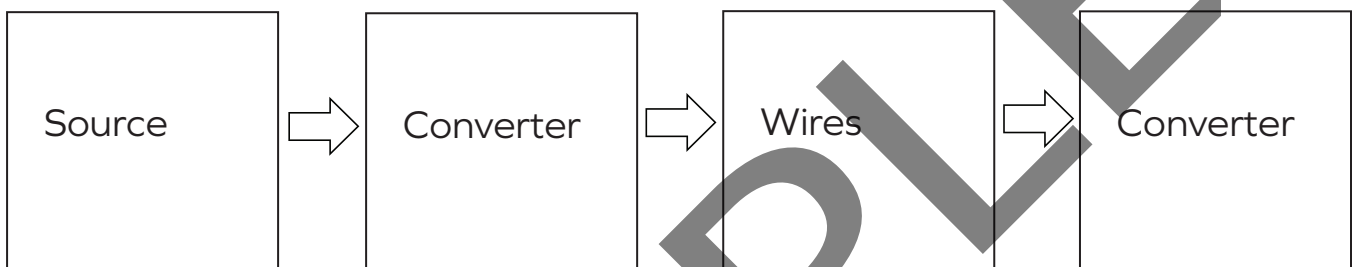
Word	Sentence from the book	Meaning 1	Meaning 2
article	This book is a collection of articles about failures in the electrical system.	a piece of writing on a subject that is included in a magazine, newspaper, etc.	an individual object (such as an article of clothing)
rolling	Heat Wave Leads to Rolling Blackouts.	to move on wheels	continuing in a series of stages
plant	Coal shortages have shut down several big power plants .	an herb or other small vegetable growth	a building or factory where something is made
power	Millions Without Power After Hurricane Sandy.	the ability to control people or things	to supply a device with electrical energy

Name: _____ Date: _____

Parts of the System That Failed: Simple Electrical System

1. Write about the simple electrical system that you observed. Which part or parts of the simple electrical system failed? Circle that part or parts.
2. Explain your response in the space below.
3. Explain what caused the system to function when you made a change.

Simple Electrical System



What evidence makes you think this?

What caused the system to function when you made a change?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Daily Written Reflection

Think of a system that includes these parts: the sun, a solar panel, wires, and a lamp. Describe two possible ways that you could make this system fail and explain why each failure would occur.

Make a drawing if it helps you explain your thinking. Label your drawing.



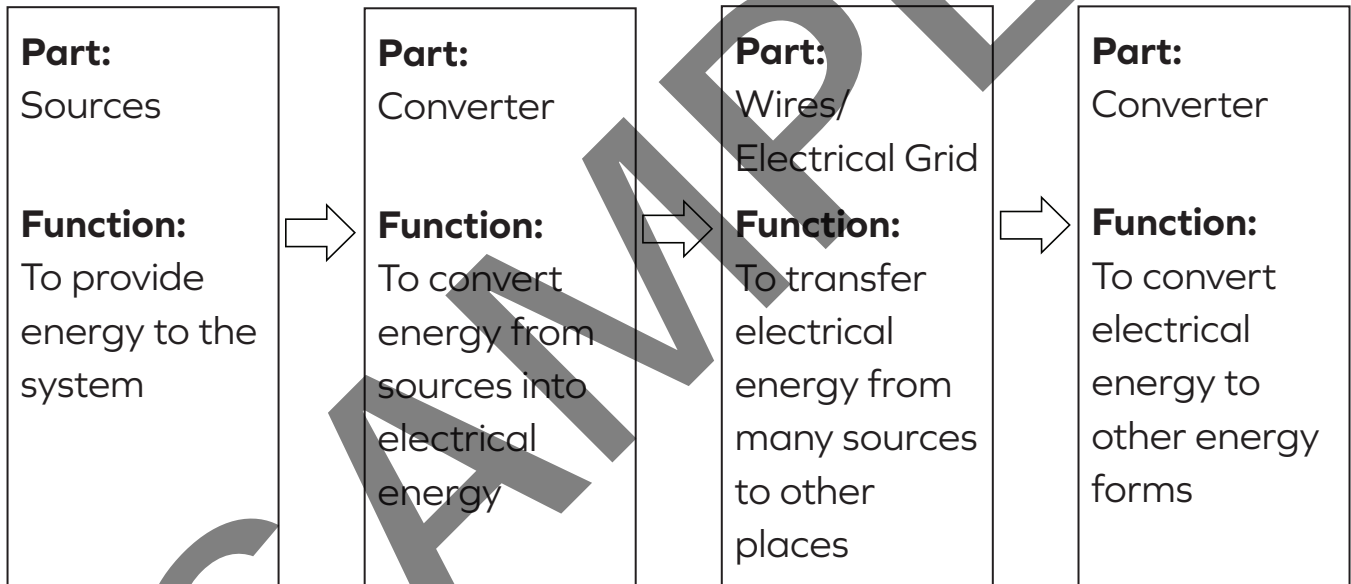
Name: _____ Date: _____

Parts of the System That Failed: *Blackout!*

1. On the line below, record the title of the article you read in *Blackout!*
2. Based on that article, which part or parts of the system failed? Circle that part or parts in the Electrical System below.
3. Explain your response in the space provided below.

Article Headline:

The Electrical System



What evidence did you see or read about in the article that makes you think this?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Synthesizing Ideas About System Failure

1. Read the question below. Talk about it with your group.
2. Record ideas from *Blackout!* and from other sources in the boxes below. If you use an idea from *Blackout!*, write the page number where you found that information.
3. Then, connect the ideas together to answer the question. Write your new understanding in the box below the arrow.

Question: How might a system fail?

Idea:
Page:
Idea:
Page:
Idea:
Page:
Idea:
Page:



New understanding:

Name: _____ Date: _____

Reviewing Evidence

- Carefully examine each piece of evidence to try to find another possible cause of the blackouts in Ergstown.
- Record what you observe about each piece of evidence in the “What I observe” column.
- Synthesize what you observe with what you read in *Blackout!* in order to think about what the evidence means for Ergstown. Write your ideas about this in the third column.

Source of evidence	What I observe	Why might this evidence be important?
Ergstown Weather Report		
Ergstown Blackout Map		
Ergstown Regional Map		