

1. Current is defined as the amount of charge per unit time or $I = q / t$, so we can determine the amount of charge involved with a given current if we multiply both sides of the equation by t to get

$$q = I t$$

$$q = (1 \text{ A})(1 \text{ s})$$

One Ampere is defined as one Coulomb per second, so we have a charge of

$$q = (1 \text{ C} / \text{s})(1 \text{ s})$$

$$q = 1 \text{ C}$$

From Chapter 12 (see problem 1 for Chapter 12 on page 94 in this Study Guide) we know that one electron charge is equivalent to 1.6×10^{-19} Coulomb.

Multiplying both sides of the equation by one in the form $(1 \text{ electron charge}) / (1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C})$ gives

$$q = (1 \text{ C})(1 \text{ electron charge}) / (1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C})$$

$$\text{or } q = 6.25 \times 10^{18} \text{ electron charges}$$

This is a very large number of charges indicating that even a relatively modest current of one Ampere represents the motion of a very large number of individual charges.