

ENERGY Situation Cards

Computer Lab Left On During Breaks

In a school, the computer lab is used for one period before lunch. After the class leaves, computers, monitors, fans, and air-conditioners remain switched on for over an hour. Students assume the next class will use the lab soon, so no one switches anything off.

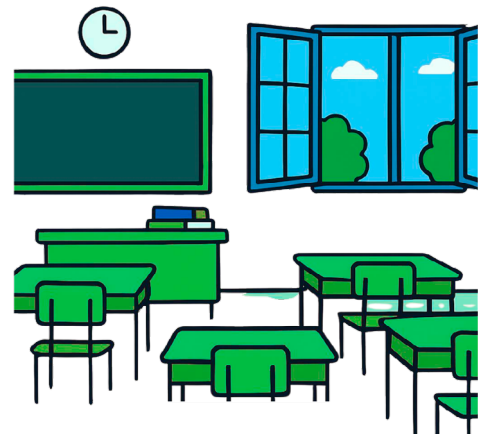


1. Who notices that the lab is empty but still using electricity?
2. Who can switch off computers and ACs during breaks?
3. Who pays for electricity used when no one is learning?
4. Who is affected if this happens every day?

Who controls the switch?

Using Natural Light in a Government School Classroom

In a government higher secondary school, classrooms have large windows and open corridors. During afternoon classes, students notice that enough sunlight enters the room. Instead of switching on tube lights, the class decides to keep lights off and use fans only when needed. The teacher supports this practice and reminds students to check lighting before turning switches on.



1. Who noticed that sunlight was enough and lights were not needed?
2. Who helped decide to keep the lights switched off?
3. Who saves electricity and school money because of this decision?
4. How does this habit help the school and environment over time?

Who controls the switch?

Empty Staffroom Using Power

In a school, the staffroom lights, fans, and phone chargers remain on even after teachers leave for the day. Since electricity bills are paid by the school, no one takes it seriously.



1. Who notices lights and fans left on in the empty staffroom?
2. Who is responsible for switching them off before leaving?
3. Who pays the electricity bill for unused power?
4. Who is affected when such waste becomes normal?



Who controls the switch?

Planned Pick-Up Time After School

In an urban private school, parents and van drivers used to wait for long periods after school hours with engines running. After repeated congestion and fuel use, parents coordinated different pick-up timings for different classes. As a result, vehicles arrive closer to dismissal time, engines are switched off while waiting, and students are picked up smoothly.



1. Who realised that long waiting time was wasting fuel?
2. Who coordinated different pick-up timings?
3. Who saves fuel and transport costs because of better planning?
4. Who benefits from less pollution around the school gate?

Who controls the switch?

Old Refrigerator in School Canteen

The school canteen uses an old refrigerator without any energy rating. It consumes high electricity and runs continuously, even when the canteen is closed for exams or holidays. The canteen operator delays replacement due to cost concerns.



1. Who notices that the refrigerator runs all the time?
2. Who can decide to repair or replace the old appliance?
3. Who pays higher electricity costs because of inefficiency?
4. Who is affected if inefficient appliances continue to be used?

Who controls the switch?

Overuse of School Lift

In a school building, students and staff frequently use the lift even to travel one floor. There are no clear rules on lift use. Electricity consumption and maintenance costs increase, but the expense is shared, so no one feels accountable.



1. Who notices the lift being used for short distances?
2. Who can make rules about lift usage?
3. Who pays for higher electricity and maintenance costs?
4. Who is affected if the lift is overused every day?

Who controls the switch?

End-of-Day Power Checklist

In a matriculation school, the management noticed that electricity bills were increasing. They introduced a simple checklist for the last teacher leaving each block. Lights, fans, projectors, computers, and water pumps are checked before locking classrooms. Teachers rotate this responsibility weekly, and students are also informed about the practice.



1. Who noticed that electricity was being wasted after school hours?
2. Who is responsible for checking and switching off appliances?
3. Who benefits from lower electricity bills due to this system?
4. How does this practice influence students' behaviour?

Who controls the switch?

Corridor and Staircase Lights Always On

In a large government school, corridor and staircase lights remain switched on throughout the day, even when there is enough daylight. The switches are poorly labelled, and wiring issues make it difficult to control individual lights. Complaints are raised, but repairs are delayed.

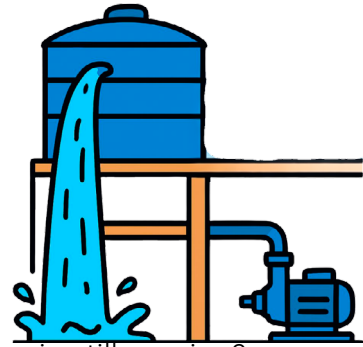


1. Who notices lights remaining on even during daylight?
2. Who can fix wiring or improve switch controls?
3. Who pays for electricity wasted due to poor maintenance?
4. Who is affected when repairs are delayed?

Who controls the switch?

Water Pump Running Longer Than Needed

The school uses an electric motor to fill the overhead water tank. There is no automatic cut-off, and the pump often runs even after the tank is full. Teachers assume the caretaker is monitoring it, while the caretaker assumes someone else will inform him.

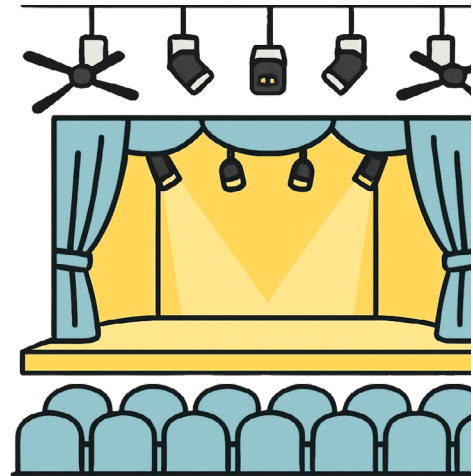


1. Who notices that the water tank is full but the pump is still running?
2. Who can switch off or automate the pump?
3. Who pays for electricity wasted by over-pumping?
4. Who is affected if water and energy are wasted daily?

Who controls the switch?

Energy Overuse During School Annual Day

During the school annual day in an urban Indian school, decorative lights, stage spotlights, LED screens, sound systems, and air-conditioners are switched on from early morning for rehearsals. Even during long gaps between practice sessions, all equipment remains running. After the event ends late in the evening, some lights and cooling systems continue to stay on because everyone is tired and assumes someone else will switch them off.



1. Who notices that lights, sound systems, and ACs are running even when not needed?
2. Who has the authority to decide when equipment should be switched on or off during rehearsals and breaks?
3. Who pays for the extra electricity used during the event?
4. Who is affected when large school events use more energy than necessary?

Who controls the switch?