Question #185

Shown in the picture below is a small portable AM radio that has been tuned between stations so that only a small amount of static is audible.

![Image of a small portable AM radio](image)

Gwen is going to hold a 9-volt battery, seen in the photograph, near the radio and use the attached clip lead to short out the battery, connecting and disconnecting the wire across the battery terminals. The question is what, if any, effect will be heard on the radio.

When the wire is connected across the battery and then disconnected,

- (a) you will hear a soft buzz during the time the wire is connected.
- (b) you will hear a loud whistle during the time the wire is connected.
- (c) you will hear a click when the battery is connected.
- (d) you will hear a click when the battery is disconnected.
- (e) you will hear a click when the battery is connected or disconnected.

Click here for Answer #185 after April 26, 2004.

---

For questions and comments regarding the Question of the Week contact Dr. Richard E. Berg by e-mail or using phone number or regular mail address given on the Lecture-Demonstration Home Page.