

Morse Code

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Signaling with Circuits

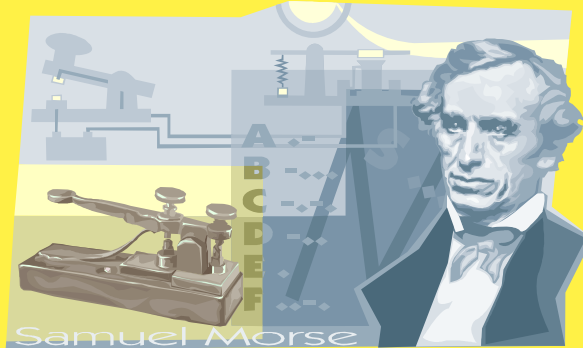
You can send signals with electrical circuits like this one. You can also send signals with flashlights. Which is best? Flashlights or circuits? Explain.



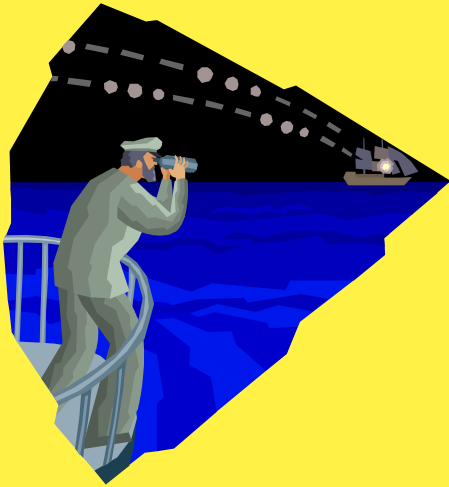
U.S. model J-38 Morse key was made in huge quantities during World War II

A Bit of History

Morse Code has been in use since the 1840s when American inventor Samuel Morse patented his first telegraph machine. Telegraph messages were sent over wires by tapping out sequences of long and short electrical pulses that stood for letters or numbers. The code was tapped out as breaks in the electrical circuit, which was then translated as a sequence of dots (called "dits"), dashes (called "dahs"), and spaces.



S O S

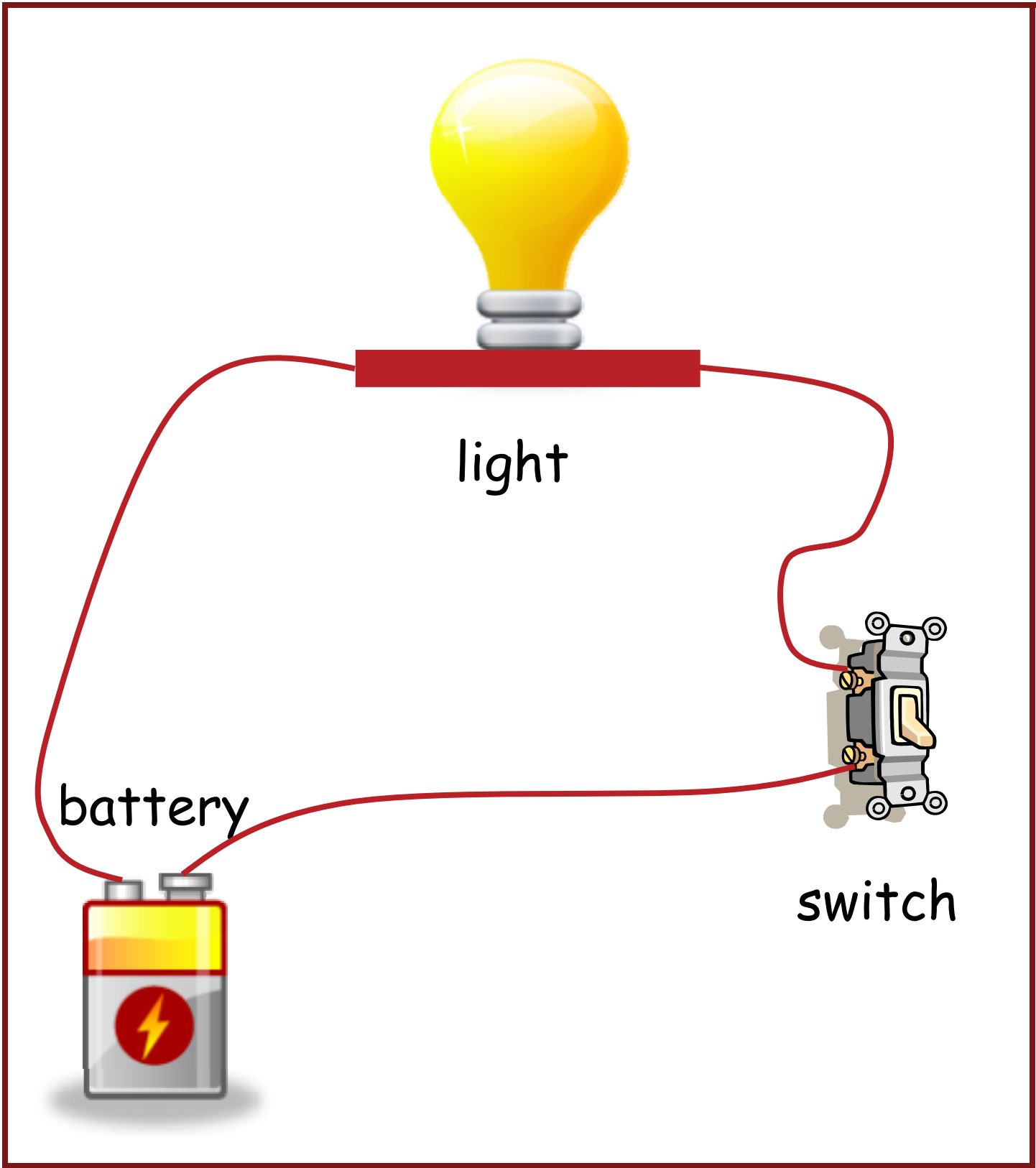


S.O.S. does not stand for *Save our Ship* or *Save our Souls*. It was chosen as the universal signal for help in 1908 at a world conference on Morse

Code. The main reason was that the codes for S and O are easy to recall, to signal, and to decode.

S = dit dit dit and O = dah dah dah

... — — — ...



Morse Code

Encoding Key

A ··

J ·---

S ...

B

K ··-

T -

C ...·

L ···

U ··-

D ···

M --

V ...-

E ·

N ··

W ···-

F ...·

O ---

X ...-

G ···

P ····

Y ···-

H

Q ···-

Z ····

I ··

R ···

Morse Code

Decoding Key

Singles	Triples	Quadruples
· E	··· S	···· H
- T	··- U	···· V
	··· R	···· F
Doubles	··- D	···· L
·· I	··- W	···· B
··- A	··- K	···· P
·· N	··- G	···· X
··- M	··- O	···· C
		···· Z
· = dit		···· J
- = dah		···· Y
		···· Q



Quartermaster 2nd Class
Tony Evans of Houston, Texas,
sends Morse code signals from
the bridge wing aboard the
command ship USS Blue Ridge

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Clipart of Samuel Morse and sea captain with binoculars are from Microsoft, hence in the public domain.

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