

Moderate

Assistant Engineer (Electrical), Class 2025

Building Department

If 4 equations are required to describe a circuit by Mesh-Current method and there are n nodes, then how many branches are there in the network?

A

 $n + 5$

B

 $n + 3$

Correct

C

 n

D

 $n - 1$

Correct Answer: B

Full Detailed Explanation

Concept & Reasoning: Mesh-current analysis uses one equation for each independent loop of a planar connected network. Graph theory gives the cyclomatic number $L = b - n + 1$, where b is the number of branches and n the number of nodes. With $L = 4$, rearranging yields $b = n + 3$. This relation is a frequent exam shortcut and avoids drawing or counting a particular circuit.

How to Solve It in the Exam: Independent loops = branches - nodes + 1.

Important Exam Point: Use this relation only for a connected network; additional connected components change the graph formula.

Related Revision Path: This question sits in the revision path Network Theory → Graph Theory → Mesh Analysis.

Open live question on website:

<https://sarkariresultout.com/pyq/question/gpsc-ae-electrical-q117-branches-nodes-and-independent-loops/>