switch

bulb

battery

Closed circuit in a flashlight
(The dotted line shows the path of the electric current.)
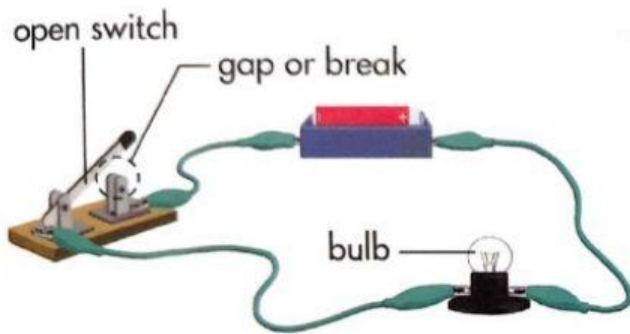
1	
2	
3	
4	

Hence, the bulb in the flashlight lights up.
When we turn on the switch
the electric circuit in the flashlight is closed
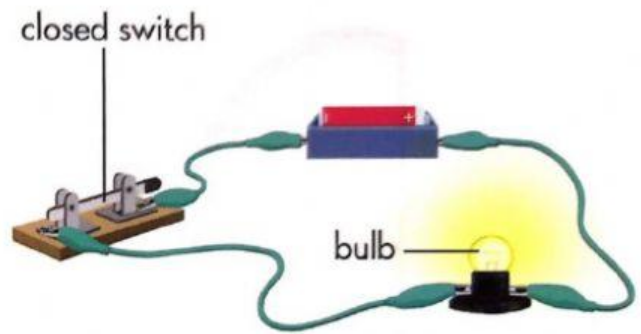Electric current flows through the electric circuit

1	
2	
3	
4	

there is a gap or a break in the electric circuit
When we turn off the switch
the bulb in the flashlight does not light up
no electric current flows through the electric circuit

When the switch is open vs when it is closed

open switch
gap or break
bulb

Electric circuit with an open switch

closed switch
bulb

Electric circuit with a closed switch

Open Switch

.

There is a gap or break in the electric circuit.
There is no gap or break in the electric circuit.
The electric circuit is open.
The electric circuit is closed.
No electric current flows through the electric circuit.
Electric current flows through the electric circuit.
The bulb lights up.
The bulb does not light up.

Closed Switch