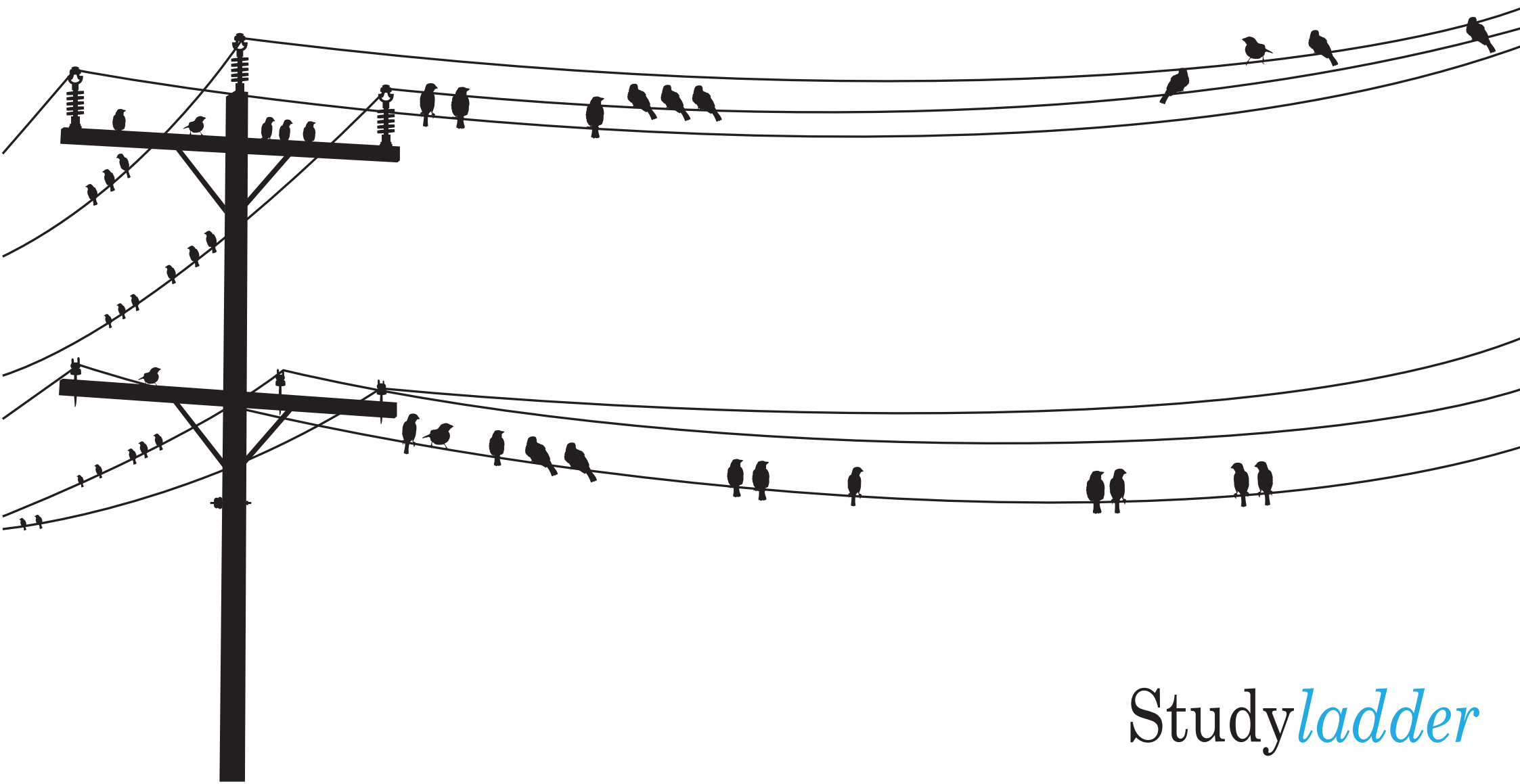


How can birds sit on electric wires safely?



Why don't birds get electrocuted when they sit on the overhead wires?



Why don't birds get electrocuted when they sit on the overhead wires?

You might think the reason is because overhead electric wires are encased in a protective covering, but they are not.

Electricity travels along the path of least resistance from areas of high energy to areas of low energy.

If the bird were to put one foot on a high voltage wire and one foot on a lower voltage wire then electricity from the high voltage wire would pass through the bird's body to get to the lower voltage wire. The bird would be electrocuted.

The same thing would happen if the bird could place one foot on the wire and one on the ground.

Birds can only sit on overhead wires safely if they are not touching anything else that is of a lower voltage.

