Assessment Schedule - 2007

Physics: Demonstrate understanding of atoms and radioactivity (90256)

Evidence Statement

| Q | Evidence | Achievement | Achievement with Merit | Achievement with Excellence |
|---------|---|---|---|--|
| ONE (a) | The Dalton model proposed that matter was made of indivisible atoms / smallest building block of matter (The Dalton model had no electrons or protons). The Thomson ("plum pudding") model proposed that the atom was a positive sphere with negatively charged electrons embedded in it. The atom as whole was neutral. (The Thomson model did not have protons.) The Rutherford model proposed that the atom had a central positive nucleus. The negatively charged electrons were in orbit around the nucleus of the atom. The atom as whole was neutral. The atom was mainly space. (The Rutherford model had electrons and protons.) (Thomson and Rutherford BOTH predicted the atom was mainly space.) | Dalton model OR Thompson model OR 2 of 3 ideas from Rutherford model explained. (Neutron mentioned in Rutherford model does not negate answer.) | TWO models correctly explained. (2 of 3 ideas from Rutherford model is sufficient.) (Neutron mentioned in Rutherford model does not negate answer.) | ALL models correctly explained. (2 of 3 ideas from Rutherford model is sufficient.) (Neutron mentioned in Rutherford model does not negate answer.) |
| (b) | (Most of) the alpha particles would go straight through / alpha particles should only be deflected by small angles as they pass through / uniform scattering. | (Most of) the alpha particles would go straight through / alpha particles should only be deflected by small angles as they pass through / uniform scattering. | | |
| (c) | (Most of the) alpha particles went straight through. (Some of the) particles were deflected away. (A very few of the) particles were reflected right back / deflected through large angles. | TWO correct observations. | ALL THREE correct observations. | |

| If air were present in the chamber the alpha particles would not travel far (alpha particles can penetrate only 5cm in air) / be stopped / lose energy / path would change / be deviated because of collisions with air particles. The air (particles) would be ionised / become positively or negatively charged / lose electrons / change from atoms to ions because alpha particles are highly ionising and they would ionise the air as they passed through it. | Alpha particles would not travel far / be stopped / lose energy / path would change / be deviated (do not accept "affect", "react", "interfere") / alpha becomes a helium atom OR Air would be ionised / become positively or negatively charged / lose electrons / change from atoms to ions (do not accept "react"). | Alpha particles would not travel far / be stopped / lose energy / path would change / be deviated (do not accept "affect", "react", "interfere") / alpha becomes a helium atom. AND Air would be ionised / become positively or negatively charged / lose electrons / change from atoms to ions (do not accept "react"). | |
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| Beta particles (which are more penetrating) would almost all go straight through the gold foil. OR Greater scattering effect so more Beta particles deflected through large angles (very few would be scattered through small angles) OR greater backscattering. | (Almost all) Beta particles would through the gold foil. OR More Beta particles scattered through large angles / greater backscattering. | | |
| Different number of neutrons / 3 more neutrons in Pt-195 / 3 less neutrons in Pt-192 / different mass number / Pt-195 has greater mass. (They have the same number of protons.) | One correct difference (don't accept nucleons). | | |
| The 78 represents the atomic number / number of protons. The 195 represents the mass number / number of nucleons / number of protons and neutrons / relative atomic mass (not "atomic mass"). | Both identified correctly (don't accept number of electron instead of protons). | | |
| $^{192}_{77}Ir \rightarrow ^{192}_{78}Pt + ^{0}_{-1}e$ Particle is Beta particle / β or electron e | Correct equation – accept β instead of e (If γ as well, ignore. Irrelevant whether numbers to left or right – but not diagonals). OR Beta particle / electron produced (must be stated not inferred from equation). | Correct equation – accept β instead of e (If γ as well, ignore. Irrelevant whether numbers to left or right – but not diagonals). AND Beta particle / electron produced (must be stated not inferred from equation). | |
| | alpha particles would not travel far (alpha particles can penetrate only 5cm in air) / be stopped / lose energy / path would change / be deviated because of collisions with air particles. The air (particles) would be ionised / become positively or negatively charged / lose electrons / change from atoms to ions because alpha particles are highly ionising and they would ionise the air as they passed through it. Beta particles (which are more penetrating) would almost all go straight through the gold foil. OR Greater scattering effect so more Beta particles deflected through large angles (very few would be scattered through small angles) OR greater backscattering. Different number of neutrons / 3 more neutrons in Pt-195 / 3 less neutrons in Pt-192 / different mass number / Pt-195 has greater mass. (They have the same number of protons.) The 78 represents the atomic number / number of protons. The 195 represents the mass number / number of nucleons / number of protons and neutrons / relative atomic mass (not "atomic mass"). | alpha particles would not travel far (alpha particles can penetrate only 5cm in air) / be stopped / lose energy / path would change / be deviated because of collisions with air particles. The air (particles) would be ionised / become positively or negatively charged / lose electrons / change from atoms to ions because alpha particles are highly ionising and they would ionise the air as they passed through it. Beta particles (which are more penetrating) would almost all go straight through the gold foil. OR Greater scattering effect so more Beta particles deflected through large angles (very few would be scattered through small angles) OR Different number of neutrons / 3 more neutrons in Pt-192 / different mass number / Pt-195 has greater mass. (They have the same number of protons, and neutrons / relative atomic mass (not "atomic mass"). The 78 represents the atomic number / number of nucleons / number of protons, and neutrons / relative atomic mass (not "atomic mass"). The 78 represents the atomic number / number of nucleons / number of protons, and neutrons / relative atomic mass (not "atomic mass"). The 195 represents the mass number / number of nucleons / number of protons and neutrons / relative atomic mass (not "atomic mass"). Correct equation – accept pinstead of e (If γ as well, ignore. Irrelevant whether numbers to left or right – but not diagonals). OR Beta particle / electron produced (must be stated not inferred from | alpha particles would not travel far / be stopped / lose energy / path would change / be deviated because of collisions with air particles. The air (particles) would be ionised / become positively or negatively charged / lose electrons / change if om atoms to ons because alpha particles are highly ionising and they would ionise the air as they passed through it. Beta particles (which are more penetrating) would almost all go straight through the gold foil. OR Greater scattering effect so more Bet particles deflected through large angles (very few would be scattered through small angles) OR greater backscattering. Different number of neutrons / 3 more neutrons in Pt-195 / 3 less neutrons in Pt-195 / 3 less neutrons in Pt-195 / 3 less neutrons in The 195 represents the atomic number / protons. The 78 represents the atomic number of protons and neutrons / relative atomic masse (not "atomic mass"). 1922 / In→ 3/82 Pt+ 3/62 Particle is Beta particle / β or electron c'atomic masse; oleft or right—but not diagonals). OR Beta particles one penetration of the deviated (do not accept "affect", "interfere") / alpha becomes a helium atom. AND Air would be ionised / become positively or negatively charged / lose electrons / 4 mould through the gold foil. OR More Beta particles would through large angles / greater backscattering. One correct difference (don't accept number of protons.) The 78 represents the atomic number / number of protons. The 195 represents the mass number / number of protons and neutrons / relative atomic mass (not "atomic mass"). The 3/82 Pt+ 3/62 Particle is Beta particle / β or electron c'atomic mass: 0 left or right—but not diagonals). OR Beta particle / electron produced (must be stated not inferred from equation). |

| (d) | Conservation of mass / mass number / nucleon number. AND Conservation of atomic number / charge number / charge. | Both correct. | | |
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| (e) | Half life should be long enough in order for the doctors to be able scan the patients (assuming being used as tracer). Half life should not be too long in the patient as radioactivity could harm the patient. | One correct reason. | Both correct reasons. | |
| (f) | Alpha particles are highly ionising and could harm cells in the human body. Gamma radiation has very low ionising ability and hence is safer for use. | Alpha particles are highly ionising. OR Gamma rays are poor ionisers (do not accept gamma rays do NOT ionise). | Alpha particles are highly ionising as compared with gamma rays. AND human cells could be harmed by ionisation / cause cancer. | |
| (g) | (i) For alpha decay, the atomic number reduces by 2 and the mass number reduces by 4. An alpha particle consists of two neutrons and two protons. (ii) For beta decay, the atomic number increases by one, but the mass number remains the same. A beta particle is a fast-moving electron. It is emitted when a neutron changes to a proton and an electron. | ONE of THREE from: For alpha decay, the atomic number reduces by 2 and the mass number reduces by 4. OR For beta decay, the atomic number increases by one, but the mass number remains the same. OR ONE of: (During beta decay, a beta particle is emitted when a neutron changes to a proton and an electron / beta particle. OR An alpha particle is emitted consisting of two neutrons and two protons.) | TWO of THREE from: For alpha decay, the atomic number reduces by 2 and the mass number reduces by 4. OR For beta decay, the atomic number increases by one, but the mass number remains the same. OR ONE of: (During beta decay, a beta particle is emitted when a neutron changes to a proton and an electron / beta particle. OR An alpha particle is emitted when an another than the particle is emitted consisting of two neutrons and two protons.) | THREE of THREE from: For alpha decay, the atomic number reduces by 2 and the mass number reduces by 4. AND For beta decay, the atomic number increases by one, but the mass number remains the same. AND ONE of: (During beta decay, a beta particle is emitted when a neutron changes to a proton and an electron / beta particle. OR An alpha particle is emitted consisting of two neutrons and two protons.) |

| (h) | By calculation: One half-life is 8 days (since the rate falls to ¼ after 16 days). 28 days is 3.5 half-lifes. | Correct number of half- lives calculated to be 8 days | Half-life calculated to be 8 days and 28 days is 3.5 half-lives | Half-life calculated to be 8 days and 28 days is 3.5 half – lifes and use of 3 half-lives = 75 and 4 half-lives = 37.5 / calculation of 1 / 2 ^{3.5} |
|-----|---|---|---|--|
| | Rate = $600 \times \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{3.5}$ Rate = 53 | | | to arrive at answer of 53 |
| | By graphing: | | | Points plotted on graph: |
| | | OR | OR | 8 days = 300 |
| | After 1 half-life, count rate | B : . 1 1 | | 16 days = 150 |
| | $=\frac{600}{2}=300$ | Points plotted on graph: | Points plotted on graph: | 24 days = 75 |
| | 2 | 8 days = 300 | 8 days = 300 | 32 days = 37.5 |
| | After 2 half-lives, count rate | 16 days = 150 | 16 days = 150 | AND |
| | $=\frac{300}{2}=150$ | 24 days = 75 | 24 days = 75 | Accurate exponential curve |
| | 2 | 32 days = 37.5 | 32 days = 37.5 | drawn (do not accept |
| | After 3 half-lives, count rate $=\frac{150}{2} = 75$ | | AND | joining the dots with |
| | ' | | Accurate exponential | a ruled line). |
| | After 4 half-lives, count rate | | curve drawn (do not | AND |
| | $=\frac{75}{2}=37.5$ | | accept joining the dots with a ruled line). | Answer matches graph |
| | From graph, decay rate after 28 days is about 50 counts per second. | If BOTH methods used, award highest grade from either method. | | (construction lines preferred but not required). |

Judgement Statement

| Achievement | Achievement with Merit | Achievement with Excellence |
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| $6 \times A/M/E$ | $9 \times A/M/E$ inc $4 \times M/E$ | $11 \times A/M/E$ inc $(3 \times M/E \text{ and } 2 \times E)$ |