

Mark schemes

Q1.

- (a) 1×10^{-10} m 1
- (b) (a helium atom) has 2 electrons
accept it has more mass
allow it is not charged 1
- (c) 2 1
- (d) neutral
accept 0 or 'no charge' 1
- (because) protons have positive charge and electrons have negative charge 1
- (and) there are equal numbers of protons and electrons 1
- (e) helium will one day run out 1
- there will be none left for medical uses so balloons waste helium 1
- [8]

Q2.

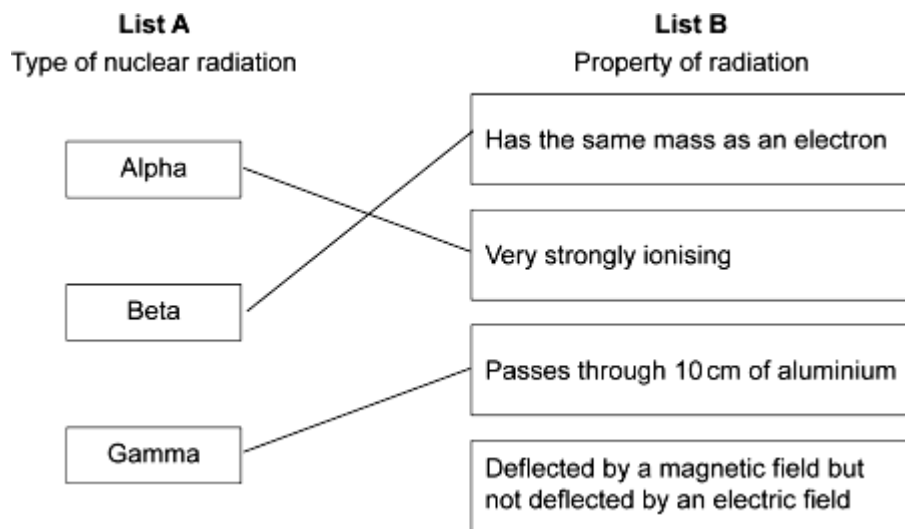
- 4
 - 9
- each for 1 mark*
- [2]

Q3.

- (i) 86 1
- (ii) 222 1
- [2]

Q4.

- (a) 1 mark for each correct line



if more than 1 line is drawn from any box in List A, none of those lines gain any credit

3

- (b) (i) (the detector) reading had gone down

'it' equals detector reading

accept the reading in the table is the smallest

accept 101 is (much) lower than other readings / a specific value eg 150

*do **not** accept this answer if it indicates the readings are the thickness*

1

more beta (particles / radiation) is being absorbed / stopped

accept radiation for beta particles / radiation

accept fewer particles being detected

1

- (ii) six years

1

- (iii) alpha would not penetrate the cardboard

accept the basic property – alpha (particles) cannot pass through paper / card

accept alpha (particles) are less penetrating (than beta)

range in air is neutral

1

[7]

Q5.

- (a) a type of electromagnetic radiation

1

- (b) a thick sheet of lead

1

- (c) to decrease the rate of decay of the food 1
- to prevent food poisoning 1
- (d) gamma rays cause mutations 1
- (e) decrease the distance between the food and the radioactive source 1
- increase the time for which the food is close to the radioactive source 1
- (f) (because) the source of radiation is not in the food 1
- allow source of radiation is / remains outside food*

[8]

Q6.

- (a) atoms with the same number of protons 1
- allow atoms of the same element*
- but with a different number of neutrons 1
- (b) protons = 11 1
- neutrons = 12 1
- (c) electrons falling to a lower energy level 1
- (d)

| | |
|---|-----|
| Level 2: Scientifically relevant facts, events or processes are identified and given in detail to form an accurate account. | 3-4 |
| Level 1: Facts, events or processes are identified and simply stated but their relevance is not clear. | 1-2 |
| No relevant content | 0 |
| Indicative content solid •atoms closely packed •atoms in a regular arrangement •atoms vibrate about a fixed position liquid | |

| | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •atoms are close together •atoms are not in regular arrangement •atoms can move past each other <p>gas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •atoms are well separated •atoms are not in regular arrangement •atoms move randomly at high speeds | |
|---|--|

4

(e) 60×60

1

$$E = 150 \times 3600$$

1

$$E = 540\,000 \text{ (J)}$$

an answer of 540 000 (J) scores 3 marks

1

(f) less energy transferred

1

not as bright

1

[14]

Q7.

(a) (i) **K and L**

both answers required either order

1

(ii) (1) same number of protons

accept same number of electrons

accept same atomic number

1

(2) different numbers of neutrons

1

(b) (i) 90

1

(ii) 140

1

(c) alpha (particle)

reason may score even if beta or gamma is chosen

1

mass number goes down by 4

or

number of protons and neutrons goes down by 4

or

number of neutrons goes down by 2

*candidates that answer correctly in terms of why gamma
and beta decay are not possible gain full credit*

1

atomic / proton number goes down by 2

or

number of protons goes down by 2

*accept an alpha particle consists of 2 neutrons and 2 protons
for 1 mark*

accept alpha equals ${}^4_2\text{He}$ or ${}^4_2\alpha$ for 1 mark

*an alpha particle is a helium nucleus is insufficient for this
mark*

1

[8]

Q8.

(a) protons

1

protons

accept electrons

1

neutrons

1

(b) protons

reject mass

1

[4]

Q9.

any **two** pairs from:

*to gain credit it must be clear which model is being described
do **not** accept simple descriptions of the diagram without
comparison*

- nuclear model mass is concentrated at the centre / nucleus (1)

*accept the nuclear model has a nucleus / the plum pudding
model does not have a nucleus for 1 mark*

plum pudding model mass is evenly distributed (1)

- nuclear model positive charge occupies only a small part of the atom (1)

plum pudding model positive charge spread throughout the atom (1)

- nuclear model electrons orbit some distance from the centre (1)

*accept electrons in shells / orbits provided a valid
comparison is made with the plum pudding model*

plum pudding electrons embedded in the (mass) of positive (charge) (1)

do not accept electrons at edge of plum pudding

- nuclear model the atom mainly empty space (1)

plum pudding model is a 'solid' mass (1)

[4]

Q10.

- (a) (gamma emission) does not change the number of protons

1

(because gamma emission) is not a particle

*allow (gamma emission) is an (electromagnetic)
wave*

1

- (b) prevents food poisoning

1

(by) killing the bacteria / microorganisms / moulds

1

that produce toxins

ignore references to decay

1

- (c) (only) gamma rays can pass (all the way) through packaging (to reach the food / bacteria)

allow converse

1

(and also) gamma rays pass all the way through the food without damaging / ionising the food

allow converse

1

ignore contamination

ignore no damage to food unqualified

- (d) radioactive food contains a source of radiation

or

radioactive food is emitting radiation

1

(whereas)

irradiated food has been exposed to (an external source of nuclear) radiation

1

[9]

Q11.

- (a) (i) (atoms with the) same number of protons

allow same atomic number

or same proton number

1

(atoms with) different number of neutrons
allow different mass number

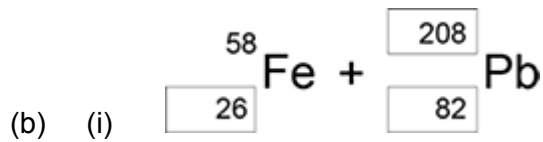
1

(ii) 82

1

(iii) 124

1



1 mark for each correct box

3

(ii) (a) neutron

1

(iii) 4.0×10^{-4} (s)

or

0.0004

$$3.00 \times 10^8 \times 0.1 = 12\,000 / t$$

gains 1 mark

2

(iv) particles need to travel a large distance

1

equipment would have to be very long

1

with circular paths long distances can be accommodated in a smaller space

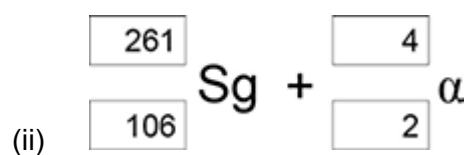
1

(c) (i) the average time for the number of nuclei to halve

1

the time for count rate to halve

1



1 mark if top boxes total = 265
and bottom boxes total = 108
1 mark for 4 and 2 for alpha

2

- (d) (i) 3 plotted points
 $\pm \frac{1}{2}$ small square

1

best line through points

1

- (ii) 190–205 (pm)
or correct from student's line

1

[20]