# ATOMIC STRUCTURE PAST PAPER QUESTIONS 

Science Exams Sorted


## Atom Structure Past Paper Questions

1. Element $\mathbf{E}$ has an atomic number of 5 .

In a sample of $\mathbf{E}$ there are two isotopes. One isotope has a mass number of 10 and the other isotope has a mass number of 11.
a. Explain, in terms of subatomic particles, what is meant by the term isotopes.
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
b. All atoms of element $\mathbf{E}$ in this sample containA 5 protonsB 5 neutronsC 6 protonsD 6 neutrons
c. Element $\mathbf{X}$ has an atomic number of 18 .

State the electronic configuration of an atom of element $\mathbf{X}$.
$\qquad$
2. An atom of iron is represented a؛ ${ }_{26}^{56} \mathrm{Fe}$

Give the number of protons, neutrons and electrons in this atom of iron.
Number of protons: $\qquad$
Number of neutrons: $\qquad$
Number of electrons:
3. Elements are made of atoms.

The table below shows the atomic numbers and mass numbers of three atoms.

| Atom | Atomic number | Mass number |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 12 | 24 |
| 2 | 12 | 25 |
| 3 | 12 | 26 |

a. Suggest, in terms of the number of subatomic particles, why the atomic numbers of the three atoms are the same.

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$\qquad$
$\qquad$
b. Explain, in terms of the number of subatomic particles, why the mass numbers of the three atoms are different.
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
4. Complete the dot-and-cross diagram to show the electron arrangement in a molecule of ammonia. Show outer shell electrons only.

5. The electronic structures of five atoms, $A, B, C, D$ and $E$, are shown.
A
B
C
D
E

6. Answer the following questions about these structures. Each structure may be used once, more than once or not at all. State which structure, A, B, C, D or E, represents:
a. An atom of a metallic element.
b. An atom with a proton number of 13 .

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c. An atom of phosphorus.
d. An atom with only two shells of electrons.
e. An atom which forms a stable ion with a single negative charge.
f. Complete the table to show the number of electrons, neutrons and protons.

|  | number of <br> electrons | number of <br> neutrons | number of <br> protons |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ${ }_{6}^{14} \mathrm{C}$ | 6 |  |  |
| ${ }_{69}^{40} \mathrm{~K}^{+}$ |  | 21 |  |

7. There are eight elements in the second row (lithium to neon) of the periodic table.
a. The figure below shows an atom with two energy levels (shells).

b. Complete Figure 1 to show the electronic structure of a boron atom.
c. What does the central part labelled $Z$ represent in the figure above?
$\qquad$
d. Name the sub-atomic particles in part $Z$ of a boron atom.
e. Give the relative charges of these sub-atomic particles
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

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8. This question is about atomic structure and elements.

Complete the sentences.
a. The atomic number of an atom is the number of
$\qquad$
b. The mass number of an atom is the number of
$\qquad$
c. Explain why an atom has no overall charge. Use the relative electrical charges of subatomic particles in your explanation.
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
d. Explain why fluorine and chlorine are in the same group of the periodic table.

Give the electronic structures of fluorine and chlorine in your explanation.
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
e. The figure below shows the electronic structure of an atom of a non-metal.


What is the chemical symbol of this non-metal?
$\qquad$

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9. An atom of potassium has an atomic number of 19 and a mass number of 39 .
a. Complete the table to show the number of protons, neutrons and electrons in this potassium atom.

| Number of |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Protons | Electrons | Neutrons |
|  |  |  |

b. Describe the positions of these particles in the potassium atom.
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
c. State the electronic configuration of this potassium atom.
$\qquad$
d. Give the relative mass of an electron.
$\qquad$
e. A sample of gallium contains $60.2 \%$ of gallium-69 and $39.8 \%$ of gallium- 71 .

Calculate the relative atomic mass of gallium.
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
10. Aluminium has many uses.
a. An aluminium atom has 13 electrons. Draw the electronic structure of an aluminium atom.


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b. Name the two sub-atomic particles in the nucleus of an aluminium atom.
$\qquad$
c. Why is there no overall electrical charge on an aluminium atom?
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
11. The diagrams show the electronic structure of four different atoms.


Atom A


Atom B


Atom C


Atom D
a. Name the two sub-atomic particles in the nucleus of an atom.
$\qquad$
b. Why is there no overall electrical charge on each atom?
$\qquad$
c. Why is atom A unreactive?
$\qquad$
d. Which two of these atoms have similar chemical properties?

Give a reason for your answer.
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

