

ConcepTest PowerPoints

Chapter 31

Physics: Principles with Applications, 6th edition

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ConceptTest 31.1 Nuclear Reactions

What is the Q-value
for radioactive decay
reactions?

- 1) $Q < 0$
- 2) $Q > 0$
- 3) $Q = 0$
- 4) sign of Q depends on the nucleus

ConceptTest 31.1 Nuclear Reactions

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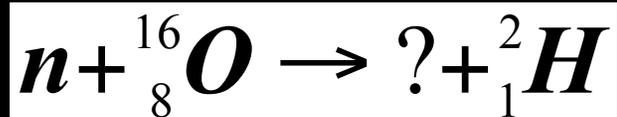
4) sign of Q depends on the nucleus

Radioactive decay happens *spontaneously*, because the nucleus can reach a lower energy state. Thus, such reactions can only occur spontaneously if they *release energy* (*exothermic*), so the Q-value is positive.

Follow-up: Is radioactive decay an endothermic or exothermic reaction?

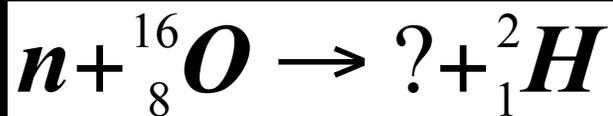
ConceptTest 31.2 Nuclear Reaction Products

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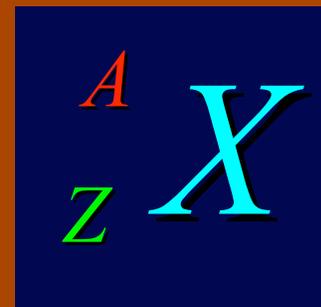


Add up the totals for nucleons (A) and protons (Z) separately, and see what you need to balance both sides:

Nucleons: $1 + 16 = x + 2 \Rightarrow x = 15$

Protons: $0 + 8 = y + 1 \Rightarrow y = 7$

The missing nucleus has $A = 15$ and $Z = 7$.



Follow-up: What would you get if you started with $p + {}^{16}\text{O}$ instead?

ConceptTest 31.3 Beta Decay Products

What element results when ^{14}C undergoes beta decay?

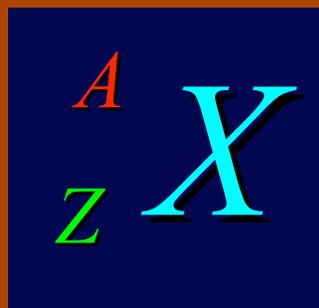
1) ^{15}C

2) ^{15}N

3) ^{14}C

4) ^{14}N

5) ^{15}O



ConceptTest 31.3 Beta Decay Products

What element results when ^{14}C undergoes beta decay?

1) ^{15}C

2) ^{15}N

3) ^{14}C

4) ^{14}N

5) ^{15}O

The reaction is: $^{14}_6\text{C} \rightarrow ^{14}_7\text{N} + e^- + \text{neutrino}$

Essentially, a neutron turns into a proton (emitting a β^- particle), so the atomic number Z of the nucleus must increase by one unit, but without changing the atomic mass A .



A
 Z X

ConceptTest 31.4 Nuclear Fission

How does the **total mass** of the **fission fragments** compare to the mass of the **original nucleus** in a fission reaction?

- 1) fission fragments have more mass
- 2) fission fragments have less mass
- 3) fission fragments have the same mass

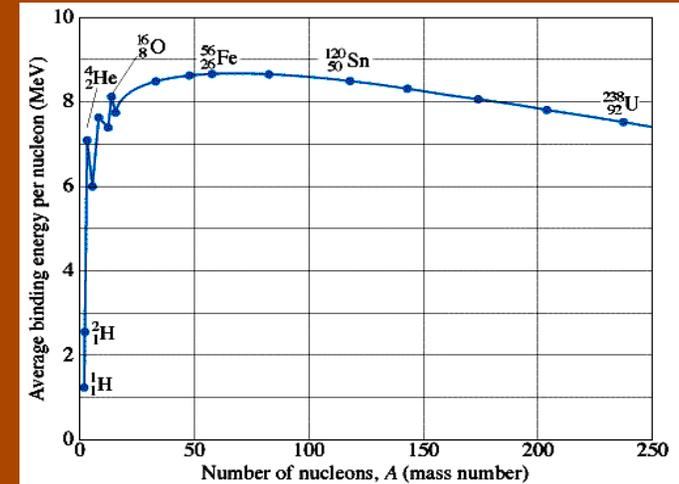
ConceptTest 31.4 Nuclear Fission

How does the **total mass** of the **fission fragments** compare to the mass of the **original nucleus** in a fission reaction?

- 1) fission fragments have more mass
- 2) fission fragments have less mass
- 3) fission fragments have the same mass

The fission reaction releases energy, so the total energy (or mass) of the fission fragments **must be less** than the energy (or mass) of the original nucleus.

Follow-up: Where are the fission fragments located relative to the original nucleus on the curve of binding energy per nucleon?



ConceptTest 31.5 Nuclear Fusion

How does the **binding energy per nucleon** of a fusion product compare to that of the pieces that combined to form it?

- 1) product has greater BE than the pieces**
- 2) product has less BE than the pieces**
- 3) product has the same BE than the pieces**

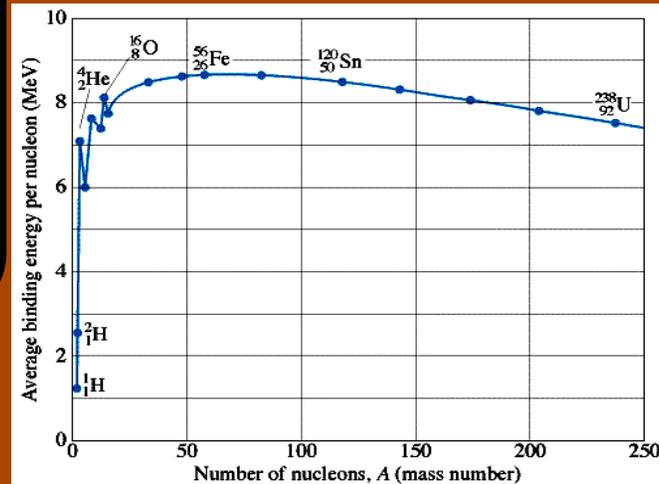
ConceptTest 31.5 Nuclear Fusion

How does the **binding energy per nucleon** of a fusion product compare to that of the pieces that combined to form it?

- 1) product has greater BE than the pieces
- 2) product has less BE than the pieces
- 3) product has the same BE than the pieces

The fusion reaction releases energy, so the **product is more tightly bound** (more stable) than the separate pieces that combined to form it. This means that the **binding energy per nucleon is greater for the fusion product.**

Follow-up: Which weighs more: the fusion product or the pieces?



ConceptTest 31.6 Radiation Shielding

Which type of radiation goes farther in matter before losing all of its energy ?

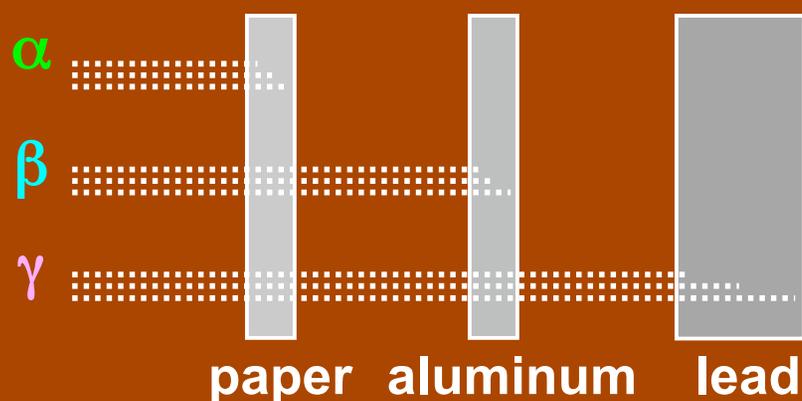
- 1) **alpha radiation**
- 2) **beta radiation**
- 3) **gamma radiation**
- 4) **all about the same distance**

ConceptTest 31.6 Radiation Shielding

Which type of radiation goes farther in matter before losing all of its energy ?

- 1) alpha radiation
- 2) beta radiation
- 3) gamma radiation
- 4) all about the same distance

Alpha particles have such a large charge, they ionize many atoms in a short distance, and so lose their energy rapidly and stop. Gamma rays travel great distances before ionizing an atom.



ConceptTest 31.7a Radiation Exposure I

Curly is twice as far from a small radioactive source as Moe. Compared to Curly's position, the **intensity** of the radiation (and therefore **exposure**) at Moe's position is about:

- 1) one-quarter
- 2) one-half
- 3) the same
- 4) double
- 5) quadruple

radioactive
source



Moe



Curly



ConceptTest 31.7a Radiation Exposure I

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- 1) one-quarter
- 2) one-half
- 3) the same
- 4) double
- 5) quadruple

A small source can be treated as a point source and so it obeys the inverse square law of intensity. **Twice as close means 4 times the intensity** (and therefore exposure).

radioactive
source



Moe



Curly



ConceptTest 31.7b Radiation Exposure II

Curly is working **5 m** from a highly radioactive source and must reduce his exposure by **at least a factor of 10**.

Assuming that an **inverse square law** ($1/r^2$) applies in this case, to what distance should he move?

1) 7.5 m

2) 10 m

3) 15 m

4) 20 m

5) 50 m

radioactive
source



Curly



ConceptTest 31.7b Radiation Exposure II

Curly is working **5 m** from a highly radioactive source and must reduce his exposure by **at least a factor of 10**.

Assuming that an **inverse square law** ($1/r^2$) applies in this case, to what distance should he move?

1) 7.5 m

2) 10 m

3) 15 m

4) 20 m

5) 50 m

A small source can be treated like a point source and so it **obeys the inverse square law** of intensity. Moving to **15 m** (3 times farther) only **reduces the exposure by 9 times**. He has to move farther away (**20 m**) in order to get a **factor of 16 reduction**, which meets the “safety limit” of 10 times.

radioactive
source



Curly



ConceptTest 31.8 Radiation Damage

**Radiation can damage
matter such as metals
or biological tissue by:**

- 1) heating up the material**
- 2) causing cancer in the metal**
- 3) producing fission reactions in the material**
- 4) removing electrons from the atoms**
- 5) producing fusion reactions in the material**

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- 5) producing fusion reactions in the material**

Radiation can ionize the atoms in matter, which means knocking out electrons. Metals become brittle and cell processes can be disrupted.

Follow-up: What type of radiation will tend to do the most damage?