

\*See page numbers on some questions as we skip around the book a bit. Your notes and power point online will help as well.

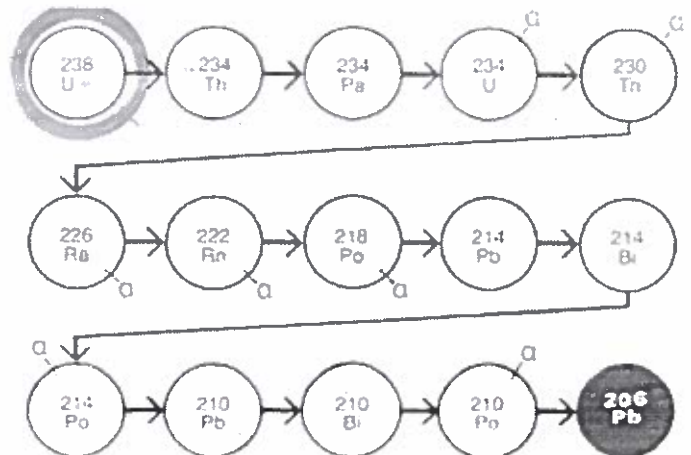
- Isotopes of elements differ in the ratio of neutrons to protons. This ratio is related to the stability of the nucleus.
- What is the Golden Ratio of neutrons to protons in less massive elements? What is the ratio of neutrons to protons in heavier elements?  
 less massive 1:1      more massive 3:2  
 EX: He, N, O      EX: Fe, Ni, Cu, Zn
- With regards to the forces holding a nucleus together, why does a nucleus become unstable (radioactive)? P. 309  
 A nucleus becomes unstable when the strong nuclear force can no longer overcome the repulsive electric force among protons.
- Radioactivity is the process in which a(n) unstable nucleus emits charged particles and energy. P. 292
- Create a graphic organizer for the three types of radiation discussed in the book. Be sure to include how each affects the nucleus (mass and atomic number). P. 293-296

	ALPHA	BETA		GAMMA
Symbol	$\alpha, {}^4_2\text{He}$	${}^0_{-1}\beta$	${}^0_{+1}\beta$	$\gamma$
charge	+2	-1	+1	0
mass	4	0	0	0
affects nucleus	at # -2 mass # -4 amu	$n^0 \rightarrow p^+$ at # +1 mass # same	$p^+ \rightarrow n^0$ at # -1 mass # same	doesn't affect nucleus

- The most penetrating form of radiation are gamma rays. They are a form of radiation called electromagnetic waves, and they carry energy. P. 296

- As atoms decay, they are changed from one element to another through a process called transmutation. The following picture shows this process. Looking at the picture below, Uranium-238 decays (eventually) into Lead-206. Why does Lead-206 (Pb-206) no longer decay? Remember, emitting alpha particles and beta particles changes the element but in different ways.

Pb-206 is stable



Showing how uranium ( $\text{U}^{238}$ ) decays to lead ( $\text{Pb}^{206}$ ) and points where helium ( $\alpha$ ) is given off.

$\alpha$  - at # - 2  
mass # - 4 amu

$\beta$  plus - at # - 1  
mass # same  
 $p^+ \rightarrow n^0 + e^+ + \nu$

$\beta$  minus - at # + 1  
mass # same  
 $n^0 \rightarrow p^+ + e^- + \bar{\nu}$

# Radioactive Decay Practice

$\gamma$  - at # same  
mass # same

Complete the chart below. You may use your periodic table.

Element		New Element		Equation Symbol	Greek Symbol And Label
241 95 Am	→	237 93 Np	+	$\begin{matrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{matrix} \alpha$	Alpha Decay $\alpha$
131 53 I	→	131 54 Xe	+	$\begin{matrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{matrix} \beta$	Beta Decay $\beta$ minus
99 43 Tc	→	99 43 Tc	+	$\begin{matrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{matrix} \gamma$	$\gamma$ Gamma Decay
174 77 Ir	→	170 75 Re	+	$\begin{matrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{matrix} \text{He}$	$\alpha$ Alpha Decay
199 78 Pt	→	199 79 Np	+	$\begin{matrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{matrix} \beta$	Beta Decay $\beta$ minus
235 92 U	→	231 90 Th	+	$\begin{matrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{matrix} \text{He}$	Alpha Decay $\alpha$
231 91 Pa	→	227 89 Ac	+	$\begin{matrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{matrix} \text{He} + \begin{matrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{matrix} \gamma$	Alpha & Gamma $\alpha$ & $\gamma$
211 82 Pb	→	211 83 Bi	+	$\begin{matrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{matrix} \beta$	Beta Decay $\beta$ minus

\*\*Before we take a look at a geoscience application of decay, let's take a look at nuclear reactions.

doesn't occur normally in nature

produces radioactive particles  
takes little E, prod less E than fusion

7. Compare and contrast fission and fusion. P. 309-315

FISSION

lg nucleus → 2 sm nuclei  
nuclear reactor  
atomic bomb  
chain reaction

BOTH

release ↑ E!  
sm amount of mass lost  
 $E = mc^2$

FUSION

2 sm nuclei → 1 lg nucleus  
Sun (batter \*)  
Hydrogen Bomb

8. Describe the relationship between mass and energy. P. 310

$E = mc^2$

E = energy  
m = mass  
c = speed of light ( $3.00 \times 10^8$  m/s)

needs ↑ temp & density & E to occur  
releases 3-4 x the E of a fission rx

Section 2 Half-Life, pg. 298-301

1. What is a half-life? Are all half-lives the same? What are the ranges of time your book gives you?  
P. 299  $\frac{1}{2}$  life - amount of time it takes for  $\frac{1}{2}$  the nuclei in a sample to decay  
some are less than a thousandth of a sec & some are billions of yrs

2. How are nuclear decay rates different from chemical reaction rates? P. 299  
nuclear decay rates are constant, while chem rxn rates can vary (based on conc, temp, S.A., catalyst, etc.)

3. What is radioactive dating? Why do scientists use it? P. 300  
- dating of materials based on known  $\frac{1}{2}$  lives  
- compare amount of parent isotope to daughter isotope  
- #  $\frac{1}{2}$  lives calculated - mult. #  $\frac{1}{2}$  lives by 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  life of that material

Half-Life Practice Problems: - Scientists use it to determine how old rocks, fossils are

1. What percentage of a radioactive element will be left after:  
(parent)

- a. 1 half-life 50%      b. 2 half-lives 25%      c. 3 half-lives 12.5%

2. How many half-lives have passed for each of the following samples:

- a. 50% of the original radioactive material remains 1  
b. 25% of the original radioactive sample remains 2  
c. 12.5% of the original radioactive sample remains 3

3. If a rock sample originally contained 12 g of Uranium-235, how much will be left after:

- a. 1 half-life 6.0g      b. 2 half-lives 3.0g      c. 3 half-lives 1.5g

4. Uranium-235 has a half-life of 700 million years. How much of the 12 g sample of Uranium-235 will be left after:

- a. 700 million years 6.0g      b. 1400 million years 3.0g

5. Carbon-14 is a radioactive element that decays into Nitrogen-14. The half-life of Carbon-14 is 5730 years. What percentage of Carbon-14 and Nitrogen-14 will be left in a dinosaur bone after:

- 5730 years:      % of Carbon-14 50% + % of Nitrogen-14 50% = 100%  
11,460 years:      % of Carbon-14 25% + % of Nitrogen-14 75% = 100%  
17,190 years:      % of Carbon-14 12.5% + % of Nitrogen-14 87.5% = 100%

6. If the dinosaur bone in question 5 originally had 16 grams of Carbon-14 in it how much of each type of element should be left after:

- 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  life **5730 years:** Grams of Carbon-14 8.0g Grams of Nitrogen-14 8.0g  
 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  lives **11,460 years:** Grams of Carbon-14 4.0g Grams of Nitrogen-14 12.0g  
 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  lives **17,190 years:** Grams of Carbon-14 2.0g Grams of Nitrogen-14 14.0g

7. More dinosaur bones are found and examined. If they contain the following percentages of Carbon-14 and Nitrogen-14 how old are each of the bones?

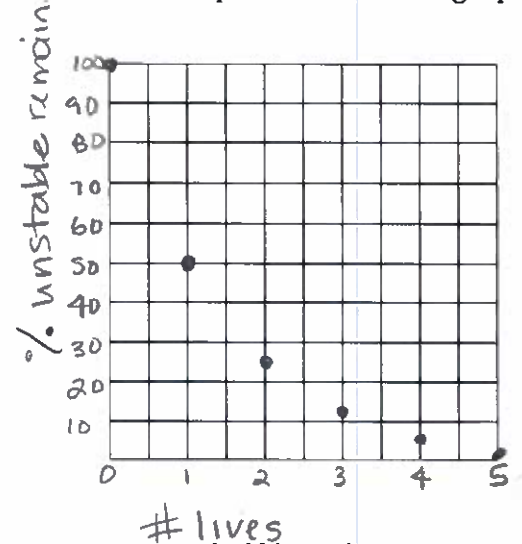
**Bone #1:** 50% Carbon-14 and 50% Nitrogen-14 5,730 years old

**Bone #2:** 25% Carbon-14 and 75% Nitrogen-14 11,460 years old

**Bone #3:** 12.5 % Carbon-14 and 87.5% Nitrogen-14 17,190 years old

8. Scientists have recently discovered a new type of radioactive element. They have measured its half-life and know it takes 10,000 years to decay. Use their data in the table below to plot a line on the graph below.

x Number of Half Lives	y % of Unstable Atom Remaining
0	100
1	50
2	25
3	12.5
4	6.25
5	3.125



9. A fossil bone has 25% of this new radioactive element remaining. How many half-lives have passed?

2  $\frac{1}{2}$  lives

10. If the half-life of this new element is 10,000 years, how old is the fossil bone in question 9?

20,000 yrs