

1)

(a) α : helium nucleus

β : electron

γ : electromagnetic radiation/wave/ray or photon

three correct 2/2, two correct 1/2 B2 [2]

(b) (i) atomic number/proton number / $Z - 2$, nucleon/mass number / $A - 4$ B1 [1]

(ii) atomic number/proton number / $Z + 1$
nucleon/mass number / A no change B1 [1]

(iii) no change in proton or mass number
or "no change" B1 [1]

2)

(a) shows nucleon number as 220 B1
shows proton number as 87 B1 [2]

(b) shows products as ${}^4_2\text{He}$ OR ${}^4_2\alpha$ B1
and ${}^{216}_{85}\text{At}$ (allow e.c.f. from (a)) B1 [2]

3)

(a) (i) the direction of the fields is the same OR fields are uniform OR constant
electric field strength OR $E = V / d$ with symbols explained B1 [1]

(ii) reduce p.d. across plates B1
increase separation of plates B1 [2]

(iii) α opposite charge to β (as deflection in opposite direction) B1
 β has a range of velocities OR energies (as different deflections) and
 α all have same velocity OR energy (as constant deflection) B1
 α are more massive (as deflection is less for greater field strength) B1 [3]

(b) $W = 234$ and $X = 90$ B1
 $Y = 4$ and $Z = 2$ B1 [2]

(c) $A = 32$ and $B = 16$ and $C = 0$ and $D = -1$ B1 [1]

4)

- | | | | |
|---------|---|------|-----|
| (a) (i) | nucleus contains 92 protons | B1 | |
| | nucleus contains 143 neutrons (missing 'nucleus' 1/2) | B1 | |
| | outside / around nucleus 92 electrons | (B1) | |
| | most of atom is empty space / mass concentrated in nucleus | (B1) | |
| | total charge is zero | (B1) | |
| | diameter of atom $\sim 10^{-10}$ m or size of nucleus $\sim 10^{-15}$ m | (B1) | |
| | any two of (B1) marks | | [4] |
| (ii) | nucleus has same number / 92 protons | B1 | |
| | nuclei have 143 and 146 neutrons (missing 'nucleus' 1/2) | B1 | [2] |
| (b) (i) | Y = 35 | A1 | |
| | Z = 85 | A1 | [2] |
| (ii) | mass-energy is conserved in the reaction | B1 | |
| | mass on rhs of reaction is less so energy is released | | |
| | explained in terms of $E = mc^2$ | B1 | [2] |

5)

- | | | | |
|---------|---|----|-----|
| (a) | α -particles not able to penetrate air between source and window | B1 | [1] |
| (b) (i) | rapid drop in count rate | B1 | |
| | for small thicknesses (up to 2 mm) | | |
| | OR most β 's stopped by few mm of aluminium | B1 | |
| (ii) | very slow drop-off in count rate | B1 | |
| | for thicknesses greater than 2 mm | | |
| | OR γ much higher penetration than β | B1 | [4] |
| | (do not allow ' γ not stopped by aluminium') | | |

6)

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|-----|---|----|-----|
| (a) | 118 | B1 | [1] |
| (b) | path: correct shape | M1 | |
| | in correct position relative to nucleus | A1 | [2] |
| (c) | smaller deviation | B1 | [1] |

7)

- (a) (i) curve is not smooth, fluctuations, etc B1
 (ii) curve is same shape or same half-life, not affected by temperature, etc..... B1 [2]
- (b) (i) 134..... B1 [1]
 (ii) α -particle shown as ${}^4_2\text{He}$ or as ${}^4_2\alpha$ B1
 nucleon number of Po shown as 216 B1
 proton number of Po shown as 84..... B1 [3]

8)

- (a) (i) 26 protons B1
 (ii) 30 neutrons B1 [2]
- (b) (i) mass = $56 \times 1.66 \times 10^{-27}$ C1
 (allow $\times 1.67 \times 10^{-27}$ but 0/2 for use of 26 or 30)
 = 9.3×10^{-26} kg A1
 (ii) density = mass/volume where volume = $\frac{4}{3} \times \pi \times r^3$ C1
 = $(9.3 \times 10^{-26}) / (\frac{4}{3} \times \pi \times \{5.7 \times 10^{-15}\}^3)$
 = 1.2×10^{17} kg m⁻³ A1 [4]
- (c) nucleus occupies only very small fraction of volume of atom
 or 'lot of empty space inside atom' B1
 (do not allow spacing between atoms)
 any further good physics e.g. nuclear material is very dense B1 [2]

9)

- (a) (i) nucleus is small M1
 in comparison to size of atom A1 [2]
- (ii) nucleus is massive/heavy/dense B1
 and charged (allow to be scored in (i) or (ii)) B1 [2]
- (b) (i) symmetrical path and deviation correct w.r.t. position of nucleus B1
 deviation less than in path AB B1
 (ii) deviation > 90° and in correct direction B1 [3]

10)

- (a) position shown as $A = 227, Z = 91$ B1 [1]
- (b) Pu shown as $A = 243, Z = 94$ B1
 D shown with $A = A_{Pu}$ and with $Z = (Z_{Pu} + 1)$ B1 [2]

11)

- (a) nucleus emits M1
 α - or β - particles and/or γ -rays A1 [2]
- (b) decay unaffected by environmental changes M1
 such as temperature, pressure etc. (*one e.g. is sufficient*) A1 [2]
- (c) constant probability of decay (per unit time) of a nucleus B1
 cannot predict which particular nucleus will decay next B1 [2]

12)

- (a) helium nucleus OR contains two protons and two neutrons B1 [1]
- (b) kinetic energy = $\frac{1}{2}mv^2$ C1
 $\frac{1}{2} \times 4 \times 1.66 \times 10^{-27} \times v^2 = 1.07 \times 10^{-12}$ A1
 $v = 1.8 \times 10^7 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ A0 [2]
- (c) (i) sum of momenta (in any direction) is constant M1
 / total momentum is constant A1 [2]
 in a closed system / no external force
- (ii) momentum of francium (= 0) = momentum of α + momentum of astatine C1
 $204 \times V = 4 \times 1.8 \times 10^7$ C1
 $V = 3.5 \times 10^5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ A1 [3]
*(nuclei incorrectly identified, 0/3
 nuclei correctly identified but incorrect masses, -1 each error)*
- (d) another particle / photon is emitted M1
 at an angle to the direction of the α -particle A1 [2]
 (allow 1 mark for 'Francium nucleus is not stationary')

13)

- (a) β (-decay) B1 [1]
- (b) γ (-decay) B1
*either any two of Z, N and A do not change
 or it is loss of energy only
 or it is an electromagnetic wave* B1 [2]
 Allow ' α (-decay) as change of 4 in the nucleon number cannot be shown on the diagram' (B2)
 Do not give credit for a 'bald' α (-decay)

14)

- (a) most α -particles deviated through small angles B1
 (accept 'undeviated')
 few α -particles deviated through angles greater than 90° B1 [2]
- (b) (i) allow $10^{-9} \text{ m} \rightarrow 10^{-11} \text{ m}$ B1 [1]
- (ii) allow $10^{-13} \text{ m} \rightarrow 10^{-15} \text{ m}$ B1 [1]
 (if (i) and (ii) out of range but (ii) = 10^{-4} (i), then allow 1 mark)
 (if no units or wrong units but (ii) = 10^{-4} (i), then allow 1 mark)

15)

- (a) α -particle: either helium nucleus or contains 2 protons + 2 neutrons B1
 or ${}^4_2\text{He}$
- β -particle: either electron or ${}^0_{-1}\text{e}$ B1
- α speed < β speed (1)
 α discrete values of speed/energy, β continuous spectrum (1)
 either α ionising power \gg β ionising power (1)
 or α range \ll β range (1)
 α positive, β negative (only if first two B marks not scored) (1)
 α mass > β mass (only if first two B marks not scored) (1)
 (any two sensible pairs of statements relevant to differences,
 – do not allow statements relevant to only α or β , 1 each, max 2) B2 [4]
- (b) (i) ${}^{236}_{92}\text{U} \rightarrow {}^{232}_{90}\text{Th} + {}^4_2\text{He}$ M1
A1 [2]
- (ii) 1. correct position for U at $Z = 92, N = 145$ B1
 2. correct position for Np relative to U i.e. $Z + 1$ and $N - 1$ B1 [2]

16)

- (a) nucleus has constant probability of decay M1
 per unit time / in a given time A1 [2]
 (allow 1 mark for 'cannot predict which nucleus will decay next')
- (b) (i) count rate / activity decreases B1 [1]
- (ii) count rate fluctuates / is not smooth B1 [1]
- (c) either the (decay) curves are similar / same B1 [1]
 or curves indicate same half-life

17)

(a) rate of decay / activity / decay (of nucleus) is not affected by external factors / environment / surroundings B2 [2]
(If states specific factor(s), rather than giving general statement above, then give 2 marks for two stated factors, but 1 mark only if one factor stated)

(b) (i) gamma / γ B1 [1]

(ii) alpha / α B1 [1]

(iii) gamma / γ B1 [1]

(iv) beta / β B1 [1]