



Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Group: \_\_\_\_\_

**Senior School Examinations  
Semester 1 2011**

**Student Number**

Figures									
Words									

**YEAR 11**

**Physics Unit 1**

**Written Examination**

**QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK**

Structure of book

<i>Number of questions</i>	<i>Questions to be answered</i>	<i>Number of marks</i>
Area 1 – Nuclear Physics and Radiation	15	42
Area 2 – Electricity	15	56
Area 3 – Energy from the Nucleus	18	35

**Reading Time: 10 minutes**  
**Completion Time: 80 minutes**

- Students are permitted to bring into the examination room: pens, pencils, coloured pencils, templates, highlighters, erasers, set squares sharpeners and rulers,
- Students are not permitted to bring into the examination room: blank sheets of paper and/or white out liquid/tape.
- Students may bring a scientific calculator into this exam (NOT graphical or CAS)
- Students may bring a single double-sided summary sheet into this exam

**Materials Supplied**

- Question and answer book
- Additional writing paper should you need it.

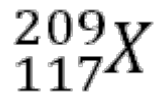
**Instructions**

- Write your name, your Home Group and your class teacher's name in the space provided on this page.
- Write your student number in numerals and words in the space provided above on this page.

**Students are NOT permitted to bring mobile phones and/or any other unauthorised electronic devices into the examination room.**

## Area 1: - Nuclear Physics & Radioactivity

The following information applies to questions 1 – 5. Scientists at the “Huge Hadron Collider”, a new supercollider, have managed to create a new element, which they are calling Element X. They have managed to determine the basic atomic structure:



Question 1: How many neutrons does element X contain?

	2 marks

Question 2: How many nucleons does element X contain?

	2 marks

Question 3: List a possible isotope of element X

	2 marks

Question 4: How many electrons would be found in an uncharged atom of element X?

	2 marks

Question 5: If element X were unstable, what type of decay is most likely?

	2 marks

Question 6: The equation that represents the  $\alpha$ -decay of Polonium is:

- A  ${}_{84}^{209}\text{Po} \rightarrow {}_2^4\text{He} + {}_{82}^{205}\text{Pb} + {}_0^1\text{n}$
- B  ${}_{84}^{209}\text{Po} \rightarrow {}_2^4\text{He} + {}_{82}^{205}\text{Pb}$
- C  ${}_{84}^{209}\text{Po} \rightarrow {}_{82}^{205}\text{Pb} + 2({}_0^1\text{n}) + 2({}_1^1\text{H})$
- D  ${}_{84}^{209}\text{Po} \rightarrow {}_{82}^{205}\text{Pb} + 4({}_0^1\text{n})$

	2 marks

Question 7: How many  $\alpha$  particles and  $\beta$  particles are emitted in the decay series from  ${}_{92}^{235}\text{U}$  to  ${}_{82}^{207}\text{Pb}$ ?

- A 7  $\alpha$ -particles and 4  $\beta$  -particles
- B 4  $\alpha$ -particles and 7  $\beta$  -particles
- C 14  $\alpha$ -particles and 8  $\beta$  -particles
- D 8  $\alpha$ -particles and 14  $\beta$  -particles

	2 marks

Question 8: Alpha, beta and gamma are three types of radioactive decay. Complete the following table showing the properties of these types of decay by submitting correct values for a, b and c.

	Lost from Nucleus	Change in <b>A</b>	Change in <b>Z</b>
Alpha Decay ( $\alpha$ )	${}_{2}^{4}\alpha$	<b>a.</b>	<b>-2</b>
Beta Decay ( $\beta$ )	${}_{-1}^{0}e$	<b>0</b>	<b>b.</b>
Gamma Decay	<b>c.</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Given that beta decay is a high speed electron emitted from the nucleus, and that the nucleus does not contain electrons, explain where this emitted electron comes from. You must include a nuclear equation to justify your response.

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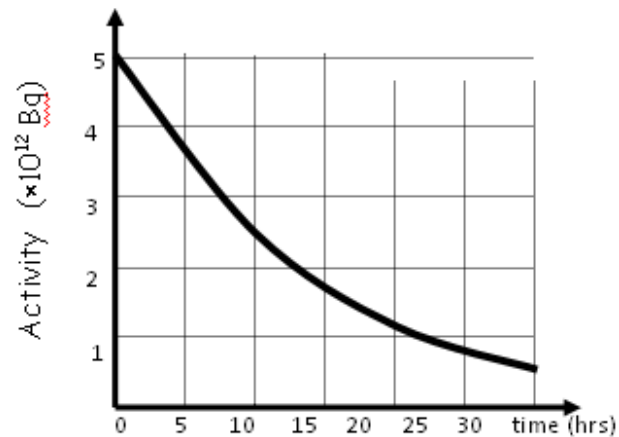


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5 marks

The following information applies to questions 9 to 11 below:

A Geiger counter is used to measure the radioactive Disintegrations from a sample of a certain radioisotope. The count rate recorded is shown in the graph below



Question 9: What is the half-life of this sample?

- A 5 hours
- B 10 hours
- C 15 hours
- D 20 hours

2 marks

Question 10: What is the activity (in TBq) after 3 half lives

- A 3.5
- B 2.5
- C 1.7
- D 0.6

2 marks

Question 11: The radioisotope is declared safe to dispose of after it's activity drops below 500 GBq. After how many hours will this occur?

- A 0 hours
- B 10 hours
- C 22 hours
- D 35 hours

2 marks

The following information applies to questions 12 and 14:

Carbon Dating is a technique used to determine the age of organic material. The activity (rate of decay) of  $^{14}\text{C}$  atoms in the sample is measured.  $^{14}\text{C}$  has a half life of 5730 years.

Question 12: Explain how the activity of  $^{14}\text{C}$  in an organic sample can be used to determine its age.

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3 marks

Question 13: Carbon dating is only effective for objects that are less than 60,000 years old. Explain why this is the case

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3 marks

The following information applies to Question 14:

Archeologist in South Australia have dug up a spear during an excavation at an aboriginal site. They measure the rate of decay of  $^{14}\text{C}$  in 2g of the wood to be 5 MBq. A 2g sample of modern wood has a decay rate of 40 MBq. How old is the Spear?

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3 marks

Question 15:

Which of the following is the most damaging radiation dose?

- A**            200  $\mu\text{Gy}$  of gamma radiation
- B**            20  $\mu\text{Gy}$  of alpha radiation
- C**            50  $\mu\text{Gy}$  of beta radiation


Explain your answer:

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3 marks

Question 16:

Which of the following is the most damaging radiation dose?

- A**            200  $\mu\text{Sv}$  of gamma radiation
- B**            20  $\mu\text{Sv}$  of Alpha radiation
- C**            50  $\mu\text{Sv}$  of beta radiation


Explain your answer:

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3 marks

**END OF AREA 1**

**AREA 2:- Electricity**

The following information applies to questions 1 and 2:  
A conductor transmits a current of  $3\mu\text{A}$  for 1 hour.

Question 1: How many coulombs of charge have passed any given point?

	2 marks

Question 2: How many electrons have passed any given point?

	2 marks

The following information applies to questions 3 and 4:

A wire is carrying a current of  $5.0\text{mA}$ . In 2 minutes, the current transfers  $10\text{ J}$  of energy into a circuit element.

Question 4: What is the voltage across that element?

	2 marks

Question 5: What is the resistance of that element?

	2 marks

Question 6: 1.0 volt is the same as:

- A.  $1.0 \text{ A}\Omega^{-1}$       B.  $1.0 \text{ J}\Omega^{-1}$       C.  $1.0 \text{ J}\text{C}^{-1}$       D.  $1.0 \text{ A}\text{C}^{-1}$

	1 mark

Question 7: 1.0 Ampere is the same as:

- A.  $1.0 \text{ V}\Omega^{-1}$       B.  $1.0 \text{ J}\Omega^{-1}$       C.  $1.0 \text{ C}\Omega$       D.  $1.0 \text{ V}\Omega$

	1 mark

Question 8: 1.0 Watt is the same as:

- A.  $1.0 \text{ V}\Omega^{-1}$       B.  $1.0 \text{ VA}$       C.  $1.0 \text{ J}\text{C}^{-1}$       D.  $1.0 \text{ V}\Omega$

	1 mark

Question 9: A heater, rated a 1500W is left on for 8 hours overnight.

a) How many kWh of energy did it use?

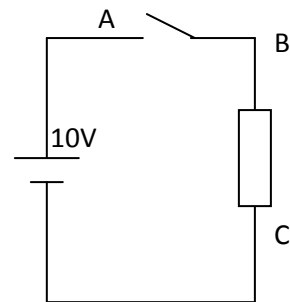
	2 marks

b) How many Joules of Energy did it use?

	2 marks



Question 10: Kim sets a simple circuit consisting of a battery, a switch and a resistor. The voltage supply is 10V, as per the diagram to the right.



- a) Before the switch is closed, what is the voltage between A and B?

	1 mark

- b) Once the switch is closed, a current of 2A flows around the circuit. Determine the value of the resistor.

	2 marks

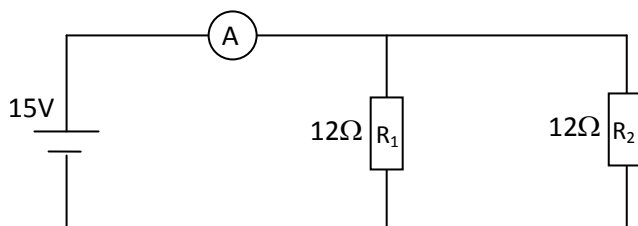
- c) Determine the power dissipated in the circuit

	2 marks

- d) Determine the energy transformed in the resistor if the circuit is active for one minute.

	2 marks

Question 11: Betty sets up an electric circuit shown below. Each resistor was measured to be  $12\Omega$ . The voltage supplied is  $15\text{ V}$



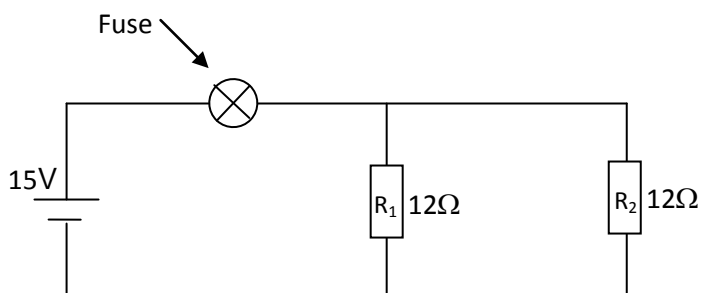
a) Determine the current through  $R_1$ .

	2 marks

b) Determine the current through the Ammeter.

	2 marks

Betty is concerned about electrical safety, so she replaces the ammeter with a  $5\text{A}$  fuse.



c) Explain how this  $5\text{A}$  fuse works.

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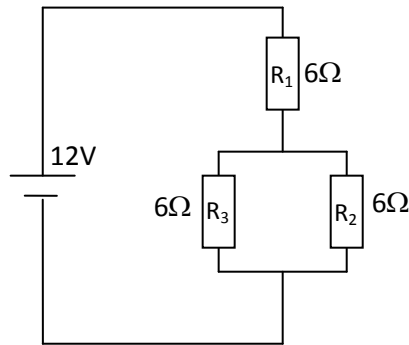
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2 marks

3 How many  $12\Omega$  resistors could Betty place in parallel before the fuse blows?

	3 marks

Question 12: John sets up the circuit shown below. All of the resistors are rated at  $6\Omega$  and the voltage supplied is  $12V$ .



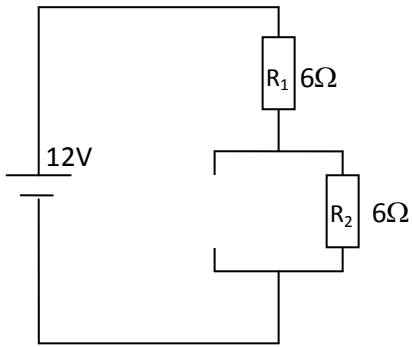
a) What is the voltage across resistor  $R_2$ ?

	2 marks

b) What is the current through resistor  $R_3$ ?

	2 marks

Resistor  $R_3$  breaks and leaves a gap as shown below



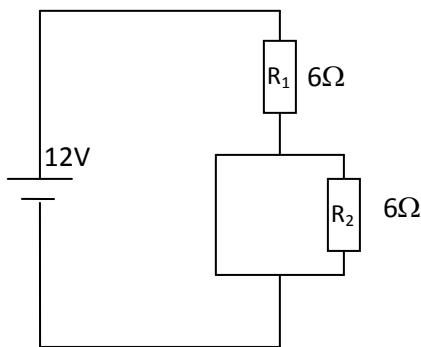
c) What is the voltage drop across  $R_2$  now?

	2 marks

d) What is the current through  $R_2$  now?

	2 marks

John fixes the circuit by adding in a wire where  $R_3$  used to be as shown below.



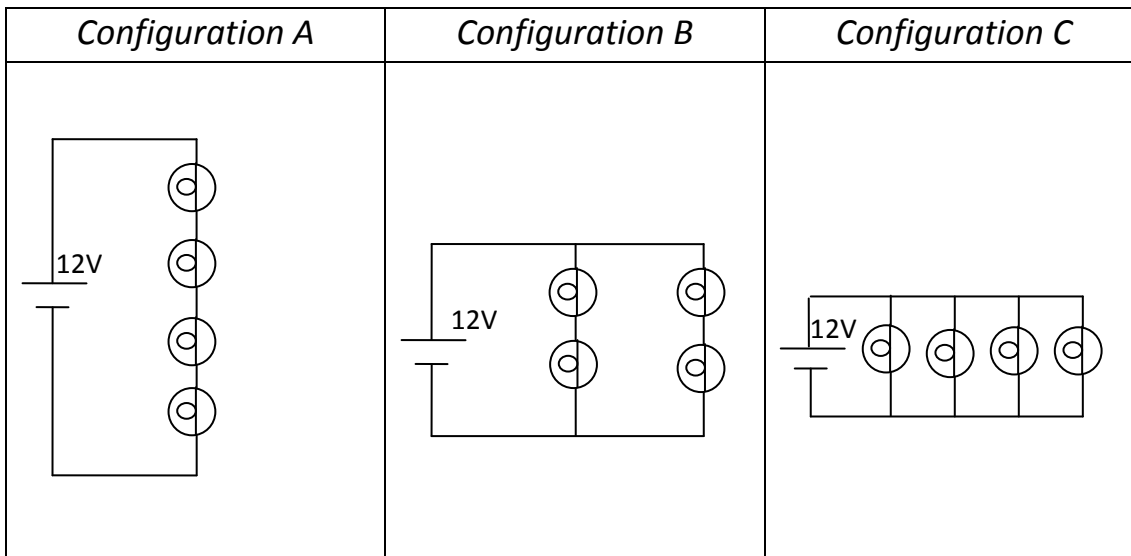
e) What is the Voltage across  $R_2$ ?

	2 marks

f) What is the current through  $R_2$ ?

	2 marks

Question 13: Kath is trying to set up some lights in her house. She has four 6V light globe and a 12V power supply. Note that because the light bulbs are designed for 6V, they will explode if a higher voltage is placed across them. You can assume that the light bulbs have a resistance of  $3\Omega$ . Kath considers the following three configurations



a) What is the major problem with circuit C?

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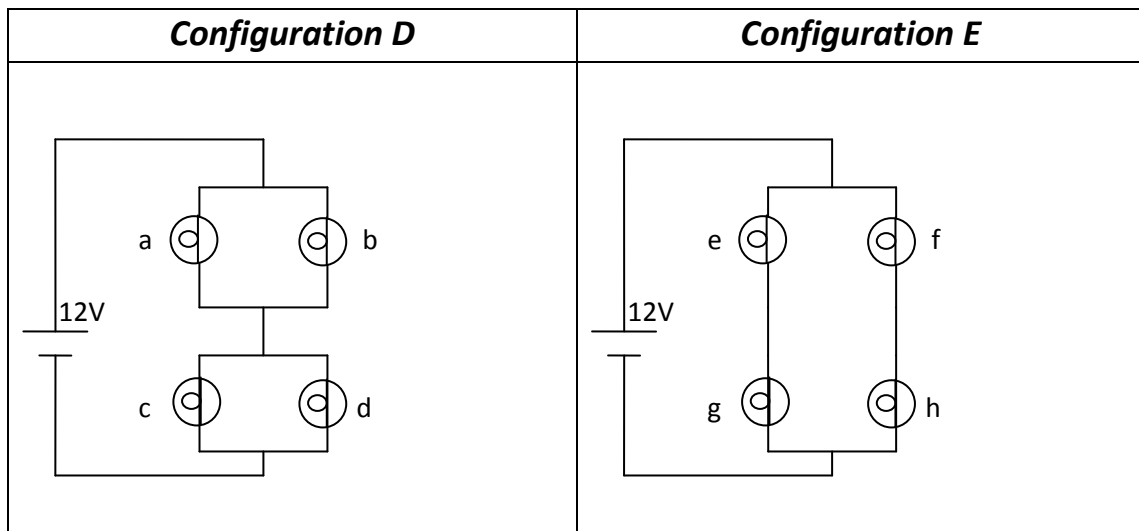
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2 marks

b) Which configuration is brighter? **Configuration A** or **Configuration B**? Use calculations to support your answer.

	3 marks

Kim now helps Kath by showing her two configurations (**D and E**) that were able to obtain 6V across each of the 4 light globes, thus they all have the same intensity.



- c) What will happen to the other globes in configuration D if globe **a** breaks?  
*Remember the globes must not receive more than 6.0 V. You must use calculations to support your answer.*

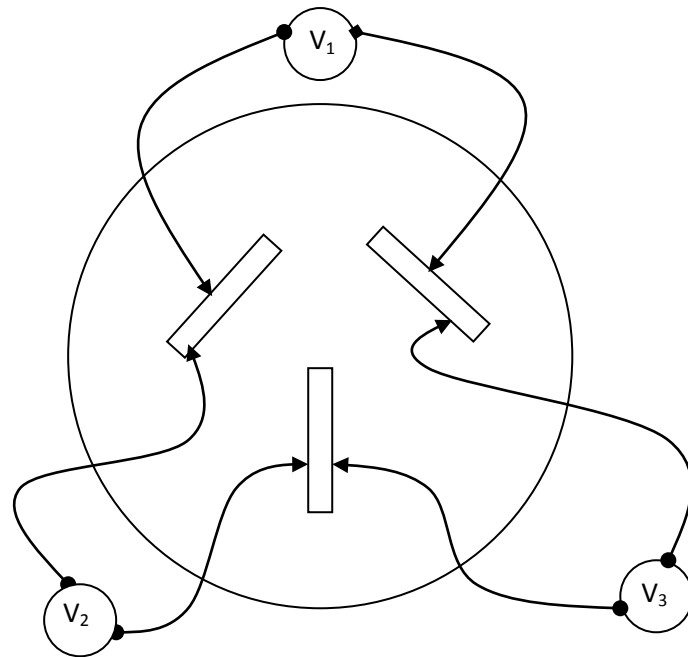
	2 marks

- d) What will happen to the other globes in configuration E if globe **e** breaks?  
*Remember the globes can not receive more than 6.0 V.*

	2 marks

The following information applies to Questions 14 and 15:

The diagram below represents a standard Australian power socket. The elements labelled V1 – V3 are voltmeters



Question 14: Which Voltmeters would have the same reading?

	1 mark

Question 15: What frequency and voltage are supplied to Australian homes through the domestic electricity network?

	1 mark

**END OF AREA 2**

### AREA 3 :- Energy from the Nucleus

Question 1: Which one of the following best describes the process of nuclear fusion?

- a. The joining of two lighter nuclei to form a larger, more stable nucleus
- b. The splitting of a suitable heavier element into two smaller nuclei
- c. The running of a nuclear power station
- d. The creation of sunshine

	2 marks

Question 2: In a nuclear fission reactor, substances like graphite and heavy water are used as moderators. The purpose of the moderator is to:

- A. to slow the fast neutrons produced by the fission
- B. to absorb a proportion of the neutrons
- C. to cool the reactor core
- D. to absorb the radiation released during fission
- E. to provide the first neutron to start the reactor

	2 marks

Question 3: In a nuclear reactor control rods made of Boron or Cadmium are inserted in the core. The purpose of the control rods is

- a. to slow the fast neutrons produced by the fission
- b. to absorb a proportion of the neutrons
- c. to cool the reactor core
- d. to absorb the radiation released during fission
- e. to provide the first neutron to start the reactor

	2 marks

Question 4: The uranium that is used as the fuel for a nuclear reactor has been enriched so that its uranium-235 content is around:

- A. 0.7%
- B. 3%
- C. 10%
- D. 95%

	2 marks



Question 5: The average number of neutrons released per fission is 2.5. If a reactor is to operate safely, what proportion of the emitted neutrons must react with  $^{235}\text{U}$  nuclei?

- a. 0.0
- b. 0.25
- c. 0.4
- d. 1.0

	2 marks

Question 6: The value of  $x$  in the fission reaction  $^1_0\text{n} + ^{235}_{92}\text{U} \rightarrow ^{142}_{54}\text{Xe} + ^{90}_{38}\text{Sr} + x^1_0\text{n}$  is

- a. 1
- b. 2
- c. 3
- d. 4

	2 marks

Question 7: Uranium-235 releases an average of about 2.5 neutrons during each fission, whereas plutonium-239 releases an average of about 2.7 neutrons. Which of the following is true?

- a. Neither Uranium-235 nor Plutonium-239 is fissile
- b. Uranium-235 has a lower critical mass than Plutonium-239
- c. Uranium-235 has a higher critical mass than Plutonium-239
- d. Uranium-235 is not fissile, Plutonium-239 is fissile

	2 marks

Use the following where necessary  $1 \text{ amu} = 1.66054 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$

$c = 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$

The following information relates to questions 8 to 11

The mass of one  ${}^7\text{Li}$  atom is  $7.01600455 \text{ amu}$ . One  ${}^9\text{B}$  atom has a mass of  $9.0133288 \text{ amu}$ .

These two atoms are fused to form  ${}^{16}\text{O}$  which has a mass of  $15.9949146 \text{ amu}$

Question 8: What is the mass in kg of one  ${}^7\text{Li}$  atom?

(1 mark)

Question 9: What is the mass in kg of one  ${}^9\text{B}$  atom?

(1 mark)

Question 10: What is the mass in kg of one  ${}^{16}\text{O}$  atom?

(1 mark)

Question 11: Explain why energy is released in the fusion of  ${}^7\text{Li}$  and  ${}^9\text{B}$

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(2 marks)

The following information relates to questions 12 to 13.

The reaction  ${}_{92}^{235}\text{U} + {}_0^1\text{n} \rightarrow {}_{54}^{140}\text{Xe} + {}_{38}^{94}\text{Sr} + 2{}_0^1\text{n}$  produces  $2.6 \times 10^{-11}$  J of energy.

Question 12: Which side of the reaction has the greater mass?(circle)

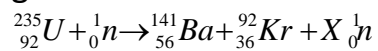
Left side      Right Side

(1 mark)

Question 13: What is the difference in mass between the two sides of the equation?

(2 marks)

Question 14: In the following nuclear reaction what is the value of X?



(2 marks)

Question 15: A common fusion reaction is the fusing of hydrogen-3 with hydrogen-2 to create helium-4 plus a neutron. Write down the nuclear equation for this reaction. You must include all atomic numbers and mass numbers

(2 marks)

Question 16: Uranium is mined from uranium-rich ore bodies. When the uranium is mined it consists of two different isotopes, uranium-235 and uranium-238. Circle the correct answers

a) Which isotope makes up the most of the mined uranium?      U-235      U-238

a) Which of the two isotopes is fissile?      U-235      U-238

(2 marks)

Question 17: Name the main components of a nuclear fission power plant

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(4 marks)

Question 18: Outline the process by which a nuclear fission power plant produces electricity

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(3 marks)