

Directions: Using this assignment as a guide, read Chapter 18 from the Physical Science book (pages 536-556). The book is linked to my calendar on February 28. Answer the questions as you read the chapters.

### Radioactivity (pages 538-540)

A. In most atoms, a strong force is able to keep the nucleus permanently together making the nucleus \_\_\_\_\_.

1. When the force is not strong enough to hold the nucleus together, the nucleus can \_\_\_\_\_ and give off energy.

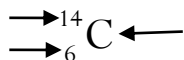
2. This process of \_\_\_\_\_ is called radioactivity.

B. Large nuclei tend to be \_\_\_\_\_ and can break apart.

1. All nuclei that contain more than 83 \_\_\_\_\_ are radioactive. Can other nuclei that contain fewer than 83 protons be radioactive?

2. Elements made in the laboratory are called \_\_\_\_\_. Are these elements stable?

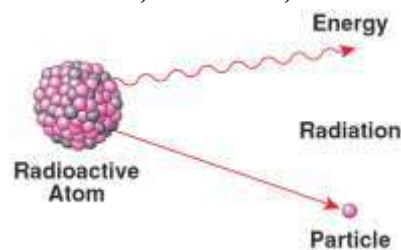
Label the following



C. What is the difference between carbon-12 and carbon-14 (beside the number 12 and 14)?

1. Carbon-12 and carbon-14 have the same number of protons in their nuclei; therefore, they are called \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Which one, carbon-12 or carbon-14, is radioactive?



### Radioactive Half-Life and Radioactive Dating (pages 544-545)

A. If an element is radioactive, the nuclei will decay.

1. The time required for half of the sample to decay is the \_\_\_\_\_ of that isotope.

2. The nucleus left after the isotope decays is called the \_\_\_\_\_.

3. What is the half-life of

a) hydrogen-3?

b) iodine-131?

c) polonium-211?

B. The radioactive isotope carbon-14 is used to estimate the ages of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ remains.

C. \_\_\_\_\_ can be used to estimate the ages of rock.

D. What is the percentage of radioactive nuclei left after 3 half-lives pass? (Hint: half of the sample decays at the end of each 'half-life'.)

### Measuring Radiation and Background Radiation (pages 548-550)

A. What is the name of a device that measures amount of radiation? \_\_\_\_\_



1. It produces an \_\_\_\_\_ when it detects a charged particle?

2. The intensity of radiation present is determined by the number of \_\_\_\_\_  
or \_\_\_\_\_ of light each second.

B. Low-level radiation is emitted by naturally occurring radioactive isotopes found in Earth's \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_. Also traces of naturally occurring radioactive isotopes are found in \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ consumed by all animals and plants.

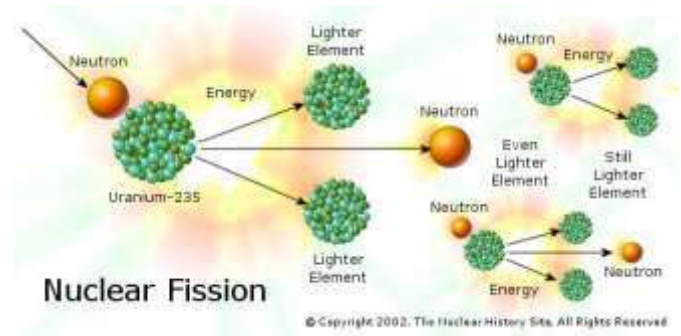
C. The largest source of background radiation comes from the decay of \_\_\_\_\_ gas. It is produced by in the Earth's crust by the decay of \_\_\_\_\_. This gas can seep into houses and especially basements from the surrounding soil and rocks.

D. Radon gas exposure can lead to cancer. Do you have a radon reduction system in your home? \_\_\_\_\_  
Radon gas levels are very high in Brookings County. If you have a basement, ask your parents if you have a radon reduction system in your home or have ever tested for radon gas levels in your basement.

## Nuclear Fission and Nuclear Fusion (pages 551-553)

A. The process of splitting a nucleus is called \_\_\_\_\_ . What does the word fission mean? \_\_\_\_\_

B. Only large nuclei, such as the nuclei of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ , can undergo nuclear fission. A nuclear fission reaction creates a tremendous amount of \_\_\_\_\_ .



C. What is the equation that relates mass and energy?

D. Small amounts of mass can be converted into an enormous amount of energy.

1. For example, if one gram of mass can be converted into about \_\_\_\_\_ J of energy.

2. Splitting one uranium-235 nucleus can produce about \_\_\_\_\_ times more energy than reacting one molecule of \_\_\_\_\_ .

E. Two nuclei with low masses are combined to form one nucleus of larger mass in a process called \_\_\_\_\_ .

F. Fusion \_\_\_\_\_ atomic nuclei together whereas fission \_\_\_\_\_ nuclei apart.

G. The sun is mainly composed of \_\_\_\_\_ .



1. The energy given off by the sun is created by the fusion of \_\_\_\_\_ nuclei into \_\_\_\_\_ .

2. As the sun ages, \_\_\_\_\_ nuclei are used up as they are converted into \_\_\_\_\_ .

3. Eventually, all of the hydrogen will be converted to helium, but not for another \_\_\_\_\_ years.

Directions: Write a contextual definition for each of the following vocabulary terms using pages 536-556 (Chapter 18) from the Physical Science book or pages 105-107 (Section 4.4) and 804-831 (Chapter 25) from the Chemistry book. All terms are in the book (not necessarily in **bold**) except those designated with an asterisk\*. Identify the page # from the chapter that the term was found on (not the glossary from the back of the book). Either book may be used.

radioactivity page #\_\_\_\_\_

strong force page #\_\_\_\_\_

isotope page #\_\_\_\_\_

alpha particle page #\_\_\_\_\_

beta particle page #\_\_\_\_\_

gamma rays page #\_\_\_\_\_

half-life page #\_\_\_\_\_

radioactive dating page #\_\_\_\_\_ (radiochemical dating)

Geiger counter page #\_\_\_\_\_

background radiation page #\_\_\_\_\_

nuclear fission page #\_\_\_\_\_

chain reaction page #\_\_\_\_\_

nuclear fusion page #\_\_\_\_\_