Question 14

(15 marks)

When a stationary neutron decays into a proton, an electron and an electron anti-neutrino are also produced. Total energy is conserved during the decay process. The reaction is described by the following equation:

$$n^0 \longrightarrow p^+ + e^- + \overline{v}_e$$

(a) In the reaction, the quark composition of a neutron changes from udd to uud. Show how the reaction conserves both baryon number and lepton number by filling in the table below. (6 marks)

	n^{θ}	-	p^+	+	e-	+	$\nabla_{_{\!$
Baryon number		-		+		+	
Lepton number		-		+		+	

(b) The mass of a stationary neutron is 1.675 × 10⁻²⁷ kg. The mass of a proton is 1.673 × 10⁻²⁷ kg. The mass of an electron is 9.109 × 10⁻³¹ kg. If we assume the total energy of the anti-neutrino is 0 J, calculate the total kinetic energy of the particles emitted in keV. (5 marks)

(c)	If the electron accounts for 90.0% of the kinetic energy produced, calculate the velocity of the emitted proton in terms of c. If you could not determine an answer for part (b), use 581 keV (9.30 × 10 ⁻¹⁴ J). (4 marks)							
	Answer: c							
	Answer: c							