

9. What must be true in order for a nuclear reaction to happen naturally?
- The nucleus must release energy in the reaction.
 - The binding energy per nucleon must decrease in the reaction.
 - The binding energy per nucleon must increase in the reaction.
 - There must be an input of energy to cause the reaction.
10. Which is the weakest of the four fundamental interactions?
- electromagnetic
 - gravitational
 - strong
 - weak
11. Which of the following choices does *not* correctly match a fundamental interaction with its mediating particles?
- strong: gluons
 - electromagnetic: electrons
 - weak: W and Z bosons
 - gravitational: gravitons
12. What is the charge of a baryon containing one up quark (u) and two down quarks (d)?
- 1
 - 0
 - +1
 - +2

SHORT RESPONSE

13. Suppose it could be shown that the ratio of carbon-14 to carbon-12 in living organisms was much greater thousands of years ago than it is today. How would this affect the ages we assign to ancient samples of once-living matter?
14. A fission reactor produces energy to drive a generator. Describe briefly how this energy is produced.
15. Balance the following nuclear reaction:
- $${}_0^1n + ? \longrightarrow {}_2^4\text{He} + {}_3^7\text{Li}$$
16. Smoke detectors use the isotope ${}^{241}\text{Am}$ in their operation. The half-life of Am is 432 years. If the smoke detector is improperly discarded in a land-fill, estimate how long its activity will take to decrease to a relatively safe level of 0.1 percent of its original activity. (Hint: The estimation process that you should use notes that the activity decreases to 50% in one half-life, to 25% in two half-lives, and so on.)

EXTENDED RESPONSE

17. Iron-56 (${}_{26}^{56}\text{Fe}$) has an atomic mass of 55.934 940 u. The atomic mass of hydrogen is 1.007 825 u, and $m_n = 1.008\,665\text{ u}$. Show your work for the following calculations:
- Find the mass defect in the iron-56 nucleus.
 - Calculate the binding energy in the iron-56 nucleus.
 - How much energy would be needed to dissociate all the particles in an iron-56 nucleus?
18. Use the table below to calculate the energy released in the alpha decay of ${}_{92}^{238}\text{U}$. Show your work.

Nucleus	Mass
${}_{92}^{238}\text{U}$	238.050 784 u
${}_{90}^{234}\text{Th}$	234.043 593 u
${}_2^4\text{He}$	4.002 602 u

Test TIP

If you finish a test early, go back and check your work before turning in the test.